

Aspen Fire Protection District

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Board of Directors Regular Meeting August 9th, 2022

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

Prior to meeting, Steve Wertheimer was sworn in by Parker Lathrop.

Meeting called to order by Parker at 5:14pm

Roll Call:

- Board of Directors Present: John Ward (via Zoom), Parker Lathrop, Emily Taylor, Steve Wertheimer
- Board of Directors Absent: Dave "Wabs" Walbert
- Staff/Volunteers Present: Rick Balentine, Jake Andersen, Jan Schubert, Nikki Lapin, Jan Legersky, Scott Arthur, Ali Hager, Cristina Buitron, Ken Josselyn,
- Public/Others: Richard Peterson, Sebastian Wanatowicz, Cody Lyster

Public Comment: None

AVFD Inc.: None

North 40 Housing Project Update: Sebastian Wanatowicz

- Project Budget: The recent payout for this month is \$612,225.74. Project is winding down in terms of costs.
- Project Allowances and Contingency: There were consulting costs and commissioning associated with closing out. Those costs are shown in part on the contingency reconciliation page. There is an overage that the board approved for SGM doing the commissioning. Part of the money was given back to the project by FCI through allowance 22. There is \$18,891 in allowance 22 as credits to the project. The general contractor has \$76,193 left in their project contingency and there is \$355,929.71 left in the soft cost contingency of the \$500,000.
- Schedule: Cody Lyster, Project Manager for FCI, gave a rundown on the scheduling of the project. A final inspection with the county has been requested. As of the time of meeting, Cody had not heard back from the county. Cody spoke to the completion of punch list that should be completed by August 10th and the steel guardrails are going to be another two to three weeks. The focus is getting the certificate of occupancy. After certificate of occupancy is received, they will shift gears to some of the open items and the added scope items, making sure that the projects will meet the full expectations of everyone involved.
- Asphalt: The additional soil stabilization that was done for the asphalt came in at \$10,945. There is a low spot in the middle that FCI is going to look at addressing. The original asphalt replacement was \$28,623 for a total of \$39,568. This was at no additional cost to the project.

Wildfire Community Action Fund Project – Ali Hager

- Ali gave a quick review of the report presented in the board packet and addressed questions about budget.
- Project and Funding Update:
 - Fundraising is currently at \$341,980 gross.

- The grant to BLM Community Fire Assistance must be resubmitted by everyone that had to do with the infrastructure bill.
- Applied for AIM/CO-CO grant in the amount of \$20,000 for general operating support. It was denied due to lack of local support and long-term sustainability. There were three letters of support received from other agencies.
- The FRWRM Grant is coming out in a week and will be due in October.
- Outreach & Events:
 - Rick mentioned there is a donor who would like to put together a gala over Labor Day. Details are being worked on.
 - HOA presentation was done with Ridge of Red Mountain. They agreed unanimously to commit \$50,000 for mitigation in their neighborhood.
 - In the second week of chipper program. We had 28 homes participate in Brush Creek and moved over 110 cubic yards.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: Motion by John to approve minutes from: Regular meeting held July 12th, 2022.

Emily second.

Discussion: None

Vote: All approved.

Financials

- Monthly Financial Review: Monthly financial reports were included in the board packet.
- Staff is working on draft budget for 2023 for the next regular meeting in September. Rick noted that there are many increases in costs.

Board Comments & Action Items: None

Staff Report:

- Fire Marshal and Prevention: Report was included in Staff Report. Jan noted it will be the 100th year of Fire Prevention Week. They are working on different ideas. Fire Prevention Week will start October 9th. Looking forward to being back in the schools and having an open house.
- Operations Overview:
 - Staff is working on back end of things for budget.
 - First cycle of evaluations has been completed.
 - Staff will do a strategic plan update in September or October.
 - Board discussed the number of false calls and whether to start charging after more than one or two. It was suggested looking at call report for multiple calls per location.
- Training Report: Report was included in the Staff Report. Scott highlighted some training in regard to active shooter, driver/operator pump training, the EMT bridge class and the upcoming Colorado State Live Fire, pumping operations and driving simulator that he is working on with Roaring Fork Fire. Also looking at doing some training at Hotel Aspen as it will be torn down end of September or October. The new recruits are getting ready to take EMR, S130/190 and currently started doing shifts to work on task books. Scott noted they are receiving glowing reports.
- New Recruitment: Currently have over 30 applications for the upcoming recruit class. One of the new recruits helped create a volunteer video to be put on website, social media and for local commercials. This new group will be included in the grant that was received.
- Celebration of Heros was held. It was a successful evening, and the plan is to continue this program when there are more rescues.

CEO/Fire Chief and Good of the District:

- Pano AI Update: Rick continues to meet with Pano AI. It picked up a couple smoke reports in the past couple days. Rick reviewed some of the other agencies using the program.
- Roaring Fork Collaborative: The group is going well. Challenge is finding a place for it to live.
- Roya Beklik will be retiring after 20 years of service. There will be a recognition at the upcoming Operations meeting.
- Fire Place: All units have been spoken for. There is a nice mix of our members, Aspen Police, Roaring Fork Fire and Pitkin County Dispatch. Several people from other agencies that will be living there have expressed interest in becoming volunteers.

Old Business:

- Woody Creek Project Update: Rick met with member of their planning board. They are trying to revive this. Rick will keep the board updated as more information comes his way.

New Business: None

**MOTION: Motion by Steve to adjourn at 6:21pm. Emily second.
Vote: 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.**