

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: June 19th, 2023

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Sarah Eckles, Raegan Ellease and Tyler Lapp. Paul Ruud was absent.

Guests Present: RFPD Administrator David Kunz; Allyn Svoboda (remote).

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

Oath of Office: Sarah Eckles took her oath of office, having been absent at the May meeting due to a travel delay.

Approval of Minutes: Sarah Eckles moved to approve the minutes as written; Raegan Ellease seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: The first round of ARCO/Town of Rico lead blood testing will be hosted at the Rico Firehouse in the ambulance bay on June 22nd and 23rd.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable, Pension Checks:

Kunz explained that the check issued to the Four Corners Community Band was a pass-through expense, paid for by the Rico Center. Gregg Anderson moved to approve payment for the bills as presented, to accept the financial report, and pay the pension checks; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report:

The EMTS grant application notifications will be made by June 30. RFPD's Economic Zone application was approved at the State level, and Kunz will be the administrator for the tax credit certificates, which apply to donations greater than \$250. Board Chair Lapp asked about updating the signature cards for the District's CSAFE and Dolores State Bank accounts.

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. Firefighters Jones and Roberts as well as firefighters Bulk and Guertin (who are taking the TFPD FF1 class) have been fitted for the gear by LN Curtis. Closeout: October 31st.

Grants (submitted):

CDPHE EMTS grant: Request of \$60,000 towards the light rescue truck. Award notifications occur June 30.

Fire Chief Report (Training officer Sarah Eckles):

Runs: (5) calls: MVA with single passenger/ leg injury (and a suitcase), transported w/ALS intercept; MVA with single passenger (DOA); medical support of DOCO sheriff's department for the arrest of a male in Sundial; 75 YO male who fell w/ potential head injury (mutual aid); 64 YO male with shortness of breath/potential cardiac (mutual aid/transport by SWMH).

Training: Tri-State Firemen's Association for 2023 will be held August 4-6 in Grants, NM. Wilderness First Responder training planned for fall; possible chainsaw class planned.

Equipment: "Running steady."

Old Business:

Light Rescue Truck project: Once the EMTS funding decision is public, the District will have a better sense of the funding picture for the project. Currently, the Rico Center has funded \$50,000 and Dolores County has funded \$5,000. Additional funding sources could include: the Telluride Foundation (<\$20,000); San Miguel Power (\$10,000); USDA Rural Development funds (TBD).

RFPD Host planning:2024 Tri State Firemans' Association (TSFA): Placeholder. The event will be held August 1-3 of 2024. Chief Jones believes that RFPD will need to rent a larger tent.

2023 Fourth of July event:

Tentative Schedule: Firefighter Appreciation Dinner (Saturday, July 1st); Old Timers' Community Picnic (Sunday, July 2nd); July 4th: Bake sale/Parade/food line/Duck Race/ Fireworks show (weather permitting).

There will be a Street Dance on Mantz Ave. near the Courthouse. Any emergency response to the event would be based out of the firehouse; Rico EMT's would not be manning the event.

T shirts, both the old designs (restocked) and the new design have been ordered.

Jones has stated that the river will be too high for a duck race, so the ducks may get pulled out of a porta-pond. Pat Fallon's Philly Cheese steaks will be back (and bigger) at the food line. Raegan Ellease has been watching the used equipment market for a commercial sink to replace existing one in the firehouse kitchen. Chief Jones has ordered the fireworks @ \$6,500.00, delivery is pending.

RFPD proposed Mill Levy increase: The Dolores County Clerk advised Kunz that at this time, there is no other issue on the ballot that would require a combined election, and that therefore the District should consider holding its own. Kunz stated that while he is willing to coordinate the election with the Clerk's office, he did not want to spend the time (and the responsibility) of learning all of the compliance issues for the election. Anderson asked if the Clerk's office could provide a cost estimate for what the election would cost to run. The Board tentatively agreed on a proposed mill increase of 4.5 mills. If approved by the voters in November, RFPD's total mill levy would be 11.968 mills.

New Business:

Resolution 2023-4: Adopting the NFPC 2009 Appendix D: standards for roadways in regards to emergency vehicle access/turnarounds: Kunz asked for this to be tabled until July.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 17th, 2023.

A motion to adjourn was made by Raegan Ellease and seconded by Gregg Anderson at 7:36 PM. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary