

NORWOOD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 411
NORWOOD, CO 81423

MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 12, 2020 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
Audio Recording Available

I. Call to Order: 1908 hours. Virtual Meeting using Zoom.com

Present: Jim Wells (Pres.), Josh Walton (VP), Perri Gipner (Board Member), John Bockrath (Dist. Chief), Eric Brantingham (Board Member), David Blunt (Asst. Chief), Sonny Lopez (Dept. Secretary),

Online: John Metzger (Dept. PIO)

Absent: Paula Martinez (Sec./Treas.),

Others in Attendance: Nancy Wells (NFPD member), Doug Avery (NFPD member)

II. Minutes from July 2020 Regular Meeting

A. Eric motioned to approve the June 2020 Regular Meeting minutes, Josh 2nd. Motion Passed

III. Treasurer's Report

A. Presentation and Approval of Disbursement

a. Eric motioned to pay the bills as presented, Josh 2nd. Motion Passed.

i. Fuel cost a little higher this month due to agency pump being out of service.

ii. Turn out gear was purchased. About \$3,000 per set

iii. New radios and pagers purchased

B. Monthly Budget Approval

IV. Public Walk-in/Comments (Online Zoom)

A. John Metzger put in an article to the Grand Junction Press regarding rural firefighting and EMS

B. Metzger and Sonny Lopez are working on putting together a brochure for the NFPD

V. Old Business

A. Pension Board Updates

a. CPA: Blair and Associates will not do the Actuary but recommended someone for \$10,000

b. Attorney says we should have Actuary but CPA says we don't need one for 5 people.

c. John will contact Special District representative to see what they recommend.

d. The EMS pension plan was recapped.

B. Nucla-Naturita Mutual Aid

a. Meeting on Monday

i. They accepted the Mutual Aid.

ii. Addendum requested: Response area maps added, Norwood will use Nucla/Naturita channel to communicate due to them not have Norwood's radio channel.

iii. Josh moved to approve the amendment. Perri 2nd. Motion Passed

VI. New Business

A. District Chief Medical Leave

a. John needs to get his knee a replacement as well as back issues that might need surgery

b. Scott Wederquist said he would be able to cover some of the days he would be out but not all of them

c. The departments health plan won't cover the surgery

B. Secondary full-time paramedic

a. EMT-I students Elwood and Marion have completed their classes and passed the National but they have not completed their clinicals.

i. They signed a contract that they would respond to calls and if they failed, they would have to pay back \$3,500

ii. They have not been responding nor have they been in contact with John. They have failed to fill their contract.

b. Wildland Fire response – They will only take paramedics

c. Hire second paramedic.

i. Avg. Colorado pay \$35,000-\$55,000

ii. Would take Ambulance 2 to go on wildland fire deployments (Medic and Ambulance would make \$1,250/day at a fire)

iii. During off season, the medic would take all the transports

iv. During times when no transports are happening, medic will be joint employed by UMC

v. Perri & Josh expressed concern about the budget.

vi. Eric motioned to have John start looking for a second Paramedic. Jim 2nd the motion. 2 yes, 1 no. Motion passed.

- vii. SAFER grant option to pay Paramedic salary: Grant would pay 100% first year, 50% second year, 25% third year

VII. District Chief's Report

A. Calls to Service

- a. July: 17 EMS call, 8 Fire calls, 5 transports.

B. Membership:

- a. Fire Academy
 - i. Members are doing very well.
 - ii. They are responding to calls and being active

C. Grants:

- a. Gary Sinise Foundation Grant: to pay for monitors \$65,632. Grant under review.
- b. Fire Fighter Charitable grant: \$40,000 to pay for the \$10,000 Radios/pagers expense and to continue updating communication equipment
- c. Master wildland urban interface community assistance grant for community fire mitigation: Deer Mesa, Beaver Pines, Fitz Subdivision fire mitigation projects

D. Other Items

- a. Thank You letters from
 - i. A citizen from Green Meadows fire
 - ii. San Miguel County
 - iii. News paper letter to the editor thank you from motorcyclist involved in accident.
 - iv. Roger Rash West End Montrose County of Commissioner has invited Board Members to their meeting to talk about how we have improved our services. Meeting in December.
- b. Scott Wederquist damaged on ambulance while he was pulling it out of the garage. Damage: \$1,450
- c. John Bennett was contacted by a magazine who wants to write an article on rural fire departments
- d. Wildland income: check \$22,000; check \$5,000; check \$2,250 for ambulance. Personnel who went to fires will be paid from total.

VIII. Announcements and Public Comments

- A. Sonny requested to retain Linda Soucie for a couple times a month as a resource. Pay her \$17.00/hr. Board said they were fine with it.

IX. Adjourn 2042 hours

Josh motioned to adjourn, Perri 2nd. Motion passed.