

Ridgway Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting
March 9, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:24 pm by Board Chairman Charles Mueller, at the Ridgway Volunteer Fire Department located at 251 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway Colorado. Also, in attendance were Board Members Ned Bosworth, Eric Dickerson, Mary Reinhardt, and Paulette Crabb as well as Katy LaSala (Administrator).

FINANCIALS

Crabb noted that Department Training expenses are relatively high for this early time of the year, and we need to keep an eye on it. It was also recommended that the Chief look into more cost-effective vehicle options as opposed to Command 1210 when traveling long distances for training.

Mueller inquired into the February gas bill as it is high. LaSala replied that it is comparable to last year at this time, but she will remind everyone to keep the thermostat in the bay rooms turned to 60 degrees when not in use.

Mueller stated that the charge to Panny's Pizza needs to be reimbursed to the District by the Ridgway Volunteer Fire Department as that is their expense.

- MOTION by Mueller to approve financials as amended. SECOND by Reinhardt. ALL IN FAVOR.

MINUTES

- MOTION by Reinhardt to approve the 2/11/20 minutes as amended to correct the spelling of *Petrucelli*. SECOND by Dickerson. ALL IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS

2020 Election

- MOTION by Reinhardt to cancel the 2020 Ridgway Fire Protection District election. SECOND by Dickerson. ALL IN FAVOR.

A resolution to cancel the election and declare candidates elected was signed by Mueller as there were not more candidates for director than offices to be filled.

Mill Levy Increase & de-Gallagher Discussion

Mueller explained that he and LaSala met with lawyers from JD Reed's office to discuss options for possibly putting a de-Gallagher/mill levy question on a future ballot. While it is possible, it will take a considerable amount of time and effort by not only the Board and the Chief but the Ridgway Volunteer Fire Department members as well. Crabb suggested that, if or when we begin, we form a committee and appeal to the community for help. Mueller stated that it may be better to approach all recently discussed items including the mill levy increase and de-Gallagher questions, District consolidation, and appropriation of Ouray County Extrication together into a larger discussion in the future, which was generally agreed upon by the board members. As we do not plan on adding these questions to the 2020 ballot, it was decided to table the discussion until a later date.

Real Estate Offer

Bosworth recused himself from the discussion due to a possible conflict of interest. Mueller stated that we countered Mr. Petrucelli's offer of \$225,000 with an offer of \$275,000, to which he accepted. He then presented the Board with the proposed contract.

- MOTION by Dickerson to approve the contract for the sale of the Ridgway Fire Protection District's property in Trail Town as presented. SECOND by Reinhardt. ALL IN FAVOR.

OCEMS Lease Amendment

Mueller reported that the lease amendment contract is on the BOCC March meeting agenda and is expected to be approved.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Miller was not present to submit his monthly report.

NEW BUSINESS

Law Firm Change

- MOTION by Mueller to have JD Reed Law Firm become the Ridgway Fire Protection District's new legal counsel. SECOND by Reinhardt. ALL IN FAVOR.

ADJOURNMENT

- MOTION by Dickerson to adjourn. Second by Reinhardt. ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting Adjourned at 6:19 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
-Katy LaSala