



South Arkansas Fire Protection District BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 8, 2024

Time: 0900 hours

Location: Not stated in the source minutes

Board Members Present

- Harold Starbuck
- Jeff Graf
- Rich Edgington
- Fred Jackson
- Art Hutchinson

Board Members Absent and Excused

- Not stated in the source minutes.

Meeting Proceedings

1. Call to Order

President Harold Starbuck called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- Motion to approve the agenda.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

3. Approval of June 2024 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve the June 2024 meeting minutes.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

4. Open Session

No open-session comments were recorded in the source minutes.

5. Attorney Report

None.

6. Financial Report

The June monthly budget and expenses were reviewed.

- Motion to accept the June monthly budget and expenses.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

7. Fire Chief Report

- The Fire Chief was working to improve access to historical records by creating a timeline of important events. He thanked Kathy Rohrich for her work on the timeline.
- The Chief emphasized improving services, particularly mitigation in the Methodist Mountain and Pinon Hills areas. He had met with other agencies, hoped to use grants to help fund mitigation, and wanted to engage the public.
- One firefighter had left for a higher-paying job, reportedly earning about 32% more. The Chief wanted to consider a policy to make pay more competitive and said the District was down two firefighters.
- The website was still in progress. New saws were in service, and the Chief had met with Skaggs Uniform about new clothing.

8. Assistant Fire Chief Report

- Kathy Rohrich was updating Board members on the Special District Association (SDA) website and would ensure they received SDA updates.
- Rohrich planned to contact the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) about the bylaw change and the absence of Board term limits.
- Rohrich reported that, according to SDA, the District could not make donations.
- The District needed a Colorado Open Records Act (CORA) policy. Current accepted charges were \$0.25 per copy and \$33.58 per hour for gathering requested information.

9. Wildland Coordinator Report

- The Type 3 engine returned on July 4 and was leaving that day to assist in California. Twenty-three crew members were working on fires.
- Local mitigation needs were being analyzed, including whether to purchase a chipper/slasher and other equipment. A plan was expected by the end of summer.
- The Type 6 engine had returned, needed repairs, and was expected to be ready around July 16.
- Wildfire teams needed more Type 3 engines; the District might consider purchasing another one.

10. Executive Session

At 9:34 a.m., the Board entered executive session to discuss the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the City of Salida. Fire Chief Aaron Jonke attended to provide his thoughts.

- Motion to enter executive session.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

At 10:30 a.m., the Board exited executive session and returned to the general meeting.

- Motion to exit executive session and return to the general meeting.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

11. Old Business

No old business was recorded in the source minutes.

12. Good of the Order / Member Input

No items were recorded in the source minutes.

13. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting.
 - Vote: Passed unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. The next regular meeting was scheduled for August 12, 2024.

In Attendance (as listed in source)

Harold Starbuck; Jeff Graf; Art Hutchinson; Rich Edgington; Kathy Rohrich; Sara Marquez; Rachel Walke; Aaron Jonke; and Chris Bainbridge.

Secretary for the Meeting