

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: November 15th, 2021

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Gregg Anderson.

Members Present: In Person: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Raegan Ellease, Mary Hagan, Susan Robertson, Stacy Sheridan

Guests Present:RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz, Leah Chmielewski, Allyn Svoboda (Zoom).

Approval of Agenda: Stacy Sheridan moved to approve the agenda as written. Susan Robertson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Stacy Sheridan moved to approve the minutes as written for the October 18th, 2021 regular meeting; Mary Hagan seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable: Kunz stated that a \$2,400.00 check to Pueblo Community College for the EMR class (already approved) had been reissued for \$1,500.00. Stacy Sheridan moved to approve payment for the bills as presented, and to accept the financial report; Raegan Ellease seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report: The Rico Center grant for 2022 was submitted. The DOLA pension grant was resubmitted and appears to have been approved. VFA closeout is pending. The 2022 budget is on the agenda.

Grants (Awarded):

DOLA administrative/planning grant: \$3,050.00 in DOLA funds to assist with the surveying of the recently purchased property as well as the rendering of technical drawings by Jones and DeVille. The purchase order is in place. The survey has been completed. R&D has completed the first version of the schematic drawings. **Closeout 12/31/21.**

VFA 2021: \$1,629.15 for Wildland Fire equipment and PPE. The grant is closed out, reimbursement is pending.

Grants (Pending):

Rico Center 2022: \$30,774.25 requested for Fire Operations; \$2,875 requested for the 2022 Fourth of July.

DOLA Tier 2 funding: see "New Property Improvement Plan" under old business.

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones)

Runs: 2 calls: stroke/cardiac call at the Hillside trailhead; Side-by-side rollover at Groundhog Reservoir.

Training: The Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) class is in progress w/ 5 RVFD members. RVFD personnel Sarah Eckles and Benn Vernadakis completed Wilderness First Responder (WFR). Justin Juarez also signed up for the class but did not attend; Dunton covered his costs and will need to be reimbursed. Rico will host Montezuma Fire Chiefs Firefighter 1 class for 6 weeks starting in April 2022: there will be 5 students (none from RVFD) this year.

Equipment: Chief Jones stated that he was considering selling the old ambulance and replacing it with an extended cab pickup that could transport crew members; also that current RVFD structural firefighting bunker gear was aging and not suitable for live burn exercises. Kunz put in for funding to replace bunkers on the Rico Center 2022 grant.

Old Business:

New Property Improvement Plan: Jones stated that there was a sinkhole at the northeast corner of the property (within 10' CDOT right-of-way) that he would fill in. It appears to be a storm sewer.

Tanker 924 replacement/refurbishment options: Chief Jones stated that although the tanker has holes, it is not

leaking as badly, and that repair or replacement of the truck is a back burner issue.

RFPD 2022 Budget: Gregg Anderson had a number of specific changes to the proposed budget. 2022 budget approval is scheduled for the 12/6/2021 meeting.

New Business:

Broadband support letter: Leah Chmielewski is on the Town's broadband committee and is requesting a letter of support from the District as well as other public entities. The project will provide the "last mile" of fiber to local homes and businesses. The District was in favor of signing a letter at the December meeting. Chmielewski will provide a draft.

RFPD/RVFD holiday party: There was some discussion as to dates for the Thanksgiving and Christmas parties, and whether the two could be combined. Chief Jones said that the Thanksgiving Community dinner would be held November 20 and that firefighters would prepare turkey, ham and some sides. The Christmas party will be scheduled for December 18th and will feature the firefighters' chili. Mary Hagan will coordinate the "goodie bags" for Santa to distribute.

Other Business: Todd Jones stated that this September will mark his 40th year on the Department.

The next regular RFPD Board meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2021 (2022 budget adoption).

A motion to adjourn was made by Stacy Sheridan and seconded by Raegan Ellease at 8:32 PM. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary