

Aspen Fire Protection District

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting August 10, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Aspen Fire Protection District met for their regular meeting. The meeting was open to the public virtually via Zoom.

Meeting called to order by John at 5:02pm

Roll Call:

- Board of Directors Present: John Ward, Denis Murray, Stephen Wertheimer, Michael Buglione, Dave (Wabs) Walbert
- Board of Directors Absent:
- Staff/Volunteers Present: Rick Balentine, Jake Andersen, Nikki Lapin, Jan Schubert, Ryan Warren, Jake Spaulding, Michael Holmes, Charlie Curtis, Jan Legersky
- Public/Others: Karl Hanlon, Sebastian Wanatowicz

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Motion by Michael to approve minutes from: Regular meeting held on July 13th, 2021 and Special meeting held on July 26th, 2021. Wabs second. All approved.

Public Comment: None

AVFD Inc., Ryan Warren:

- AVFD had established a table at the Farmer's Market on August 21st and September 18th. The main focus will be to educate the public on fire safety, wildfire and speak to those of certain age about scholarship programs.
- Have purchased domain name for website: aspenvfd.org
- Ryan is trying to have monthly meetings with the Chief and Deputy Chief. The recent one was very productive and good communication between the two organizations.
- Ryan has received feedback from some volunteers and one or two career firefighters in the way in which this group may charge for housing rates. They feel they are too high.
- AVFD Inc. will be making a donation of \$500 each to injured MRA member and a former Pitkin County Deputy.

North 40 Housing Project Update: Sebastian Wanatowicz

- Monthly Budget Update: This was included in the board packet.
- Construction Update: Majority of the garage slab is poured. All the subgrade rough-ins installed for plumbing and they are in process of building platform for podium slab/deck slab that the actual housing will sit on. This will be done in two pours. There is a lot of activity happening and it is on schedule.
- Contingency Reconciliation Update: Sebastian reviewed contingency reconciliation update and what it shows.

- Reviewed some credits to the project. These credits will be put in another line item to use for other items further in the project. Sebastian reviewed long list of items.
- The original quote for the fitness buildout was approximately \$60,000, however we were able to get it down to \$20,000. This was just repriced. It is not a green light, but will be roughed in.
- There was discussion on what structural bracing might be needed for solar on roofs. Currently Sebastian thinks they add onto the North 40 station 102 panels. Also looking at the potential of panels on Aspen Village. They will be working pricing for the requirement and another pricing on getting to net zero.

Financials:

- County Treasurer Fees: Jan Schubert confirmed that she is still waiting for fees for August through December. Large amounts have been received and smaller checks will continue to trickle in.
- Expense for PTO: This is a number from auditor's year end actual PTO accrued balances for all multiplied by hourly rate. Nikki reviewed the PTO max balances.
- Review of the FPPA 2nd Quarter Report. This was included in the packet.
- Budget 2022 Draft Presented: Board will review and discuss further at next meeting.

Board Comments & Action Items:

- Wildland Fire Assignments: Currently no members have been sent out or been listed due to lack of resources. A survey was sent out to see if we had anyone interested. We are on call for MAMA for immediate local resources. The goal is to get everyone red carded.
- Salary Compensation Table Range Approval:
 - There was discussion of cost of living and merit raises. This program will be further designed after approval of salary compensation. Jake expressed importance of doing a cost of inflation adjustment each year and design program for merit increase. The goal will to also review these ranges every two or three years.

MOTION: Motion by Steve to approve Salary Compensation Table as presented. Michael second. All approved.

- Michael: Thanked AVFD Inc. for their generosity for supporting a former deputy injured and MRA member injured.
- Steve: Good to see the rain and to have the Pano AI cameras up.

MOTION: Motion by Denis to match AVFD Inc. donation to former deputy that was injured and MRA member injured. John second. All approved.

- Denis: He asked the Fire Marshal to bring a draft of code adoption. Jan commented that they coordinate with other agencies. Code Adoption for 2021 would happen first part of 2022. There was also discussion of requiring sprinklers for anything over 4,500 square feet, rather than 5,000 square feet.
- John - Thank you to Rick for the presentation at the last meeting.

MOTION: Motion to extend Rick's contract, ending December 31st, for one more year and direct Karl to work on. Steve second. Discussion: Karl will work with John on details of terms and bring it back to next meeting. All approved.

Staff Report:

- Fire Prevention:

- Ben Smith started last week and came back for another. He is doing a great job. The Children's Fair and Community Picnic are coming up that we will be attending with fire trucks, firefighters and education.
- Training
 - All the updates were presented in the Mid-Year Organizational Review last month. Jake will add the strategic plan update into the next meeting.
- Wildfire:
 - Pano AI picked up a fire in the Basalt area. The smoke in the air has been hindering vision. Staff is tracking each incident, fire or no fire. Jack addressed sending people out on wildland fires.

CEO/Fire Chief and Good of the District:

- It is now one year ago that we became a combination model.
- Family Night has been changed to September 1st. If you plan to attend, please let Nikki know so she can post accordingly.
- 9/11 Remembrance: This is the 20th anniversary. This will be in conjunction with other agencies in the valley. The Tiger Squadron may be doing a fly by that will be funded by someone else.
- Housing Guidelines work session: John will send out date for September.

Old Business:

- North 40 Roof Update: It was determined that an Executive Session was not needed at this time. Counsel suggested giving the report to Umbrella and give them a chance to fix the issues.

MOTION: Motion by John to adjourn at 6:52pm. Michael second. All approved.

***** A full recording of this meeting can be requested by contacting the District Administrator at nikki.lapin@aspenfire.com or by calling 970-925-5532.**