

NORWOOD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 411

NORWOOD, CO 81423

MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 17th, 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING

Audio Recording Available

I. Call to Order: 19:00 hours.

Present: Jim Wells (Pres.), Dave Alexander (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 (CFO),

Absent: Trace Griffith (Board Member)

Others in Attendance via Zoom: Mark Garcia (Wildland Coordinator), Casey Griffith (WL Assistant Coordinator), Kathryn Westcott (Ambulance Coordinator)

II. Regular Minutes from July 2022

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

III. Treasurer's Report

A. Presentation and Approval of Disbursement

B. Monthly Budget Approval

a. Candy M. presented.

i. Unpaid bills detail as of August 10, 2022 (2 pgs)

ii. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual: Jan 1 – August 10, 2022 (14 pgs)

iii. Balance sheet as of August 10, 2022 (1 pg)

iv. Trial Balance as of August 10, 2022 (2 pgs)

v. Payroll Liability Balances: Jan 1 – August 10, 2022 (1 pg)

vi. Profit & Loss: Jan 1- August 10, 2022 (3 pgs)

vii. Open invoices as of August 10, 2022 (1 pg)

b. Candy M. shared that the Medtech Resources cost will be reimbursed with a grant and that two WL rolls were outstanding (around \$111k) and not on the current invoices.

c. John shared that the generator was ordered and a concrete slab was made by members of the department.

d. BSI no emergency transfer going after

e. David A. motioned to approve bills and approve the requests presented. Vivian A. 2nd. All aye's / No nay's / Motion passed

f. Candy shared that the 2023 budget workshop is coming up.

IV. Public Walk-in/Comments

- A. None

V. Old Business

A. Land Inclusion (John B.) This is completed. Mapping is done. Now it is with the judge.

B. Severity: We have not started yet. BLM and Forest teams are still local. Our WL crew and Tender is out in Merkel, TX right now. First time two crews are out at the same time.

C. EMR Training- Is on hold. November tentatively scheduled.

D. CPR class is coming up. David is going to help teach it.

E. IV Class is going well.

- F. Expansion at Redvale on hold. SMC offered us to use the basin storage building. Home for WL vehicles and near Casey's place of residence. No contract needed. Going to start to work on the current HQ. John B. is working on a facility improvement grant.
- G. Rodeo went well. Good turnout of attendees. No transports out of the Rodeo.
- H. Burn Trailer got changed. We didn't have enough people. John B. had more people than previously planned. This is postponed to next year. John B. is planning for a burn tower training in Montrose coming up soon.

VI. New Business & EMS Report

- A. Card Lock System for the fuel tanks requires a whole new system. \$3k plus a monthly \$250 charge. David B. shared that we can track what is being used on the cards. The monthly cost can come down based on usage. Discussion occurred. E5 has a 75 gallon tank. Candy shared that we can afford the card lock system. We know fuel has been stolen before. The tracking will help with numerous factors. The board directed John to move forward with the card lock system.
- B. David B. shared that AMB1 is down with a min \$3500 cost to fix.
- C. Audit: Candy shared what we should plan to not be exempt from audit anymore. Being we now bring in more than \$750k in revenue per year. Home health care checks will generate revenue in the future. BSI will bill this for us.
- D. Congressional Direct Spending Request: Sonny shared that we did not make it out of committee. The property getting sold likely hurt our application. Hickenlooper's office will help us look at other opportunities. David A. shared that the property did not in fact sell.
- E. ADA compliant website: Sonny shared that BCI can work with an ADA 3rd party widget at a cost of \$50 a month to become compliant. John M. shared that we should stay with BCI being their cost is much lower than others we have inquired with and that they provide good service at the same time. David A. motioned to approve spending the \$50 a month cost to bring our website to compliance. Wendy C. 2nd. All aye's / No nay's / Motion passed
- F. Board Budget 2023 workshop with Master Plan: John B. shared that we need a master plan. Date tentatively October 1st. 8am-4pm Discussion occurred. Other events going on: Blues and Brews is the 17th, Just4Kids 24th, Heritage Dinner 8th. Candy will provide a preliminary budget in September for review. Cost of living went up 8%. Discussion occurred.
- G. We currently have 2 WL crews in Texas
- H. Total July Calls: 20 for the month. EMS calls 15 / Transports 6 / Fire 5. August so far: 29 calls so far. EMS calls 14 / Transports 11 / Fire 15. Currently the busiest month of the year.
- I. Average transport is \$1500 cost to the patient (yet in Telluride it is \$2400 a run cost). Ambulance ran pay we have surpassed the budget estimate. Medicaid may increase per run. Discussion occurred.
- J. John M. asked if the rain and weather occurrences were normal. David A. shared that is not normal, but we need more rain and the ground dries out in less than one day.
- K. EMS Reporting must be provided within 48 hours. Billing can still be the first of the month.

VII. Wildland Captain's Report (by Mark G. WL Coordinator & Casey G. Assistant WL Coordinator)

- A. (Mark G.): The only way we will have a big WL fire in our area with our cedar trees is if we have strong winds. Currently we have two crews deployed in Texas. So far Mark and Katheryn have been on 3 fires.
- B. (Casey G.): Casey's crew has been on 4 fires so far. Brittney got signed off for FF1.

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

- A. SCBA grant finished. We have 16 used ones and are going for 16 new ones.
- B. Hickenlooper was in town today for the UMC. Candy M. met with him.

- C. Active shooter training was conducted recently. Nationally there are 2 active shooter incidents per week (this year). Discussion occurred.
- D. Looking to go to a paid-on call schedule. We do not have enough current volunteers giving their time. No new volunteers are offering to join. Chris Miller and John Bennet both confirmed this reality in their departments. We are looking in increase our ambulance run pay (\$80 currently / Naturita is \$250 currently). We need to get paid for home health care visits. John B. would like to hire another EMS. Heather King is the recommended choice. It would take a year to get her education done. It is recommended that we need to start to pay people (paid on call) to get more volunteers to sign up. Recommendation is \$150 a run. We also need a new station but need to put the members first. Work will be done on the budget to see what we can afford. John is waiting on exact revenue increase due to the new neighborhoods being built. Wendy C. shared that in CORE it is \$100 a day no matter how many calls were answered. John B. is recommending we reallocate funds from building a new station to personnel. Discussion occurred. John B. shared his conversations with recent potential volunteers. All want to be paid more than what we can afford. Looking for local people to join who already live here. John B. would like to hire Heather full time on Jan 1st. Further discussion occurred.
- E. SAFER Grant: Staffing and Fire Employee Rescue Grant opens up in October and is due in December. Federal Grant. They will pay for up to 7 full time employees. Year 1 they cover the salaries 100%, year 2 they cover 50% of the salaries, year 3 they cover 25% of the salaries. We must prove we can cover their salaries.

IX. Public Information Officer (by John M.)

- A. John M is meeting with John B. tomorrow to go over a new recruitment strategy.
- B. Land Inclusion: John M. wrote an article and is waiting for the judge acceptance before publishing it. Our new land area is 889 square miles officially.
- C. John M is meeting with Sonny on next step website action items.

X. Announcements:

(John M.): Congratulations to Amber Bockrath and her parents for her winning a state championship. Swimming state championship Gold in 1000-meter freestyle, Silver in the 500 meter and Bronze in the 200 meter. Deb drove her twice a day to Montrose for training during the summer. John B. added that he is going to be a grandpa. His oldest son and wife are now 4 months pregnant. John B. new nickname is "Pops".

XI. Adjourn

- A. 20:28 hours
- B. Wendy C. motioned to adjourn. David A. 2nd. All ayes No nays. Motion passed.