

Meeting Minutes for  
Rico Fire Protection District  
Regular Meeting: December 18<sup>h</sup>, 2023

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

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

**Guests Present:** RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz.

**Approval of Agenda:** Gregg Anderson requested that a discussion of a fixed asset schedule be added to new business. Paul Ruud moved to approve the amended agenda; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:** Gregg Anderson moved to approve the minutes for the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable:**

Kunz stated that there were (2) additional bills: Waste Management (quarterly trash collection for \$149.64); and Pinnacol Worker's Comp Insurance payment for \$421. Gregg Anderson motioned to approve payment for the bills as presented (plus 2 additional) and to accept the financial report; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Administrative Report:** Kunz stated that all items would be covered on the agenda.

**Grants (awarded):**

**Rico Center 2023:** RFPD has retained \$48,998.25 in RC funds towards the light rescue truck. These funds will need to be accounted for in year-end financials, and will revert to the Rico Center if not spent by February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Supplemental grant report due: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**CDPHE EMTS grant:** Request of \$60,000 towards the light rescue truck. Awarded \$44,618.75. The purchase order has been received and RFPD can spend funds from this grant. The first quarterly report has been filed. Closeout: June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**El Pomar:** \$11,973.00 (0 match) to the El Pomar Fire fund to pay for hand tools for the new tanker and wildland fire boots for RVFD personnel. Funding will be released in January 2024.

**Grants (submitted):**

**Rico Center 2024:** (4) requests: \$2,980.00 for food and other expenses for the 2024 Fourth of July; \$21,785.75 for Operations: kitchen remodel funds, equipment, fire hose and fittings, EMS training dummies, training funds; \$19,982.75 for TSFA expenses; \$50,000 for Light Rescue.

**Grants (potential):**

**USDA RD Community Facilities grant:** Kunz may apply for funds for the Light Rescue. USDA would like to see a letter from a bank stating that they will not loan to the District, which seems unlikely.

**Fire Chief Report** (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

**Runs:** RVFD responded to (2) calls for service: a 64 YO woman with an ankle injury, and a smoke alarm in Silver Glance.

**Training:** In - house

**Equipment:** The new tanker will require electrical work. Grant requests to El Pomar and the Rico Center will outfit the new truck. Building: Mike Contillo will install a backflow preventer as required by the Town.

**Old Business:**

**Light Rescue Truck project:** The projected cost of the vehicle is approximately \$190,000. Currently, the Rico Center has funded \$50,000 and Dolores County has funded \$5,000. The EMTS program will fund \$44,618.75. Additional funding sources could include SMPA, USDA Rural Development Community Development grant, and additional funds from the Rico Center.

**RFPD Host planning for 2024 Tri State Firemans' Association (TSFA):** The event will be held August 1-3 of 2024. Issues to be addressed include: proposed menu, training sessions, accommodations, need for sponsors, raffle prizes, trophies, schwag and general donations. Renting a 50 x 100 tent, plus table and chairs will be a significant cost for the event. Rico Center grant was submitted (see above) to defray some of the cost.

**USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant application:** Kunz explained that this agenda item will be a placeholder as federal agencies require public noticing and input to agencies applying for Federal funds.

**2024 Work Plan:**

Raegan Ellease suggested that 2024 include revisiting the property ownership issue for lots 9-12, Block 2 (the 1996 firehouse)

**New Business:**

**SB-23B-001 bill update:** The contractors for the DOCO assessor reported an error in the revaluation; the final numbers are pending. Kunz will contact DOLA to confirm that the Fire District will receive 100% backfill later in 2004.

**Establish TSFA Bank Account (Dolores State Bank):** Paul Ruud moved to approve establishing a 4<sup>th</sup> DSB account for the Tri-State event; Sarah Eckles seconded. Approval was unanimous.

**Resolution 2023-6: Resolution for Supplemental Budget and Appropriation:** Kunz explained that this was a yearly procedural motion to account for additional funding received in 2023 (grants and fundraising beyond what was anticipated in the 2023 budget). Gregg Anderson moved to approve 2023-6; Raegan Ellease seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Fixed asset schedule:** Gregg Anderson noted that the District's assets had not been depreciated over the years, which made the District appear to be "wealthier" than it was. Kunz stated that he would bring this matter up with the accountant during the exemption from audit process.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sarah Eckles and seconded by Raegan Ellease at 7:53 PM. Approval was unanimous.

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Chairman

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Secretary