

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**Meeting Minutes of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District
August 13, 2014 6:00 p.m.
Dannels Fire Station, 901 N. St. Vrain Ave., Estes Park, CO 80517**

Board: President Doug Klink, Vice President Mark Igel, Treasurer Mike Richardson, Mike Kearney, Ed Ford

Staff: Chief Scott Dorman

Also Attending: CPT Derek Rosenquist, Fire Marshal Marc Robinson, EPVFD firefighters Daryl McCown, Brian Faith.

Absent: Board Secretary Landkamer

The following minutes reflect the order of the agenda and not necessarily the chronological sequence of the meeting.

President Doug Klink called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m

Chief Dorman led the Pledge of Allegiance

President Klink performed roll call – all here

CONFLICT OF INTEREST - None

PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT - None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Klink asked to modify the agenda to remove items 8A, 8B, 9A, and 9B, and also switch items 10 and 11 so the executive session will take place before the new reserves item. Moved by Mike Richardson, seconded by Mike Kearney to approve the agenda with the modifications. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Treasurer Richardson, seconded by Ed Ford to approve the 7-23-14 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

- None

OLD BUSINESS

President Klink discussed the current number of engineers. Chief Dorman handed out copies of the current Engineer list to the board members, and mentioned the current engineers and their availability to respond to calls. Chief Dorman talked about some options to try to increase the number of engineers which included setting up duty times to respond to shifts from home, providing incentives for engineers, establishing a technical support team (reserves), or using mutual aid engineers. Chief Dorman commented that the department is at a critical stage and need engineers now. Vice President Igel asked how long the engineer shortage has been a crisis and Chief Dorman commented that it hit a high point this past summer and became more of a crisis-stage with a couple top engineers moving out of town. President Klink stated that he spoke with the district's attorney earlier in the day, and she stated now that the shortage of engineers has come to public attention, the district needs to act on a solution right away or the district could be held liable if something happened. She suggested the board direct the chief to take any former, retired, qualified people and bring them back even if they were in a reserve program, and the board could temporarily suspend any rules or regulations in place that would interfere with the Chief from doing that. Board member Mike Kearney stated he felt the reserves program for engineers should be started immediately however President Klink commented that it would take more time to establish this program. The board agreed that engineers were needed now. President Klink stated it was a good idea for out-of-town firefighters to leave their radios at the station when they were out of town so reserve engineers could use them. The out-of-town firefighters that don't live in Estes Park could listen to their alpha-numeric pagers and free up the radios for the engineers in town that could respond. Mike Kearney commented that the new engineers would need bunker gear and also to be covered under worker's compensation. Mike Kearney also added that some of the current firefighters should be fast-tracked through the engineer program. President Klink stated the board needs to make a motion to agree on the following items; develop a list of possible engineer resources and contact them, arrange a training program/refresher class for them, agree to suspend rules and regulations that would hinder this engineer program. Chief Dorman would determine when the crisis is over.

A motion was made by President Klink to direct the Chief to develop a list of past qualified engineers, contact them, and set up a training refresher. The board also temporarily suspends any and all guidelines and regulations that would interfere with this directive. Motion carried unanimously.

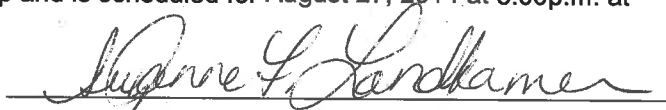
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NEW BUSINESS

The new reserves program was discussed. LOSAP and other financial costs were discussed, as well as the possibility of being either volunteer versus district-run. To be eligible to receive pension, 36 hours of training needs to be completed every year by firefighters. Vice President Igel commented that he thought all members should be eligible for the same pension, and that it was a privilege for firefighters that achieved a Firefighter 1, to go into a building, so that would give incentive for members to achieve more. Chief Dorman stated that there will be some fall-out from firefighters that went through all the hours of training to get their certifications, and now the same pension will be given to reserves members. President Klink stated that he asked legal to give him guidelines that establish what types of job responsibilities should be receiving pension etc. and get benefits as the Firefighter 1's receive. The volunteer organization and district were also discussed in terms of keeping them separate or placing them both under one district umbrella. Vice President Igel stated he would like to streamline this now and put everything into 1 organization, and not put it off for another couple years. President Klink agreed he would also like to see this change happen soon. Board member Mike Richardson asked why the two separate organizations had to be combined into one, and President Klink stated that one of two things needed to happen: either the constitution and bylaws have to be rationalized between the two organizations, or if they can't be rationalized – you can't have two sets because sooner or later, someone can sue the district due to the lack of wording in one document or another. The reserves program was further discussed. The board liked the layout of the program as presented. It was agreed that President Klink and Chief Dorman would set up a conference call with legal to discuss the legalities of the reserves program, then notify the rest of the board.

Moved by President Klink, seconded by Vice President Igel to enter into an executive session pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(f) C.R.S. for purposes of discussing personnel issues regarding Fire Chief Scott Dorman. Motion carried unanimously.

The next board meeting will be a board workshop and is scheduled for August 27, 2014 at 6:00p.m. at Dannels Fire Station.
Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Suzanne Landkamer, Recording Secretary

"The Mission of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District is to provide the citizens of and visitors to the Estes Valley with superior fire prevention, fire protection and emergency services in a safe and efficient manner."

"The Mission of the Board of Directors of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District is to establish policy, goals, strategies and financial leadership that are the foundation for the long-term sustainability of the District."