

Carbon County Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 4, 2024
Platte Valley Community Center, Saratoga, WY.

President Homer Beach called the meeting to order in the Platte Valley Community Center at 6:30 pm. Secretary/Treasurer Courtney Ney performed the roll call. The present members were President Homer Beach, Vice President Jim Piche, Secretary/Treasurer Courtney Ney, and Director Pat Waliser, with Director Cory Nuhn attending via Zoom link. Also present were Carbon County Fire Warden/ Interim CCFPD Chief John Rutherford, Carbon County Commission Chairwoman Sue Jones, and CCFPD Administrative Assistant Tara Williams. CCFPD Attorney Megan Goetz was absent.

Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:

*The agenda proceeded without needing additions or corrections, ensuring a smooth meeting flow that respects the time of all attendees. **Vice President Jim Piche moved to approve the agenda as presented, and Director Pat Waliser provided the second. The motion passed, further affirming the efficient conduct of the meeting.***

Introduction of Guests/Presentations:

President Beach, expressing gratitude for Commission Chairwoman Sue Jones's consistent attendance at the CCFPD Board meetings, warmly welcomed her and recognized her valuable contributions to the ongoing discussions, underscoring the importance of her input.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

Vice President Jim Piche motioned to approve the March 21, 2024, minutes. Director Pat Waliser and Director Cory Nuhn seconded the motion, which the Board passed.

Correspondence:

*Vice President Jim Piche shared his discussion with the Carbon County Information Technology Director Matt Webster. The key decision was that IT Director Webster proposed to donate six desktop computer systems in exchange for the county-owned desktop computers from the Rawlins and Hanna County Fire stations. This exchange would help him complete his inventory before the July 1, 2024 transition. The Board accepted this offer, understanding that the County would send one of its technicians to facilitate the exchange and transfer of the data from the old to the new computers. **Director Waliser motioned for this acceptance, and Vice President Piche seconded the motion. The motion was then passed.***

Vice President Piche also shared his conversation with Carbon County Sheriff Alex Bakken about having a joint auction of surplus vehicles utilizing Gary Woodward's services. They also discussed the old campers and misc. vehicles that have been in the impound for years and how to get rid of them.

Action Item: Finalize the transfer of computers from the county, including coordinating the pickup of existing equipment and delivery of replacement machines.

Treasurer's Report:

*Secretary/Treasurer Courtney Ney began her report by ratifying the amendment to the approved Bill Sheet from the last Board meeting on March 21, 2024. The incorrect amount was \$7084.63, and the correct amount was \$4719.63. **Vice President Jim Piche motioned to adjust the Bill Sheet from the March 21, 2024 meeting from \$7084.63 to \$4719.63. Director Cory Nuhn provided a second. The motion passed.***

*Secretary/Treasurer Ney presented the current Treasurer's report to the Board, which included the current Bill Sheet for March 22, 2024, to April 4, 2024, totaling \$12357.80. **Vice President Piche motioned to approve the monthly bills of \$12357.80. Director Waliser provided a second motion, which passed.***

Director Waliser asked Secretary/Treasurer Ney about the transfer of \$1,000,000.00 to the Wyo Class. She stated that it had been completed. President Beach, Vice President Piche, and Secretary/Treasurer Ney discussed how to receive their login credentials from Wyo Class. Secretary/Treasurer Ney stated that if either President Beach or Vice President Piche needed the six-digit PIN she had to create, she would share it with them if it was required to obtain login ability.

Action Item: Move funds between accounts to maximize interest earned while ensuring sufficient balances for upcoming expenses like the purchase payment to the County.

Action Item: Contact Wyoming Class Investments to access account information and set up login credentials.

Secretary/Treasurer Ney presented the bills for \$4719.63.

Jim Piche moved to pay the bills, and Director Waliser provided the second amendment. The motion carried.

Attorney Report:

CCFPD Attorney Goetz was absent, but President Homer Beach texted Attorney Goetz regarding communication between her and Carbon County Ashley Davis about the sales contract. President Beach said he would contact Attorney Goetz to clarify the status of the paperwork.

Action Item: Contact CCFPD Attorney Megan Goetz to follow up on the documents sent regarding the Murray St. property purchase.

Interim Chief report:

Carbon County Fire Warden/CCFPD Interim Chief John Rutherford reported that he has been working with the Forest Service on an application for The Collaborative Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Grant that is funded by Inflation Reduction Act hazardous fuels dollars, which must be used on National Forest System land in the Wildland Urban Interface, where national forests meet homes and communities. These funds will be allocated through a competitive internal

process under the CWRRP to expand work outside the 21 designated Wildfire Crisis Strategy landscapes, focusing on work with non-traditional partners representing underserved and minority-based communities to help with project implementation.

Interim Chief Rutherford also updated the Board on the insurance application through the Wyoming Association of Risk Management (WARM). With the assistance of Vice President Piche, Interim Chief Rutherford put together a detailed inventory list of the buildings and vehicles and sent it off. Vice President Piche explained the application process, starting with an application being submitted and approved and ending with an extensive inventory list from which the WARM Board would estimate. The application and inventory estimate will be decided on at the WARM Board meeting on April 3, 2024. Still, as of this board meeting, he has not received a response.

Interim Chief Rutherford continued his report by listing the status of the CCFPD website. He said that he and web designer Tonja Jaure selected a web hosting service that will upload the site information that Miss Jaure created, verify its status, and then it will go live after being paid the yearly payment of just under \$500.00.

Vice President Piche asked how the training at the CCFPD Administration Office training room went. Interim Chief Rutherford relayed that the Rawlins Station firefighters were quite happy and complimented how nice the training room was.

Interim Chief Rutherford concluded his report with an update on the new State Forestry Trainer. He described a PowerPoint presentation for the RT 130 that the new trainer sent out and said the 2024 refresher course video is also available now. Both presentations can be downloaded from the Wyoming State Forestry Division website.

Old Business:

There was not any old business that needed to be addressed.

New Business:

There was not any new business that needed to be addressed.

Board Discussion:

The board members discussed contacting the Medicine Bow and Baggs County Fire Departments regarding existing agreements and current issues.

It was also discussed that CCFPD Admin. Assistant Tara Williams should contact Ashley to collect information and paperwork on volunteer personnel for the transition to the district.

Executive Session:

There was no need to enter into Executive Session.

Any Further Business/Good of the Order:

No further business was noted.

Adjourn:

Vice President Jim Piche motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 pm. Director Pat Waliser provided a second. Motion passed.

The next meeting is Thursday, April 18, 2024, at 6:30 pm at the Platte Valley Community Center in Saratoga, Wyoming.