

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
PAGOSA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

July 2, 2024

The regular meeting of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 following the regular meeting of the Pagosa Fire Protection District Volunteer Firefighters Pension Fund Board of Trustees. This meeting was held at 165 N. Pagosa Blvd., Pagosa Springs, Colorado. These meetings are open to the public.

Call to Order

Chairman Lattin called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance

LeRoy Lattin (President/Chairman), Ron Beckman (Vice-President) and Wayne Hooper (Director) were present. James Martin (Secretary/Treasurer) and Ryan Foster (Director) were absent.

Staff Present

Chief Bertram, Deputy Chief Macht, and Business Manager Bliss were present. Attorney Dino Ross was present via Zoom.

Approval or Adjustments to the Agenda

Director Beckman moved to accept the agenda as presented. Director Hooper seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Public Comments

Comments by Wayne Bryant, 235 Rim View Ct., were moved to the Public Hearing portion of the meeting on a motion by Director Hooper, seconded by Director Beckman and carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting Minutes – June 4, 2024

The minutes from the June 4, 2024 regular meeting were approved with a motion by Director Beckman, seconded by Director Hooper, and carried unanimously.

Public Hearing – Fee Schedule

Chairman Lattin opened the Public Hearing at 5:44 p.m.

Wayne Bryant, 235 Rim View Ct., spoke against the proposed fee schedule. Mr. Bryant highlighted double taxation and the fear people would not call for help when needed as major reasons not to support the fee schedule.

Attorney Ross noted that the Board exercised its discretion in choosing to hold the Public Hearing, which is not legally required, and it can choose how it wishes to proceed on this matter. . Attorney Ross also stated for the record that notice of the Public Hearing was properly published in the Pagosa Sun and the fee schedule was available for public inspection prior to the Public Hearing.

Chairman Lattin closed the Public Hearing at 5:47 p.m.

Old Business

A. Consideration to Adopt the New Fee Schedule

Chief Bertram explained the new Fee Schedule allows for the District to potentially bill for out-of-District claims. Properties that are outside the District's boundaries are not paying taxes to the District. As a result, the District's taxpayers are paying for the District to respond to emergencies outside the District's boundaries. Chief Bertram advised that the office received many calls regarding the fee schedule and staff was able to help the callers in understanding the issue. Director Hooper expressed concerns about public confusion regarding the District's boundaries the information that has been provided. Director Beckman stated that he supports more public outreach and education. Attorney Ross advised the Board on the statutory procedures by which property may be included into the District. Director Hooper moved to table the fee schedule until the next meeting. Director Beckman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

B. Consideration to Adopt the New Member Handbook

Chief Bertram presented the new Member Handbook for consideration. He reported that a reference to the Board Bylaws and a more positive reference to EAP programs have been incorporated into the Member Handbook. Director Lattin moved to adopt the new Member Handbook as presented. Director Beckman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

New Business

A. Consideration to Hire New Inspector and New Training Officer

Chief Bertram reminded the Board they previously budgeted for a new inspector and training officer. He explained that, with adoption of the new Member Handbook, he would like to proceed with filling these positions. Director Hooper moved to approve hiring a new inspector and training officer. Director Lattin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

B. Consideration to Request an Extension of Time to File Audit for Year End December 31, 2023

Chief Bertram explained the auditors have experienced some health setbacks. The request for an extension allows for an additional 60 days to file the audit paperwork with the State Auditor. Director Hooper moved to file a request for an extension of time to file the audit ending December 31, 2023. Director Beckman seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Reports

A. Attorney Report

Attorney Ross reviewed the attorney's report ,which was included in the Board packet.

B. Financial Report

Business Manager Bliss reported on the completion of all bank reconciliations for all accounts for June. She provided current revenue and expense information along with the June check register, which were included in the Board Packet.

Business Manager Bliss reported burn permits to date were at 604, plan reviews were at 20 and special event applications were at 5.

C. Deputy Chief Report

Deputy Chief Macht advised Firefighter Waller has passed his FF1 and Firefighter McAdam passed his FFII. Deputy Chief Macht also reported there were 573 calls for service and 1833 training hours to date.

D. Chief Report

Chief Bertram reported the Inspection Vehicle has been purchased. Chief Bertram also advised he should have information regarding the impact fee study within the next few weeks.

Good of the Order

Business Manager Bliss advised she would be on vacation and would not be present at the next meeting.

Fourth of July BBQ would take place at the Administration Office after the parade.

Director Beckman reported he attended a wonderful presentation and training by the Special District Association in Durango recently.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Lattin adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

APPROVAL:

The foregoing minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Pagosa Fire Protection District, are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.



LeRoy Lattin, President/Chairman



Date