

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
MOUNTAIN VIEW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**February 19, 2008**

**I. OPENING OF REGULAR MEETING.**

**A. Call to Order.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mountain View Fire Protection District was held at the Administration Office, 9119 E. County Line Road, Longmont, Colorado, on February 19, 2008, and was called to order by Judy Rusk at 1900 Hours.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance.**

All persons in attendance participated in the pledge of allegiance

**C. Roll Call.**

The meeting was attended by the following Board members: Judy Rusk, Randy Winsett, Scott Lyle, Starr Aldrich and Stephen Walker.

Also present were: Randy Templeton, Donna Mullison, Mark Lawley, Cindy Brown, Bill Daschiell, Chuck Gabbard, Lance Nelsen, Christy Nelsen, Mike Stratton, Ed Seibert, Hub Albrandt.

**D. Approval of Agenda.**

Starr Aldrich moved to approve the agenda, as written. Randy Winsett seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved

**E. Chief's Report.**

Chief Templeton distributed his report for the Board's review. Judy Rusk asked about the Station 5 plans which propose taking the meeting room out of commission as a meeting room. It is the only place in the area that can be used for public meetings, elections, etc. She is very uncomfortable taking the room away and making it into sleeping quarters. Chief Templeton stated the alternative would be to remodel a bay at considerably more expense. We need to get better coverage down there as soon as possible. Chief Templeton stated he understands the concerns and willing to use a bay for a meeting room, etc. We need to weigh the benefits of sleeping facilities vs. the limited use as a meeting room. Hopefully, we will be able to replace the station in 2-3 years. Scott Lyle asked if we could explain this information to Arapahoe Ridge residents, and perhaps use their recreation center for meetings, etc. Judy Rusk stated the counties would not use that for elections. Randy Winsett agreed with Chief Templeton as to weighing benefits, and it is important to keep the bay for vehicle storage, and can use the bay for meetings the few times needed. Chief Lawley distributed a copy of the demo plan and reconstruction of the bedrooms for the Board to review. Scott Lyle stated that we need to do what is best for the department, and serving the community with better coverage vs. expending huge amounts of money to remodel, this plan is the best idea from a financial position at this point in time. Judy Rusk stated that we need to consider where the station came from and the people still living in the area that are still using the station for meetings, etc., and expecting to use their station for meetings, elections, etc. Randy Winsett stated if we give them the information, they will be happy

to get better coverage for their area and perhaps use other facilities for meetings. Judy Rusk stated a lot of people will see a disadvantage. Stephen Walker stated change is difficult. Discussion regarding needs/use for meetings, etc. in the area was held. Judy stated it is a political hot potato in that area. Scott Lyle stated the original thought is that these people have a right to use District property as a way of saying thank you for helping build the facility, etc. The department had the room to honor that. But, ultimately we are saying now we don't have the room as we must move forward to give them better coverage through staffing and to do so we need living arrangements. Dr. Walker stated that depending how many people need to meet, the building could still be used at times for meetings. Judy Rusk stated at election times there are a lot of people. Scott Lyle stated that we could use the bays at that time. Dr. Walker stated we can tell the people to let us know ahead of time if they need to meet, and we can pull out the vehicles and make room for their meetings in the bay. We can work together to make it work for everyone. Randy Winsett stated we can explain it is a short-term fix until we can build a new station in the future. Chief Templeton stated he would like to market to the community that the building is in mothballs now and we are hoping to show we are restoring it to its former glory, with people there often using it as a fire station. We can give this info via a door hangar campaign, newspaper articles, etc. Chief Lawley spoke with Michelle of Boulder County and she indicated there should not be any issues in obtaining a building permit. He asked for direction prior to applying for the permit. Judy Rusk recommended that the Planning Department give us information/criteria for a structure with bedrooms and the necessary allowances for a gas distribution box. Chief Lawley stated Michelle looked it up and stated there is nothing in the code that would prevent issuance of a permit. Randy Winsett stated it would be best to get written information from the County. Chief Lawley will obtain a letter from Boulder County prior to applying for the permit.

Chief Templeton stated that staff read in the Farmer and Miner that Firestone is re-evaluating, and having a public hearing on, their comprehensive plan boundaries. The public hearing is coming up in the next couple of weeks. Chief Templeton will probably attend. Discussion.

## **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

### **A. January 12, 2008 Special Meeting Minutes.**

Scott Lyle moved to approve the January 12, 2008 special meeting minutes, as written. Randy Winsett seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved.

### **B. January 21, 2008 Regular Meeting Minutes.**

Dr. Walker asked about ESCI information and wondered if some heat had been placed on Mr. Caldwell regarding the report. Chief Templeton stated Tuesday, April 8, 2008 was the date given him by ESCI to meet at 7:00 p.m. for a final presentation, venue to be announced. They need an estimate from us on how many people will attend. Dr. Walker has a prior commitment, but would like to go. April 15<sup>th</sup>? Scott Lyle stated at this time of year it is very difficult for him to attend during tax time. Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> is a better date for everyone. Chief Templeton will confirm the date/location and thereafter a notice will be sent out.

Judy Rusk asked Donna to correct "through" to "threw" in the second paragraph, first line of the minutes. Judy Rusk stated the Bonanza Drive issue is a dead deal. The residents of the airpark appealed to the Town Council and they tabled it indefinitely. Judy Rusk stated that Chief Templeton reported there were only 10 volunteer applicants who made it through the ride along program. Judy Rusk asked if we know how/why others did not make it through? Chief Lawley will find out why they fell out of the program and report to the Board. Chief Lawley left the meeting to obtain his files/notes. He stated that some people missed the cut off dates for CPAT, and if so, they are immediately placed into the next academy process. Chief Lawley researched and found two did not want to take the CPAT test; two failed their psychological exams; some

failed the background checks. We have just found out about a couple more that did not pass the psychological exam due to drug use, etc.

Randy Winsett moved to approve the January 21, 2008 regular meeting minutes, as corrected. Starr Aldrich seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved.

### **III. PUBLIC/MEMBER PARTICIPATION**

Chief Templeton swore in Lance Nelsen who was recently promoted to Engineer. Three engineer positions were created for 2008, Lance was on the list, so he has received the first promotion. The two other promotions will be held after the promotional testing later this year.

Sparky presented his vehicle with all the MVFPD decals/stripping. There is an event with the Cub Scouts in Niwot that Sparky will attend. He is also looking to schedule attendance at the town/city council meetings, children's hospital, etc.

### **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A. January, 2008 Financial Statements.**

Donna Mullison distributed her analysis of the January overtime, including a significant amount accrued from December. Chief Templeton stated we are down a paramedic on C shift. There are four in the FI process, three new medics plus Rachel Bowman. At least one will be through the process within a month. Chief Templeton discussed Jeff Webb's analysis of transport needs. We need 3-1/2 ambulances for our call volume. During the last few weeks we tried keeping all four during the day and taking the one in Dacono out of service at nights. That cut OT down some, so on C shift 2227 is out of service every C shift day. Chief Lawley stated that several medics were working 3-4 days in a row and trying to backfill the vacant position was burning out paramedics. We just can't work the people so many days, therefore due to that, as well as the financial situation, we have been taking 2227 out of service when we have no regular shift coverage. We were having to mandatory people to fill positions regularly, and they were working too much. Due to the needs of the District, agreements, etc., 2227 was selected to be the unit out of service when necessary. Scott Lyle stated a contract or part-time medic is not feasible due to difficulty finding persons to fill? Chief Lawley stated that there were no contract paramedics, only firefighters. Getting the new medics through the FI program is what will alleviate a lot of the OT. Each individual's FI process is different due to length of experience, skills, etc. in determining how long the FI process takes. Scott Lyle stated at this rate we will have used up all OT in EMS in February. That is correct. Chief Lawley stated much of the January OT was accrued from December, but paid in January. Chief Templeton stated Twink knew of some people who possibly could be contract paramedics, but they would have to be approved by Dr. Kanowitz, fire certification, and FI process, and that was not feasible. Discuss types of OT coverage, budgeting for December OT in January, etc. Judy Rusk expressed her concerns that we not use the Capital Reserve Fund unless absolutely necessary.

Starr Aldrich moved to approve the January, 2008 financial statements. Randy Winsett seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved.

#### **B. McHale Ranch Exclusion – Public Hearing.**

Scott Lyle moved to adjourn the meeting to Public Hearing. Randy Winsett seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved.

Judy Rusk stated the McHale Ranch exclusion is between WCR 15 & 17, annexed into Firestone, which was included on the original agreement with them.

There being no public comment, President Judy Rusk adjourned the public hearing and reconvened the regular meeting.

Randy Winsett moved to approve the McHale Ranch exclusion. Stephen Walker seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved and all appropriate orders signed.

## **V. REGULARLY SCHEDULED ITEMS**

### **A. JRA Update.**

Chief Templeton stated we had a joint staff meeting with Boulder Rural last Tuesday. The financial aspect of things since the 6 month anniversary was discussed. The financial situation/collections are getting better. After that meeting chiefs met with Chief Mygatt. They discussed what items to look at from the ESCI study for cooperative efforts. Training among all, communications with Longmont, and public education was also discussed. Judy Rusk said it has been awhile since the Board has received a report. It would be nice to see something regarding the monthly calls/financial information. Starr Aldrich stated he received a notice for a JRA meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Does the Board want Starr to be the Board representative? The Board's consensus was to have Starr become the Board representative to the JRA meetings. Starr asked to be advised of the meetings well in advance so he can arrange his work schedule.

### **B. ESCI Update.**

Chief Templeton stated we need to secure a date/location for the final presentation. He will get back to ESCI and confirm, and thereafter let everyone know. Discussion. Scott Lyle stated it was strange that they weren't giving us an idea of what they are going to present. Dr. Walker asked for Bruce Caldwell's phone number/e-mail address. Chief Templeton will get it to him.

## **VI. REPORTS**

### **A. Station Reports.**

Chief Templeton asked if there were any questions regarding the Station 3 remodel. He discussed the part time paid programs to be instituted at Station 3 and Station 5. We have no other alternative at Station 3 to add two bedrooms other than to convert one of the bays. That will cost approx. \$23,800, plus some heating/HVAC work the cost of which has yet to be determined. We would want to make it so the room would be removable should the town move out at a future date. If the Board approves, we will proceed and obtain CAD drawings, building permit, etc. To begin the program in June, we need to move on the remodel now. 2221 will move up there some time in March full time, and when the volunteers staff, there just isn't room for everyone. Chief Templeton discussed the pace of change. There is a sequence of events that must happen to move forward and attain the goals for this year. Scott Lyle moved to continue with the planning stages of this project to confirm bid, obtain CAD drawings, etc. Chief Lawley said the room must be a one hour rated room, a hallway, etc. is required which drives the cost up. Most of the cost is due to Code requirements. Chief Lawley stated we are preserving the bay door for future use. Randy Winsett seconded the motion and it was thereafter unanimously approved.

Scott Lyle wanted to confirm the plans for Station 5. Obtain a letter from the planning department, then submit for a permit? Yes, that is correct.

**B. Staff Reports.**

None.

**(1) Operations/Training**

Chief Lawley stated the volunteer academy begins this coming weekend. Orientation was last weekend. Career academy will begin March 10<sup>th</sup>. Judy Rusk asked if the training schedule was getting stabilized. Chief Lawley said they are working very hard.

**(2) EMS**

Chief Templeton stated Twink will be out for approx. 6 weeks beginning March 6<sup>th</sup> for surgery.

**(3) Fire Prevention**

Fire Marshal Penfold was unable to attend, but sent her report that Donna distributed. Judy Rusk stated plan reviews are still pretty slow.

**(4) Admin**

Chief Templeton stated we are going through the audit process. Staff has been very busy. Additional field work will be held February 29<sup>th</sup>, and the interviews will begin at that time as well. Judy Rusk asked if the Chief will be in Texas on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Chief Templeton stated he will be out of town, and we have e-mailed the auditor for a date the Chief could come to his office, but have not heard back.

**(5) Volunteer/Reserve Program.**

Chief Templeton stated this month we finalized negotiations with officers/volunteers regarding the paid part time program. Chief Lawley has finished the AOG and it will be going out soon.

**(6) Career Firefighters.**

None.

**(7) Fire Corps.**

Starr Aldrich stated there are two new members, for a total of nine members. Sparky is being scheduled regularly. Met with American Red Cross for the fire shelter program training. That training should start soon. Bill Daschiell stated we are doing some training of new members. So far not too busy. If we can keep to Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays we are doing pretty well. Sparky and Engine 10 have been asked to attend the fire muster at the Denver Fire Museum.

**C. Other Reports.**

Judy Rusk asked how the Blue Ribbon meeting went. Chief Templeton stated nine people attended. No one from Mead, three from Niwot, a couple from Erie and Dacono. It was an interesting dynamic. They asked a lot of questions and took us far afield. They agreed to go

away and come back and in the interim they will review the great deal of printed information that was distributed at the meeting, and said they would share with their neighbors. Starr stated that we agreed to provide them a binder of information. Chief Pischke has been working on it. Chief Lawley said he was working on it as well. Judy Rusk stated we need to provide a lot of data; i.e. budget data, what we received, where it has gone, impact of increased costs; what we plan on doing with increased revenue. Dr. Walker stated If we give them only pie in the sky information, they will tell you no at the polls. We have been there/done that twice. Must be very transparent. Starr Aldrich stated we didn't set up another meeting. Judy Rusk stated she did not know who sent the letter to Erie Review, but Judy Rusk stated there are many former Denver firefighters in the area. Randy Winsett asked Judy Rusk if she knew who had written it and she did not recognize the name.

Chief Templeton stated we discussed whether to combat misinformation. Perhaps we will respond to the second letter, but not the first. Chief Templeton stated he received a phone call from a citizen that wanted facts to respond to it as he did not agree with the letter to the editor.

Dr. Walker stated the last time there were letters that were not very astute. This letter writer seemed more astute, and if we are good about addressing these concerns correctly, we will muster more support. Fire Watch inflamed a lot of people, but this person was well stated and focused on specifics. If we address that, we will do a good job with this.

Dr. Walker asked what types of questions people were asking. Starr Aldrich stated that Neal Anderson from Niwot was asking typical Niwot questions, i.e. financial information, whether we knew about new technology such as CAF, modern developments, how we get information regarding how municipalities grow, why should Niwot vote for something that is not in Niwot. Chief Templeton told them that Niwot was the best coverage in the District due to mutual aid, JRA, etc. Can't just look at one area. Scott Lyle stated that was the big question—each area of the District will be asking “what is in it for us”. Chief Templeton stated Erie must understand the commercial advantage of having us in there. Judy Rusk stated it will be interesting to see what the people say in April about that, in the municipal elections. They are carrying a recreation center and library mil levies; many people don't want the commercial development. Scott Lyle stated the developers don't want commercial, but the residents want commercial as they know their taxes are high. Chief Templeton states he feels Erie and Mead get it, but Niwot is in Boulder County so we don't know if we will be persuasive enough to win their vote. Discuss Mr. Meyer's misrepresentation of some information in his letter to the editor. Dr. Walker stated we should correct the misinformation. Scott Lyle stated that if nothing but negative or counterpoints are being addressed in the papers, we lose. There must be a response. Perhaps a weekly letter containing facts would be a good idea. Chief Templeton asked the Board for direction regarding answering the letters. Chief Templeton would like to answer them. Scott Lyle stated perhaps not to answer each letter, but maybe have a monthly article or advertisement with facts. Discussion. Dr. Walker advised a photo with information that includes rebuttal to the letter, i.e. photo of port-a-potty and explanation of the last bond/mil levy was for stations, etc. and we cannot afford to build due to not passing the ballot question. Starr stated we could get into trouble by specifically rebutting the letter. Scott Lyle stated the articles could just include facts/photos, etc. Randy Winsett asked what Stifel-Nicolaus give us direction. Dr. Walker asked that John Bretz attend the next board meeting. Chief Templeton stated what Stifel-Nicolaus envisioned for the Citizens Committee from his 8 months here, it is not happening that people are rising up to beat our drum. Bretz had success elsewhere doing that, but our District does not seem to want to take up our cause and market the bond/mill question. Dr. Walker stated Scott's idea of an information campaign is a good one for all papers in our area of distribution. Scott Lyle said to have some type of positive information campaign around addressing the letters. If we say nothing, they win. We must put positive information in the newspapers. Discuss economic factors in our area in the past 7 years. Dr. Walker stated the same type of press release can go in each newspaper, but should be part of a much

broader plan. Stifel-Nicolaus should provide some guidance in this regard. Dr. Walker stated if there was a meeting scheduled prior to the next board meeting he would like to attend.

Chief Lawley stated Stifel-Nicolaus laid out a plan for us; it is specific, and they will stick with it. The Citizens Advisory Panel was Phase I of that. Starr Aldrich stated there were a few people that attended, but they just asked questions and left. Chief Lawley stated that they may not come back; they did not seem to be what we hoped.

**VII. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS**

None.

**VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Starr Aldrich moved to adjourn the meeting. Scott Lyle seconded such motion, and it was thereafter unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 2047 Hours.

**Respectfully submitted,**

\_\_\_\_\_  
President Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Date