

NORWOOD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 411

NORWOOD, CO 81423

MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 15th, 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Audio Recording Available

I. Call to Order: 19:00 hours. Virtual Meeting using Zoom.com

Present: Jim Wells (Pres.), Dave Alexander (Board Member), Trace Griffith (Board Member), Wendy Crank (Board Member), Vivian Antonik (Board Member), John Metzger (VP/PIO), John Bockrath (District Chief), David Blunt (Asst. Fire Chief), Sonny Lopez (Dist. Admin.), Candy Meehan (Dist. Bookkeeper), Casey Griffith (WL Assistant Coordinator), Katherine Westcott (Ambulance Coordinator)

Absent: Mark Garcia (Wildland Coordinator deployed to Texas)

Others in Attendance: Clint (Chief of Egnar Fire), Darleen (Egnar Fire Board Member), Lim (Egnar Fire Board Member)

II. Land Inclusion Meeting with Egnar Fire

John B. presented the land inclusion plan and history of how this came to be. SMC is stepping back from Fire suppression to Fire support. The map of both counties was shared in the meeting which includes the inclusion area. In the past NFPD has been giving free fire protection service in rural areas. The challenge is if a fire starts on private land and spreads to forest public land the bill can be in the millions. John B. met with County Commissioner and key personnel in SMC. All land owners who are affected were notified by mail to come share their opinions. Discussion occurred.

Clint shared they are in a rebuilding phase of Egnar Fire. He shared that in the past they were voted down by their residents on land expansion. They want to be part of the process. He shared what they thought should be the boundary. A map he brought was reviewed by all board members. Discussion occurred. The map had existing boundaries and the suggested boundary they were thinking would be logical. John B. asked how many residences were in that area. Discussion occurred and board members were focused on the provided map. John B. shared that NFPD received legal opinion that in the current state of Egnar fire they would not be able to fight structure fire. Clint asked for the list of things they need to do to become compliant. John B. will send him the link for the information. Currently Egnar fire is not a member of the SDA. Discussion occurred on everything Egnar Fire needs to bring to speed. Darleen asked about what happens to calls that come in. John B. communicated eventually we will do a mutual aid. Jim W. suggested we revisit this when Egnar Fire has brought their training, certs, compliance up to date. Discussion occurred.

John B. strongly suggested that they join the SDA and do training together. Darleen thanked John B. for the multiple trainings that John B. has provided. John B. invited them to join trainings in Norwood. Clint shared they have been focusing on car wrecks and brushfires. John B stressed they must train for structure emails. Clint asked if we have received feedback from the land owners. John B shared the residents feedback which has been positive. Residents rather pay a tax bill vs a forest burning down and them getting a bill for it. Discussion occurred. John B. shared we were awarded Severity contract for the local area. John M. shared how helpful the SDA has been with us and the ADA compliant website effort that is going on. The timeframe is Sept 1st to get this going. John B, shared that once ready Egnar fire will be able to take their area back without any resistance from NFPD. Egnar will have to repeat the process with their residents at per state law. Discussion occurred on survey possibilities and time frame restrictions.

Candy shared information on grants and funding that are available. Jim asked if Egnar fire would accept the revisit plan once they are ready to take the area back over. The NFPD board agreed that once Egnar fire is compliant and able to provide public safety including structure protection that NFPD would gladly relinquish the responsibility of the area in question. John B. share the liability of putting people on fires when they are not trained to do so and that the entire effort is based on public safety. Discussion occurred.

John B. shared more information on attaining grants and joining the SDA. Clint asked that the agreement that NFPD will be willing to step back once Egnar fire is ready to cover the area in question be clear in the minutes. Further discussion occurred. Lim stressed that they intend to achieve the training to be able to take back the area. All present were in agreement of the motion. Vivian requested the Egnar board to stop by anytime to give NFPD an update. Egnar also invited the NFPD to attend their board meetings. Further discussion occurred on training and reaching out to each other to include Egnar in NFPD trainings. John B shared how important it is to have FF1 certifications to receive grants. Both boards thanked each other for the time and information shared. Final discussion on the subject and thanks you's occurred.

Vivian made a motion to approve the land inclusion and for the NFPD board to revisit the land inclusion with the intention Egnar fire takes back their area once Egnar fire has achieved the training and compliance up to Special District and CO state requirements. Dave A 2nd All aye's / No nay's / Motion Passed. Discussion occurred after the vote. John B. noted the judge is asking us for 5 yrs of records so if Egnar works hard for 1-2 yrs to become complaint the judge will review their records and then ask us if we feel confident giving them back the land. John M. shared his experience on the front range with a similar situation at a department he used to be a part of. Further discussion occurred.

III. Regular Minutes from May 2022

- A. Wendy C. motioned to accept the Minutes from May 2022 Trace G. 2nd. All aye's / No nay's / Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- A. Presentation and Approval of Disbursement
- B. Monthly Budget Approval
 - a. Sonny L. & Candy M. presented.
 - i. Unpaid bills detail as of June 14, 2022 (2 pgs)
 - ii. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual: Jan 1 – June 14, 2022 (14 pgs)
 - iii. Balance sheet as of June 14, 2022 (1 pg)
 - iv. Trial Balance as of June 14, 2022 (2 pgs)
 - v. Payroll Liability Balances: Jan 1 – June 14, 2022 (1 pg)
 - vi. Profit & Loss: Jan 1- June 14, 2022 (3 pgs)
 - vii. Open invoices as of June 14, 2022 (1 pg)
 - b. Dave A. motioned to approve bills. Vivian A. 2nd. All aye's / No nay's / Motion passed
 - c. Candy M. shared our current status (\$70k+) compared to last year. Discussion occurred
 - d. John B. shared that our land inclusion will increase our taxes in Montrose to around \$18k. Candy shared costs will go up and with the WL revenue coming in she wants to end the year with around \$300k in the money market account.

V. Public Walk-in/Comments

- A. None

VI. Old Business

- A. John M. shared the new ADA requirements for our website to avoid lawsuits that we must address. He is in communication with a website company that specializes in ADA compliant websites. John M is taking the steps necessary to bring our website up to ADA standards. Discussion occurred.
- B. Land Inclusion (John B.) The land inclusion must be done by Sept 1st 2022 or we will miss out on the increased taxes next year.

- C. EMR Training- The WL guys are on a roll. CPR classes are going well. IV Class is going well. Ride time in Montrose will be coming soon after the students are comfortable with it. By the end of the summer they will be ready to go.

VII. New Business

- A. Building a new apparatus building in Redvale. John B is looking into grants to help cover this. The Sherriff department is graciously giving us apparatus we need. They also gave access to their SAR equipment and other equipment. John B has the codes and keys so we now have access.
- B. Burn Trailer was cancelled. Tom Henderson will bring it out in August. All our females passed the Hazmat training. Keegan Meehan also passed. Mark was on a fire and Talle was gone on a work trip so they could not take the training.
- C. Star Spangled Saturday – Katherine W. working on it. John B. talked to Walmart for food donations and will continue the conversation. The forest service inquired on the Star Spangled Saturday parade and activities. Casey shared that there are flyers available.
- D. Rodeo is coming up the last weekend of July. John is IC and is working with local entities to update planning SOP's.
- E. Total Calls: EMS calls 10 / Transports 4 / Fire 1. John communicated the numbers do not look correct.

VIII. District Chief's Report (by John B. / District Chief)

- A. Congratulations to Casey for finishing his academy training.
- B. Commend Katherine and David for putting the trailer fire out. Many volunteers did not show up to help. Nobody got hurt. A citizens detached the truck and trailer to prevent further damage. Investigation revealed the motorcycle leaked and saturated. The strap for the gas tank dragged and caused sparks igniting the fire.
- C. John B. is raising the bar on volunteer requirements and that we need to do this. Requirements attached. Enforcement will be active. We have some new potential volunteers to consider.
- D. John B showed the board our Challenge Coin and gave each board member a NFPD Challenge Coin. Discussion occurred. Randy Crawford (a local) made the coin holders out of leather.

IX. Wildland Captain's Report (by Casey G. /Assistant WL Coordinator)

- A. Did his state detail and completed his academy training.
- B. Casey spoke with Mark today and they extended to a 21 day role (Texas)
- C. The Tactical Tender will go available nationally the day after Star Spangled Saturday
- D. John B. shared the coverage plan so when our assets go out on roles he has a coverage plan in place.
- E. No updates on Severity. There was a local crew in town recently. John B shared thunderstorm activity that is on the horizon. He plans to talk to campers who are on Miramonte the dangers going on. Stage 1 fire ban in effect.

X. Ambulance Coordinator Report (by Katherine W.)

- A. We received additional Retac funds. Telluride Medical Clinic and Telluride Fire declined theirs and let us have the money. We were able to get 4 gas meters and an additional suction unit.
- B. New Paramedic: The new paramedic is starting school in September. She will be Home Health Care certified. This will allow us to get reimbursed for home health care visits. It will be over a year before she is ready. Discussion occurred if we should fill the spot in the meantime. John B. feels that we will be good. Vivian asked if this will be online training. John B explained it will be but she can reach out to John B. for help and guidance. She will have to go to Boston twice. Further discussion occurred.

XI. Announcements: Candy – Rural Philanthropy Days

Candy expressed the good news from the different foundations she met with. Candy introduced a key funder to John B. Candy shared there are many opportunities to consider and we can capitol stack for needs. John B. shared that he found the 20% we need to raise for the Congressional Direct Spending grant (80/20). Discussion occurred. John B. thanked Candy for all of her hard work on this. Candy also shared the WL crew got paid and didn't have to wait on pay like they did last year.

XII. Adjourn

A. 20:39 hours

B. Wendy C. motioned to adjourn. Trace G. 2nd. All ayes No nays. Motion passed.