

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: April 17^h, 2023

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Board Chair Gregg Anderson.

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Sarah Eckles, Raegan Ellease and Tyler Lapp. Stacy Sheridan was absent due to travel.

Guests Present: RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz; Allyn Svoboda (remote).

Approval of Agenda: Tyler Lapp moved to approve the agenda as written; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Sarah Eckles moved to approve the minutes for the March 20th, 2023 regular meeting; Tyler Lapp seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report, Accounts Payable, Pension Checks: Kunz stated that there were (3) additional bills: Fraley Propane (\$1930.76); NAPA auto parts (\$426.38); WEX fuel charges (\$342.58). Gregg Anderson moved to approve payment for the bills as presented plus additional bills and to accept the financial report; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report:

All items in grant report or on agenda.

Grants (awarded):

Rico Center 2023: Operations request for \$66,226.00, including \$50k in funding for a rescue truck; Fourth of July request for \$2,975.00. Payment has been received, and fulfillment has started. Closeout 9/1/2023.

CFSDPG 2023: Firefighter life and safety equipment; no match. Awarded \$11,796 in funding for (4) new sets of structural fire bunker gear. Kunz has contacted LN Curtis (vendor) and returned the grant acceptance paperwork. Closeout October 31st.

Grants (submitted):

CDPHE EMTS grant: \$60,000 towards the light rescue truck. Kunz defended RFPD's grant request on March 29th. State (SEM-TAC) review is scheduled for May 11th and 12th. Award notifications occur in June.

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

Runs: 3 calls: a gas leak in Piedmont; traffic accident (no injuries); welfare check on River St. Comment was made to get county resources in touch with the resident, who is elderly and having more issues.

Training: S130/190 (wildland) class to be held in Cortez 4/21-4/23. Firefighter Matt Guertin is taking the Firefighter 1 course in Telluride, RFPD will need to pay for books and testing.

Equipment: Tanker will still need repair ("another day"). The County Emergency manager has provided (2) dual-band radios and (6) inexpensive VHF models.

Due to flooding concerns, the Department's raft will be assembled at the Tuesday training. RVFD will watch for flooding danger and culvert obstructions on Silver Creek. Suggestion was that the Town should contact the County in regards to sandbags and culvert cleaning equipment.

Old Business:

RFPD Development Review Standards/procedures: Tyler Lapp requested that this be tabled until May.

Light Rescue Truck project: The project as proposed will cost \$190,000; Kunz has applied for \$60,000.00 from the

CDPHE's EMTS program. The Rico Center has awarded \$50,000; Kunz will apply to the Telluride Foundation for < \$20,000.00 (Oct. 2023) and San Miguel Power for \$5,000.00. Dolores County has approved \$5,000.00 in their budget for the project. RFPD's contribution to the project would likely be at least \$21,000.00. Fourth of July fundraising surplus will go towards this project.

RFPD Host planning:2024 Tri State Firemans' Association (TSFA): There is a preliminary list of action items. If a tent needs to be rented from Viking it could be a significant expense unless a donation can be arranged. Trainings to include: Scottie Larsen CPR class; Helicopter Ops; CFSDPG burn trailer and pump simulator; Keith Keesling drone demo; autism awareness. Menu TBD. TSFA host planning meetings will be semimonthly.

2023 Fourth of July event:

Tentative Schedule: Firefighter Appreciation Dinner (Saturday, July 1st); Old Timers' Community Picnic (Sunday, July 2nd); July 4th: Parade/Duck Race/ Fireworks show (weather permitting). Chief Jones has ordered the fireworks @ \$6,500.00. Kunz will prepare orders for additional merchandise to sell. Suggestion to check Amsterdam Printing.

New Business:

RFPD proposed Mill Levy Increase: If a mill levy increase is to go before the voters in November, the clerk must have the ballot language by the end of July. Prior to that, RFPD would sign an MOU with the County for the combined election. Kunz will send a spreadsheet to the Board that shows revenue to the District and cost to the taxpayer of different mill levy increases, and a summary of the combined mill levy within the District. The Town will likely be asking for mill levy increases as well. Questions raised about size of increase, timing of the mill question, whether the mill could sunset and the possibility of a sales tax being an alternative means to raise revenue.

Region 9 Enterprise Zone Application Review: Kunz will submit the application this week to Region 9, in the first of several review processes that would lead to an Enterprise Zone designation. This designation could encourage large donors to the building construction fund as it provides a 25% State tax credit.

Renewal of Commnet Lease: Kunz reminded the Board that the lease, if automatically renewed, would be a 5 year term and a 5% increase (from \$726 to \$762/month), and that communication with Commnet is never a straightforward process. The Board instructed Kunz to try to negotiate for \$900.00/month.

Additional Business: RVFD Paramedic Scottie Larsen is attending the UAEMT conference for 24 CE credits to re-certify. Cost of tuition is \$250.00. Gregg Anderson moved to approve \$250.00 from the Rico Center Training line item to reimburse Larsen; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 15th, 2023.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tyler Lapp and seconded by Raegan Ellease at 8:08 PM. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary