



Durango Fire Protection District

103 Sheppard Drive, Durango, Colorado 81303

Phone: (970) 382-6000

durangofire.org

MINUTES OF THE DURANGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2024, 8:00 A.M. 142 SHEPPARD DRIVE

CALL TO ORDER

President Karen Barger called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:02 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Rob Farino, Tina McCallum, Samantha Gallagher, Lyle McKnight and John Dezendorf, and Steve List. Staff members included Fire Chief Randy Black, Deputy Chief Michael Krupa, Deputy Chief Jeff Harris, Finance Director Eric Baker, Human Resources Director Megan Kunch, Fire Marshal Steve Rinaldi, Battalion Chief Seth Thomas, and Administrative Assistant Stephanie Dressen. Also in attendance were Nick Warnick and Whitney Rosenfield from Haynie & Company.

AGENDA

Vice President Steve List requested to add the item "Solar Power at Station 2" under Old Business.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the May 28, 2024 Regular Meeting minutes and June 4, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

REPORTS

1. Chief Report:

Fire Chief Randy Black reported on the following:

- **Legislative Update:** Bill HB24-1219 passed which authorizes state funding for a cancer trust for volunteers of fire departments; On the ballot in November 2024 is the possibility of Proposed Initiative 50 and Proposed Initiative 108, both drafted before Prop HH did not pass. If Initiative 50 passes, it will limit DFPD's growth by 4% each year. The ones supporting these bills are wanting property tax reduction. Initiative 180 will not directly affect DFPD but funds will need to be backfilled by taking money from schools and Medicaid.
- **104 Sheppard:** The property is under contract and DFPD is looking to close on it on July 15.

- **Station 2:** Chief Black and Deputy Chief Jeff Harris met with the City staff to get the pond issue resolved, having to do with water runoff. DFPD will pay for the entire pond and the City will reimburse their portion once they've appropriated money from next year's budget. Now that the pond is being taken care of, DFPD can now receive the building permit. The micropiles are completed and the stem walls are completed.
- **Trucks:** DFPD sold two trucks. As new apparatus is coming in, DFPD is selling older trucks.
- **Mesa Heights Subdivision:** DFPD purchased a 3-acre property in this subdivision in around 1997-98 to expand, if needed. There are dues for irrigation water, road maintenance, etc. DFPD is being released from the district to no longer pay dues since DFPD does not use them.
- **City of Durango:** DFPD's contract will come to an end soon. The City will have to go to election to extend the contract. There are three routes the City and DFPD could agree on—1) reissue the contract. 2) Restructure the contract. 3) Go to a vote to get the City included in the District. There would be some funding for DFPD if the City were included in the District. 4) The City can develop its own fire department. The City is currently undergoing an RFI to gain all information before making a decision. DFPD is supporting the seeking out of these four initiatives. The City currently pays for 28% of DFPD's cost of services but is receiving over 73% of DFPD's services.
- **360 Evaluations:** Chief Black and Human Resources Director Megan Kunch have laid out twelve people from captain rank and up to be evaluated and who will be doing the evaluations for those twelve individuals. Once the evaluations are in, the information will get back to each employee being evaluated and each employee will meet with his/her supervisor. The evaluations are anonymous with the exception of an employee's supervisor's evaluation.

2. Written Finance Report:

A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve the April 2024 Financial Report, seconded by Samantha Gallagher. Motion was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation of 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report:

Finance Director Eric Baker reminded the Board that DFPD has to go through a financial audit each year. The final annual report must be presented to the Board before the end of June and filed by the end of July. Haynie & Company conducts DFPD's audits. Chief Accountant Whitney Rosenfield and Audit Partner Nick Warnick from Haynie & Company presented the final draft of the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. No audit adjustments were made. Finances are free from material misstatement. DFPD will receive the GFOA award again for 2023. *A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the 2023 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, seconded by Rob Farino. Motion carried unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS

1. Solar Power at Station 2:

Vice President Steve List opened discussion about the possibility of having solar power at Station 2. Chief Black noted that solar cannot be decided on until 2025 since the building plans for Station 2

are done. Once Station 2 has been built, there is the possibility of adding solar panels. There are financial steps being taken in building Station 2 that need to come before the decision of solar panels. Board member Samantha Gallagher suggested adding the component in 2025 capital projects of how DFPD is investing in energy efficiencies.

ADJOURNMENT

President Karen Barger adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Karen Barger, President

Date

Attest:

Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant