

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Special Meeting: September 5th, 2023

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

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Sarah Eckles, Raegan Ellease, Tyler Lapp (remote), and Paul Ruud.

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

Gregg Anderson commented that Board President Tyler Lapp had injured his right hand and would be unable to sign documents. Anderson offered to act as co-President until such time as Lapp's hand is healed. Sarah Eckles moved to appoint Anderson as co-president; Raegan Ellease seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous. Board members expressed their wishes for Lapp's full and swift recovery.

Approval of Agenda: Paul Ruud moved to approve the agenda as written; Raegan Ellease seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Resolution 2023-5: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A COORDINATED ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 7, 2023, APPOINTING A DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL, AND APPROVING A BALLOT QUESTION. Kunz explained that the resolution would appoint a DEO, an alternate DEO, and approve the ballot language to place the mill levy increase on the November ballot. Kunz stated that he would serve as DEO, and that the bulk of the administrative burden of running the election would be borne by the Dolores County Clerk's office under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Once the TABOR noticing is complete, the duties of the Alternate DEO (should Kunz be incapacitated/unavailable to serve) would be minimal. Sarah Eckles agreed to serve as the Alternate DEO. Paul Ruud asked for the text of the ballot question to be read: "SHALL RICO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$34,975 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) ANNUALLY, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, BY INCREASING ITS EXISTING PROPERTY TAX BY 4.5 MILLS, COMMENCING WITH LEVY YEAR 2023 FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2024, FOR A TOTAL MILL LEVY NOT TO EXCEED 11.968 MILLS, EXCLUSIVE OF REFUNDS AND ABATEMENTS, TO BE USED BY THE DISTRICT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER BUDGET EXPENSES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: AVOIDING SERVICE LEVEL CUTS AND MAINTAINING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIMES; IMPROVING RESPONSE TIMES IN DEFICIENT AREAS; PROVIDING ESSENTIAL SAFETY AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING REPLACEMENT OF AGING EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES AND FIRE APPARATUS, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE EXISTING FIREHOUSE AS WELL AS THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL FACILITIES TO MAINTAIN CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE COMMUNITY NEEDS?"

Paul Ruud moved to approve Resolution 2023-5; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 18th, 2023.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sarah Eckles and seconded by Paul Ruud at 7:25 PM. Approval was unanimous.

Chairman

Secretary