

**Falcon Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting
October 19, 2022
Approved Minutes**

Call to Order

President Kerby called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 15:00 hours on Wednesday, October 19, 2022.

ATTENDANCE

Thomas Kerby, President
Dan Kupferer, Vice President – via conference call
Ray Hawkins, Treasurer
Michael Collins, Secretary

ALSO PRESENT

Joan Fritsche, Legal Counsel
Trent Harwig, Fire Chief, FFPD
Jeff Petersma, Deputy Chief, FFPD
David Smith, Battalion Chief, FFPD
Joe Cosgrove, Battalion Chief, FFPD
Gretchen Tetzlaff, Office Manager, FFPD
Other members of the Falcon Fire Protection District
Leah Grady, the New Falcon Herald
Retirees from the FFPD Volunteer Fire Department
Members of the public

ABSENT

Cory Galicia, Assistant Secretary (Absence excused)
Jon Webb, EMS Division Chief, FFPD
Corey Kirt, Battalion Chief, FFPD

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Collins moved to approve the Agenda as written. Director Hawkins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Collins wanted to wish Battalion Chief David Smith a Happy Birthday.

Jerry Marriot asked why the District tore the old Station 3 building down.

Chief Harwig advised that the original part of the building was not torn down. He told everyone where everything is in regards to the original building.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

FFPD HQ DEDICATION

Director Collins presented a dedication plaque to the District for its newly remodeled Administration Building. He invited Chaplains Dick Glasgow and Brad Noonan to say a prayer to bless the building.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Chief Harwig Swore in Paramedics Taylor Kurtz, Rebecca Martinez, Megan Parsons and Natalie Polite. He also swore in Driver Operator Joey Bebb, Firefighters Gunnar Degenhardt, Nathan Yorke and Cole Beckman.

Joey Bebb was badged by his wife.

Cole Beckman was badged by his wife.

Nathan Yorke was badged by his mom.

Gunnar Degenhardt was badged by his mom.

Taylor Kurtz was badged by Lt. Finn-Kueker.

Rebecca Martinez was badged by her dad.

Megan Parsons was badged by Medic Thurston.

Natalie Polite was badged by her dad.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Director Hawkins moved to approve the September 21, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as written.

Director Collins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Chief Harwig reviewed the written September Treasurer's Report with the Board. The Chief noted 75% of the 2022 fiscal year is complete in this report.

Total General Fund Budget revenues received were at 98%. Specific Ownership Tax is at 79%. Total General Fund expenditures across all categories were at 69% of budget year to date.

The Ambulance Fund Budget revenues received were at 97%. Transport fees were at 90%. Total Ambulance Fund expenditures were at 57% of budget year to date.

The Capital Improvement Fund revenues received were at 76%. 85% has been spent out of the Lease Purchase account. Total expenditures were at 48% of budget year to date.

The Rural Water Fund had no expenditures for the month of September.

Director Collins moved to accept the September, 2022 Treasurer's Report as presented. Director Hawkins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report

Deputy Chief Petersma advised that there were 37 Reserve hours for the month of September.

Deputy Chief Petersma also advised that the incident count for August, 2022 was 340 calls for the month and a total of 2,820 calls for the year.

Deputy Chief Petersma advised that the incident count for July, 2022 was 393 calls for the month and a total of 2,480 calls for the year. The average cash per trip was \$558.81 for the month and \$531.86 for 24 months of collections.

Deputy Chief Petersma supplied a written Transport Report to the Board. The report shows that the crews transported 147 patients in the month of August and 1,664 for the year.

Attorney's Report

Attorney Fritsche provided a written Attorney's Report to the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Administration Building Addition & Remodel

Chief Harwig advised that the largest roof top HVAC unit ("RTU") has arrived and should be installed on Friday, October 21st. The gas has not been inspected or turned on yet. The second RTU has shipped but there is no estimated installation date. The last RTU has not been confirmed that it has shipped.

Station 1 Parcel – proposed El Paso County satellite office and Sheriff's Office substation

President Kerby advised that he has not heard anything regarding the Sheriff's Office substation.

Chief Harwig advised that one of the District's Battalion Chiefs advised him that there were surveyors at the site recently.

State Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI)

Chief Harwig advised the Board that all employees have been notified via email about the FAMLI meeting at the District's November 16th Board meeting.

Attorney Fritsche advised that FAMLI was approved by voters in the 2020 General Election and requires employers and employees to pay payroll premiums, starting January 1, 2023, to provide up to twelve weeks of paid FAMLI leave beginning January 1, 2024. The District's focus has been on gathering as much information as possible concerning the impact on the District and employees of taking action on the statutory provision allowing local governments to opt out under employer participation or to opt out completely from the Program. The November Board meeting has been designated as the meeting at which the Board would take official action to consider opting out of the Program and at what level. The pre-payment penalty does not apply to local governments.

Chief Harwig also advised that a District must opt out every 8 years if they want to continue to opt out.

NEW BUSINESS

2023 Preliminary Budget Presentation

Chief Harwig reviewed the 2023 Preliminary Budget with the Board.

President Kerby asked about the inflation increases for next year. He thinks that the 5% salary increase is feasible. He also stated that Workers Compensation is also way up. He asked Deputy Chief Petersma if there was any safety training that can be done for the crews.

Deputy Chief Petersma advised that some of the injuries were simple situations where the employees were injured and that there are all different types of injuries.

Chief Harwig advised the Board that the District now has office space to allow for light duty for injured employees to work in the office Monday through Friday.

President Kerby asked Chief Harwig about looking into collecting funds to build up the Rural Water Fund to assist the District to build cisterns in areas where it is lacking in water supply.

Chief Harwig advised that the District was under the assumption that the County Land Development Code required cisterns but the County is not enforcing the regulation. If the District was able to collect funds from developers in the future, it would use that money to build cisterns where they are needed.

Director Kerby asked Chief Harwig to check with the County to see if they would allow the District to start charging a fee for developments so the Rural Water Fund could be built back up to build and repair cisterns in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Collins moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Director Hawkins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 17:13 hours on October 19, 2022.

I hereby attest to the accuracy of the meeting Minutes:

Michael Collins, Secretary