

**Ridgway Fire Protection District**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**12 May 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 5:36 pm by Board Chair, Charles Mueller (on Zoom), at the Ridgway Fire Department located at 251 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway Colorado. Also, in attendance were Board Directors Ned Bosworth, Gary Redmond, and Eric Dickerson (on Zoom) as well as RFPD Administrator Katy LaSala.

**FINANCIALS**

**BILLS**

- MOTION by Dickerson to approve bills as presented. SECOND by Bosworth. ALL IN FAVOR.

**MINUTES**

- MOTION by Bosworth to approve the 4/13/21 minutes as presented. SECOND by Dickerson. ALL IN FAVOR.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Chase Vehicle Purchase**

On behalf of Chief Miller, LaSala reminded the Board that they approved the purchase of a Chase vehicle for Engine 1212 when it goes out on wildland assignments and wanted to ensure that it is still authorized. Mueller asked how much money we have spent on wildland equipment this year. LaSala said that about 80% of our year-to-date equipment expenditures have been for wildland equipment. The Board Chief Miller will let them know what vehicle he would like to purchase when he finds one.

**Ouray County Extrication Acquirement**

LaSala presented a letter written by OCEMS Chief Paramedic, Kim Mitchell, describing the agreement that OCEMS and Chief Miller are proposing to the Board with regards to the RFPD taking over the Ouray County Extrication. OCEMS is offering to sell the 1999 Ford F350 along with all the extrication tools for \$2,500. They will continue paying the lease to store the vehicle in Ouray. The Board members were not opposed to have the RFPD take over extrication in the County. However, they decided that they will not purchase the truck and tools but would rather have the equipment donated to the District. No further action was taken at this time.

**RFPD Restructuring**

LaSala explained to the Board that the Ridgway Volunteer Firefighters held mixed feelings regarding the proposed restructuring of the District. Several Department members hold concerns about the authority the Board will have to hire and fire the Chief. Mueller questioned the option of waiting for the Departments members to become more comfortable with the idea. Bosworth suggested that we adhere to the guidance of our legal representative and move forward with the restructuring, while also reassuring the RVFD that we want to work with them through the process. He also suggested that the Board members meet with the RVFD Officers in person to discuss.

- MOTION by Bosworth to restructure the Ridgway Fire Protection District by incorporating the Ridgway Volunteer Fire Department into the District as a fraternal non-profit organization. SECOND by Redmond. ALL IN FAVOR.

LaSala will contact our legal representative, Bo Nerlin, to begin the process.

### **Resolution to Adopt New RFPD Monthly Meeting Dates**

LaSala stated that the previously decided upon new meeting dates would conflict with the Town of Ridgway Council Meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month), which would be conflicting for Mr. Nerlin. Bosworth acknowledged that it would conflict with his schedule as well.

- MOTION by Bosworth to change the RFPD meeting dates to the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm. SECOND by Dickerson. ALL IN FAVOR.

A resolution to adopt the new meeting dates was signed by Bosworth.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT – as reported by LaSala in the Chief's absence and per his request**

- LaSala reported that both of our new trucks are in service. T
- The Ouray County Mock Car Accident is this Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at the Fairgrounds. All the Board members are invited to attend. It starts at 9 am.
- Tate Rogers had donated a house for us to burn at intersections of county road 24 and 1. We are still waiting on a demo permit.
- The Wildland team is making Brush 1211 available to go on national assignments beginning on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **OTHER NON-AGENDA BUSINESS**

##### **LaSala Wildland Deployment**

Katy LaSala informed the Board that she is scheduled to be on the first crew that will be going on a wildland assignment as of May 15<sup>th</sup>. While ensuring to them that all the important District work will be taken care of, she wanted to make sure they still approve of her going on this and possibly one more assignment (at the end of the season). She has told our Wildland Coordinator that the last day she will be available to leave for this first assignment will be June 12<sup>th</sup> as to ensure she will be back before July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board was in favor of her going.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

- MOTION by Mueller to Adjourn. Second by Redmond. ALL IN FAVOR.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:13 pm.

Respectively Submitted,  
-Katy LaSala