



Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

August 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order:

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District was held on Tuesday, August 15, 2023, at 8:30 a.m. Noting that a quorum was present, Chair Elizabeth Striegler called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll Call President Striegler, Vice President Heivly (Lifesize), Treasurer Balko, Board Member Arthur, Board Member Boineau, Chief Thompson, Financial Director Thompson, HR Director Thomas, Deputy Chief Issel, Deputy Chief Cornelius, Executive Assistant Diamond, Attorney Cole (Lifesize), IT Director Johnson, Assistant Fire Marshal Pidcock, Deputy Fire Marshal Stott, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal Mele, Leroy Duroux, John Young, Lieutenant / Paramedic Peruse (Lifesize), Firefighter EMT Smith.

Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes

Director Striegler requested a motion to approve the June 20, 2023, regular minutes as presented. Treasurer Balko made the motion. Director Boineau seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion carried 5 – 0

Chief's Report

Chief Thompson informed the Board that the polling done for the potential ballot question for Basalt and Rural Fire had favorable results. Chief Thompson wants the Snowmass Board to come to the project with some cash.

Chief Thompson says we have a 26 million dollar estimated cost to rebuild Station 42, but we know it will go higher. Chief Thompson said he would like to offset some of the expenses with capital monies that we have in the bank and that we're raising by the point seven five mil Capital, the question on the ballot. Chief Thompson said that initially setting the budget is to cut everything down to two mils on operation and cut that in half. Chief Thompson said that would bring in approximately - Financial Director Thompson finished by saying- 375,000 at .75, but it is almost done. Chief Thompson thinks this will double. Chief Thompson recommends leaving that at .75 and not lowering it. Chief Thompson explained that we were hoping to reduce two mils of the operations was cutting everything down operationally brings in 375 thousand; it will double, so leave it at .75; hoping to lower two mills of operation moving forward so we will give the taxpayers a relief of some type. Chief Thompson explains that .75 is critical to put into capital so we can decide moving forward once we get all the cost estimates and can bank that money. Chief Thompson explains the money is restricted to bricks, mortar, and firetrucks.

Chief Thompson reminded the Board that the new rebuild would include a training facility, including a burn building that will be used by SWFPD, as well as crew quarters, an admin building, a new maintenance facility, and employee townhomes.

Chief Thompson reviewed the polling results. Chief Thompson said they wanted three hundred responses and received almost six hundred responses.

Chief Thompson said the ballot results showed support of 70%, which would pay for 90% of the rebuild for Station 42, and Chief Thompson would expect to get about 10 % from SWFPD. These funds would offset the capital monies needed for the rebuild project for Station 42. Discussion ensued; Board members favored keeping the training here in the valley and supported having more employee housing.

Chief Thompson advised that construction costs are increasing about four percent a year. Chief Thompson said that with this in mind, the land cost would be three million dollars for five acres. The Basalt Rural and Fire District leases about two and a half acres from the Crawfords. Chief Thompson would like the Board to make this purchase sooner rather than later to avoid a higher purchase price. President Striegler asks for the time frame to break ground on this project. Chief Thompson said it took three years to break ground for Station 45, but that was a complete tear-down and rebuild. The Board would like to see more numbers regarding the project, and Chief Thompson said he would share the Detwiler presentation for the potential rebuild with them.

Finance Report

Finance Director Thompson told the Board the July money came in yesterday, and she has yet to have time to review it.

Finance Director Thompson told the Board she could send their paychecks electronically, and they would have to go to their personal email.

Finance Director Thompson informed the Board that citizens are inquiring about how to get a hold of Board members. Currently, questions are coming through the info@roaringforkfire.org email, which Secretary Diamond can forward as necessary. The SWFPD Board said this system would work for them.

President Striegler asked when the budget committee meeting would start. Finance Director Thompson said they began three months ago and meet twice a month as staff, and the next meeting is September 11, 2023. Finance Director Thompson tells the SWFPD Board the first reading for the 2024 budget is October 15, 2023. Finance Director Thompson said there is no need to publish the budget committee meeting as, at most, two members will be present from each Board. For future meetings, Treasurer Balko suggests leaving it up to staff to see when you need the Board to attend the Budget Committee Meetings.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Bob Cole said he has been preparing for the election question for Basalt Rural and Fire Protection. Treasurer Balko asked Attorney Cole about updating the SWFPD By-Laws to align with the current elections because of the cycle conflict with the by-laws. Attorney Cole advised that the election of officers to the Board should be done after every election, even if it falls on an odd year.

Attorney Cole reminded the Board that they can elect officers at any time. Attorney Cole said the next election is in 2025 and will amend the by-laws for elections every two years.

Public Comments

None

Board Comments

None

Staff Comments

Chief Thompson told the Board the SDA conference is in Keystone on September 12-15, 2023. Chief Thompson advised the Board they could attend in person or virtually, and he would like one or two Board Members to attend. Secretary Diamond will email information on the SDA conference to the Board Members and contact her if you are interested in attending.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Non-Agenda Items

None

Adjournment

Director Boineau motioned to adjourn the meeting; Director Arthur seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 9 a.m. unopposed.

To watch this movie in its entirety, click below link to view.

SWFPD - <https://youtu.be/krxvcNonXrU>