

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ARVADA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
7903 Allison Way, Arvada, Colorado  
January 24, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Doug Schneider called the January 24, 2011 regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board members present:**

Doug Schneider, President (via Skype)  
Mike Kerr, Vice-President  
Jim Snyder, Secretary  
Ted Terranova, Treasurer  
Matt Kramer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

**Also present:**

Fire Chief Jon Greer  
Deputy Chief Mike Piper  
District Counsel Dino Ross

**AGENDA REVIEW**

The Board, Chief Greer, Deputy Chief Piper and Attorney Ross reviewed with the Board several of the agenda items, including the new Station Two construction; Rural-Metro Ambulance's rate increase; purchase of two new engines; and the fire safety trailer donation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Treasurer Terranova moved to go into Executive Session to determine the District's position on matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators and to receive advice of legal counsel pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) & (e). Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Ross certified for the record that the Executive Session will constitute a privileged attorney-client communication and will not be recorded.

The Board went into Executive Session at 5:30 p.m.

Secretary Snyder moved to come out of Executive Session. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The Board came out of Executive Session at 6:41 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-President Kerr led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS**

Vice-President Kerr requested that all those present observe a moment of silence for the six firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty this year in the United States.

### **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

None.

Treasurer Terranova moved to excuse President Schneider from the public portion of the meeting. Secretary Snyder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Secretary Snyder moved to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2010 meeting. Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kramer moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2011 special meeting. Secretary Snyder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **Hot Times Kool Cars**

Firefighter Tracy Leyva

Firefighter Leyva presented a plaque of participation to the Board on behalf of Hot Times Kool Cars. Attendance this year was great. He also presented a gift to Chief Greer and Deputy Chief Piper thanking them for their participation. The Hot Times Kool Cars committee appreciates the great support they receive from the District.

Secretary Snyder thanked Firefighter Leyva for all of the work he does on this event and asked how much was collected. Firefighter Leyva said just over \$114,000 was collected at this 18<sup>th</sup> annual event.

Chief Greer noted that the District's Truck Six was the showpiece apparatus for 2010.

#### **Wheat Ridge Fire Protection District**

Fire Marshal Kelly Brooks

Fire Marshal Brooks offered thanks from the Wheat Ridge Division of Fire Prevention and himself, personally, to the Arvada Fire Protection District Board, Chief Greer, Deputy Chief Piper, and the members of the Division of Life Safety for their time and technical expertise during the period of time that Wheat Ridge FPD was without a Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal

Brooks stated that when he became the Fire Marshal, they also helped him complete the projects in progress. He presented a thank you gift to Chief Greer who accepted it on behalf of the District and the Division of Life Safety.

Chief Greer said it was good that Arvada Fire Protection District could share its expertise with Wheat Ridge Fire Protection District and help make Lutheran Hospital, among other projects, safer.

### **RECESS TO PENSION BOARD**

Secretary Snyder moved to recess to the Volunteer Pension Board meeting. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was recessed at 7:12.

### **RETURN FROM PENSION BOARD**

Treasurer Terranova moved to return from the Volunteer Pension Board meeting. Assistant-Secretary Kramer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President Mike Kerr reconvened the District Board meeting at 7:36.

### **ATTORNEYS' REPORT**

Attorney Ross presented an update on bills affecting the fire service, which are pending before the legislature.

11-1059 - Legislation was passed in 2009 that allows Fire Districts to collect fees for lane blocking, extrication and other activities relating to motor vehicle accidents. This new bill would prohibit fees for first responders in connection with motor vehicle accidents except for hazardous materials mitigation and ambulance services. Attorney Ross noted that this is an educational issue, as the vast majority of the motor vehicle accidents on the highways involve individuals who do not pay taxes to the Fire District and it is unfair to have the Fire District's taxpayers pay for costs.

SB 11-026 – This bill revisits the issue of phasing out business property tax. Current belief is that the bill will probably die in committee. Chief Greer noted that the Fire District receives approximately 30% of its property tax revenue from business property tax.

Attorney Ross noted that legislation may be introduced that would make it more difficult for citizen initiatives to be placed on an election ballot.

Last year, a bill was defeated that would have allowed a Plaintiff to recover compensatory and punitive damages, and attorneys' fees, in lawsuits filed in Colorado State Courts under the Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act cases. This bill has been reintroduced this legislative session.

A bill may be introduced that would prohibit the use of prone restraints by emergency services providers.

The Contractors Association will again introduce a bill to limit retainage and require prompt payment.

A bill to move all Special District elections to November and eliminate May elections entirely may be introduced. Treasurer Terranova asked if this would make seeking approval for permanent mail-in ballot status for special districts a moot point. Attorney Ross replied because almost all November elections are coordinated with the counties, and the counties currently must maintain permanent mail-in ballot lists, the issue probably would be moot. Vice-President Kerr asked about the Special District Association's position on this matter. Attorney Ross responded that he did not know what the SDA's position would be on the bill; historically, the SDA has opposed eliminating May special district elections. Treasurer Terranova asked if Director terms would be extended from May until to November if the bill passed. Attorney Ross said that would be the likely scenario.

Attorney Ross had no comments on his written report.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**  
**Fire Chief Jon Greer**

**Administration Services Division**  
Director Shirley Grantham

Ms. Grantham told the Board that Administrative Services has recently spent the majority of time closing out the 2010 year and working into 2011.

Sarah Kroonenberg worked diligently on preparation and certification of the 2011 budget. Sue Steward facilitated the transfer of the District's health plan to Cigna, updating the payroll and insurance rates in the database and collective bargaining agreement; and updating the Employee Benefits Manual. Because Cigna did not provide ID cards prior to the end of 2010, Ms. Steward sent individual e-mails with temporary ID cards to the each of the 119 people currently on the plan. Jennifer Enochs reviewed and reconciled the 2010 physicals and billing and prepared and submitted the SDA membership renewal. Tracy Vitale entered all of the 2011 trainings into the calendar and updated the Facility Use Agreements for outside groups.

The Division is currently working on finalizing goals for 2011.

Vice-President Kerr asked if HOAs are charged for holding meetings at District facilities. Chief Greer replied that they are not.

Vice-President Kerr asked why the District does not offer more than one choice of medical plans. Chief Greer responded that the costs would be higher because each provider would only receive a portion of the District's business and the District is not large enough for this to be financially feasible.

**Life Safety Education/Public Information**  
Life Safety Educator/PIO Scott Pribble

**PIO**

The District responded to a townhome fire on December 13. There was only one media response, as this was an unoccupied building and the fire occurred during the evening news hour.

There was a great deal of media response, especially from the television stations, to the call on January 23 for a possible meth lab at the Ramada Inn.

Mr. Pribble uses Twitter quite a bit for “newsworthy calls”. Instead of fielding calls from the media regarding the cause of the fire even before crews are on scene, he keeps everyone updated at @arvadafire on Twitter. Citizens are invited to sign up. This is a great way to find out what is going on in the District.

Another technology that is being considered is Qik. Mr. Pribble can post videos at Qik.com/arvadafire from his phone. He is currently testing to see if this is a good fit for the District.

### Life Safety Education

There were 218 Life Safety events in 2010. One of special interest was the Boy Scout Jamboree at the National Western Complex. The District's firefighters taught an Arvada scout pack how to take kids through the District's inflatable safety house and provide educational information regarding home fire safety.

The Youth Fire Academy was a great success last Summer and is scheduled again for 2011.

Safety Day was moved to June. This allowed the District to avoid competing with other agencies for resources and the weather was more cooperative. Safety Day was scheduled during the Fire Academy. The academy class was cancelled for the day and the recruits received first-hand experience in working with the public in safety education. The recruits worked hard throughout the day and their help was invaluable.

The Harvest Festival fire sprinkler and smoke alarm demonstration was a huge success. The Four-Mile fire was big news at the same time and everyone was extremely interested.

Last Fall, the slogan “Smoke alarms, a sound you can live with.” was placed on the safety education truck and at two bus stops. One of the bus stops is on Wadsworth just south of 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. 75,000 cars pass that point every day.

Events through the year included July 4<sup>th</sup>, where Tower danced with the kids; the Pink Heals Tour co-sponsored with North Washington at Hammonds Candies; and the Carnation Festival. At Christmastime, Tower had a new hat and scarf for Lagniappe in Olde Town. Station Two won the traveling trophy for the first annual chili cook-off.

Mr. Pribble completed the FEMA grant for 25 Home Safety Classes and installing 500 carbon monoxide alarms and stove-top residential fire suppression canisters. Several of the suppression canisters were installed at Marcella Manor. The District answers many calls each month to this facility because of burnt food.

He also taught eight CPR classes through the year.

A voice-over was just completed for our FireLine show on Channel 8, which will show ice safety and ice rescue from the victims point of view including the best steps for self-rescue. This will also be on the Arvada Fire website.

There is currently one individual participating in the District's Juvenile Firesetter Program.

So far, twenty events have been scheduled for 2011, including the 9Health Fair at Spirit of Christ where the District will be in the waiting area to pass out safety information geared toward seniors. The District also will be set up at the Kite Festival in April.

Vice-President Kerr asked for more information on the FEMA grant. Mr. Pribble responded that the grant was written with the idea of reaching 500 households. The impetus for this grant was the new law in Colorado that requires carbon monoxide alarms. The District was able to purchase the alarms for less than \$20 each and they came with a 10-year lithium backup battery.

Treasurer Terranova asked how the number of events already scheduled for 2011 compares to last year. Mr. Pribble responded that this is normal. The goal for this year is to greatly increase the number of events in the Middle and High Schools and with the Senior residents, as well as increasing the presentations for the younger ages.

Secretary Snyder asked if the District has considered a program similar to the North Washington Fire Protection District Program that replaces the porch light switch with one that could be turned to flash if 9-1-1 has been called. Mr. Pribble stated that the District currently is not considering that program because of the potential liability for the electrical work.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Treasurer Terranova and Secretary Snyder attended the meeting with City of Arvada representatives on January 3. Both directors felt that Arvada Fire did most of the talking. The only issue addressed by the City was trash hauling.

The meeting will be moving back to George's again, starting in April.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **Approval of Bills**

Secretary Snyder moved to approve payment of the bills for November and December, 2010. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Purchase of Engines**

Chief Greer reminded the Board that re-instituting the apparatus replacement schedule was one of the goals identified by the District in connection with the recent mill levy increase election. The District requested a quote for replacement of Engine Five (1996) and Engine Eight (1997). The old engines will become reserve units for the next five years. Replacing both engines this year will bring the District closer to being back on track with the apparatus replacement schedule. Chief Greer noted that, in order to obtain a more favorable purchase price, Chief

Staff polled each Board member before the end of 2010 to see if they would support placing the order before the end of 2010. Based on the favorable results of the Board member polling, Chief Staff placed the order. Chief Staff is now asking that the Board ratify purchase of the two apparatus for \$760,338.00.

Treasurer Terranova moved to ratify the purchase of the two apparatus for \$760,338.00. He reiterated that the staff is still looking at ways to save money. If the order was placed by a certain date, the District would get 2010 pricing and by prepaying would save 2% of the total cost. Secretary Snyder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Greer expanded upon the money-saving issue. The two engines are part of the Contender line. By not ordering a custom engine, the District will save about \$100,000 on each engine. Some options are still available as with any car or truck. These two engines will be 100-Year Anniversary apparatus.

Secretary Snyder asked Chief Greer to tell the audience where Stations Five and Eight are located. Chief Greer responded that Station 8 is at 64<sup>th</sup> & Quaker and Station Five is at 8100 Vance Drive, approximately 80<sup>th</sup> and Wadsworth.

#### Fire Safety Trailer Donation

Chief Greer told the Board that the Fire Safety Trailer was purchased in the mid-1980s. It was the most advanced unit available at that time; however, the District has not used it for some time. The District tried to sell it, but received no response statewide. The District then asked if anyone would want it as a donation. Several responses were received. Chief Staff recommends that the trailer be donated to Mesa County Fire Chiefs Association, a group of eleven smaller departments. Board discussion followed.

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kramer moved to donate the Fire Safety Trailer to the Mesa County Fire Chiefs Association. Secretary Snyder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Greer told the Board that the stations are serving as a collection point for clothing for kids from Kindergarten through High School. The drive officially starts when the Arvada Report comes out; however clothes are already appearing at the stations. Twenty bags already have been received. This will be a very successful drive.

The recent cooperative effort between Arvada Rotary and the District to collect crutches and canes for *Crutches 4 Africa* was very successful.

The Board and Chief Greer offered thanks to the firefighters for participating in these programs and the community for donating.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Secretary Snyder made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

---

James H. Snyder, Secretary

I hereby attest that, in my opinion, the Executive Session, which was not recorded, constituted a privileged attorney-client communication.

---

Dino Ross, Esq.

I hereby attest that the Executive Session was confined to the topics authorized for discussion in Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. §24-6-402(4)(b) & (e).

---

Doug Schneider, President

cc: Website