

Ridgway Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting
January 15th, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:04 pm by Board Chair, Christen Williams, at the Ridgway Fire Department located at 251 N. Railroad Street, Ridgway, Colorado. Also, in attendance were Board Members Pam Kraft, Adam Johnson, and Jamie Gomez, Fire Chief Chris Miller, Administrator Katy LaSala, Legal Counsel Bo Nerlin, Ouray County Plaindealer Reporter Daniel Schmidt, and Board Member applicant Terry Schuyler.

MINUTES

❖ MOTION by Johnson to approve the 1/6/24 special meeting minutes as presented. SECOND by Gomez. ALL IN FAVOR.

FINANCIALS

Kraft suggested that we open a holding account and transfer a portion of the RFPD funds from existing accounts. While stating that she would like to maintain a financial operating presence at both local Ouray County banks, Williams tasked Kraft with researching account options and emailing her findings to LaSala to be discussed at the next regular meeting.

❖ MOTION by Kraft to approve financials as presented. SECOND by Gomez. ALL IN FAVOR.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Member Vacancy

Terry Schuyler was present as a new applicant to the board. He stated that he has a several-years-prior background in volunteer firefighting in both Colorado and Arizona. He is currently serving his second term on the Ridgway Town Council and has recently retired from the San Miguel Power Association but is still serving as a part-time grant writer for the company. When asked by Gomez what motivated him to seek elected office for the town council, Schuyler replied that he moved here to become involved with a local community and is also why he would like to serve on the RFPD board.

❖ MOTION by Johnson to appoint Terry Schuyler to fill the RFPD vacant board position until the next Special District election in May 2025. SECOND by Gomez. ALL IN FAVOR.

Williams administered the Oath to Schuyler, to which he took, and was then signed by Williams.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Miller reported that RFD firefighters responded to eleven calls in December and completed 38.5 hours of training. He stated that four firefighters will be attending a training academy in St. George, UT on 1/19 and 1/20.

Miller noted that retired RFPD board member and architect, Ned Bosworth, has agreed to create the required conceptual drawings needed to apply for Ouray County and Town of Ridgway training tower special use permits. Nerlin mentioned that we will need approval from the Ridgway USA HOA before placing the building on our property in town.

Finally, Chief Miller stated that his goals for January through March are to complete the RFPD policies with Lexipol and obtain a special use permit from either Ouray County or the Town of Ridgway for the training tower.

OTHER NON-AGENDA BUSINESS

Board Member Qualifications

Per Nerlin, the Special District Provisions Act dictates that, due to our recent transition from a volunteer to employee-based fire department, Adam Johnson (as a volunteer for the RFPD), is permitted to remain a board member until the

commencement of his term in May 2025, as he is considered to be “grandfathered in.” However, he cannot run for reelection, and no RFPD volunteer may serve on the RFPD board in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

❖ MOTION by Kraft to Adjourn. Second by Gomez. ALL IN FAVOR

Meeting Adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectively Submitted,
-Katy LaSala