

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Meeting Minutes of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District Pension Board

January 22, 2020 5:00 p.m.

Dannels Fire Station, 901 N. St. Vrain Ave., Estes Park, CO 80517

Board: President Doug Klink, Treasurer Dave Coleson, Mike Richardson, Ed Ford, Jon Hodde, CPT Rick Spear, LT William Harkins

Staff: Chief Wolf, Board Secretary Goetz

Also Attending: Asst. Chief Jon Landkamer

Absent: Mike Richardson excused

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 5:03 pm.

Chief Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary Goetz performed roll call – Mike Richardson absent excused

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Ed Ford receives a 17yr pension, Doug Klink receives a 10yr pension, Cpt. Rick Spear has earned enough years to qualify for pension but is not currently receiving pension.

PUBLIC / BOARD COMMENT

Public Comment: None

Board Comment: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Ed Ford, seconded by Cpt. Rich Spear to approve agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Ed Ford, seconded by Dave Coleson to approve the 8/28/19 minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Application for pension brought forth for Mark Igel. He has served for 29 years with the department and has maintained 36 hours of training or more for 20 years.

Chief Wolf read to the board and public an email he wrote explaining the unintended consequences of the 2017 change to the active membership policy.

“Review of Mark Igel’s file shows that effective 2013, he had 17 qualifying years towards his Estes Valley District Volunteer Pension (documented by the previous Training Captain). He then met the requirements in our policy in 2017 and 2019, bringing him to a total of 19 years. Strictly following the *letter* of our policy, he would receive credit for 19 years of service.

The *spirit* of our policy was to ensure continued contributions from members to qualify for a year of pension benefit. The policy changes made in 2017 switched to a quarterly requirement so that a member could not amass their entire years’ worth of credit in Q1 then disappear. As with any new policy, this language had unintended consequences. That is a big part of why our 2020 policy has removed the quarterly requirement.

In 2018, Mark met the requirements in Q1 and Q2 outright. In Q3 he far exceeded the call response requirement and was one (1) hour short of the quarterly training requirement. He then earned additional training hours in Q4, giving him an annual total in excess of the requirement. I feel that while he did not meet the letter of the policy, he certainly met the spirit of the policy and our organization’s goal.

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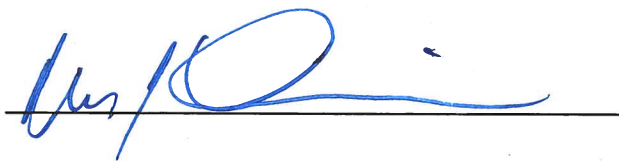
Given his lengthy service to this organization and many years of contribution that were not captured by this record, I recommend that 2018 be counted as a qualifying year and he receive a pension for 20 years of service.”

Motion by Cpt. Rick Spear, seconded by Dave Coleson to approve Mark Igel’s application for pension with 20 years of qualifying service. Motion carried unanimously.

Jon Hodde asked how often the active membership policy is reviewed and/or changed. Chief Wolf explained that it is reviewed as needed and changed only if needed effective January 1 for ease of tracking purposes and continuity for members. Due to the unintended consequences of the 2017 change, the active membership policy was reviewed and changed effective 1/1/2020.

Next Pension Board meeting will be held TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 5:09 p.m.



Mike Richardson, 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.”