# **Woodmen Valley Fire Protection District**

1150 W. Woodmen Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80919

719-522-9666

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

#### Attendance:

Kevin Bush, Chairman
Doug May, Vice Chairman
Eric Barnes, Treasurer
Justin Morrill, Secretary
Deanne Yankey, Assistant Secretary
Barry Pleshek, District Fire Chief
Kevin Walker, WSDM District Managers

- I. Opening Ceremony at 19:00.
- **II. Verification of Quorum**: The meeting was conducted in person and virtually. A quorum of the Board was present.

## III. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting

1. October 2, 2023: After review, Director Morrill moved to approve the October 2, 2023 Minutes as presented; seconded by Chairman Bush. Motion passed unanimously.

## IV. Operations Report

- 1. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Financials: Mr. Walker presented the Financials.
  - b. Approve Payables: Mr. Walker presented the Payables. After review, Director Morrill moved to approve the Payables and Financials; seconded by Director May. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. Chief's Report: Chief Pleshek presented the Chief's Report. The Board tabled the review of the 4Q23 CSFD Performance Report.
- 3. Fire Mitigation / Medical Report: Director Morrill provided a report on fire mitigation and discussed the grass roots effort to mitigate along Westwood Road as an emergency egress.

#### V. Old Business

- 1. Station Monitoring: The Board discussed the SimpliSafe monitoring system and noted the alarms are not enabled.
- 2. Northfield/Southfield Emergency Egress: There was no additional discussion.

- 3. State Grants: Chairman Bush reported that the grants are moving forward slowly. Paul Rochette was granted funding to create Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP). They are waiting for the State to send money and the next step is to create RFPs for firms to create plans for WVFPD, Monument, and Highway 115. Once the firms are selected, they will contact WVFPD to start the process. Director Morrill noted he met a consultant that could help with the grant writing process.
- 4. Extended CSFD Service Agreement: Chairman Bush noted this item is done and can be removed.

#### VI. New Business

- 1. 2024 Budget Review and Approval: Chairman Bush opened the public hearing on the 2024 Budget. Mr. Walker presented the 2024 Budget and discussed the recent legislation that reduces property taxes. Mr. Walker noted the final assessed valuations may not be received until January 3, 2024. After no public comment, the public hearing was closed. After review, Chairman Bush moved to adopt the 2024 Budget and appropriate sums and pending the final assessed valuations and keeping the mill levy the same; seconded by Director May. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2. 2024 Fire Chief: Director Barnes moved to appoint Barry Pleshek as the 2024 Fire Chief, and Lucinda Stancato as the 2024 Fire Mitigation Officer, and WSDM as the 2024 District Manager and Budget Officer; seconded by Director Yankey. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. 2024 District Manager: The Board approved WSDM District Managers as the 2024 District Manager.
- 4. 2024 BOD Meeting Dates: The Board scheduled 2024 Board meetings for March 4, June 3, October 7, and December 2, at 6:00 p.m. Director Barnes moved to approve the 2024 BOD Meeting Dates as discussed; seconded by Director May. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5. 2024 Telephonic Meeting Authorization: Mr. Walker explained that Board meetings can be held virtually only, in person, or a combination of both.
- 6. Other Deadlines: The Board reviewed the deadlines.
- 7. Exclusion Request: Mr. Walker presented a request for an exclusion of property. After review, Director Barnes moved to exclude the property located in Tract A of the Colton subdivision as requested in the petition; seconded by Chairman Bush. Motion passed unanimously.
- VII. Upcoming Deadlines: The Board reviewed the upcoming deadlines.
- VIII. Confirm Upcoming Meeting Dates: The next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

IX. Adjournment: The Board unanimously adjourned the meeting at 8:05 PM.
Respectfully submitted,  By:  Secretary for the Meeting
THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS THE OFFICIAL DECEMBER 4, 2023 MINUTES OF THE WOODMEN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SIGNING BELOW:
Kevin Bush, Chairman
Doug May, Vice Chairman
E A
Eric Barnes, Treasurer
Justin Morrill, Secretary