

**REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ARVADA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
7903 Allison Way, Arvada, Colorado  
July 20, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Doug Schneider called the July 20, 2010 regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Board members present:**

Doug Schneider, President  
Mike Kerr, Vice-President  
Ted Terranova, Treasurer  
Matt Kramer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

**Board members absent:**

Jim Snyder, Secretary (present for Executive Session, excused from regular meeting)

**Also present:**

Fire Chief Jon Greer  
Dino Ross, District Legal Counsel  
Deputy Fire Chief Mike Piper  
Dot Wright, Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel Chair

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Secretary Jim Snyder made a motion to go into Executive Session to consider 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). Vice-President Mike Piper seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Vice-President Mike Piper made a motion to return to the regular meeting. Treasurer Ted Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Schneider led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS**

President Schneider requested that all present observe a moment of silence for the 44 U.S. firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty this year as of July 16, 2010.

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Chief Greer asked that the presentation to the new paramedics be moved to Public Comment. Also, that a Presentation from the Blue Ribbon Panel be added to Public Comment and the item regarding Recommendations of Blue Ribbon Panel be changed from Discussion to Consideration.

He also requested that consideration of Resolution 10-06 be changed to Consideration of Resolution 10-09 in Old Business. Attorney Dino Ross asked that the item regarding C.R.S. be changed from Contract to Proposal.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel Report** Dot Wright – Panel Chair

President Doug Schneider introduced Dot Wright, President of the Arvada Chamber who served as Chair of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel, which included five other citizens of the District. After receiving information regarding the District finances, operations and strategic plan, the panel prepared recommendations for the Board. Ms. Wright read their recommendations, which are attached as part of these minutes. President Schneider asked Ms. Wright to also share the names and positions of the other five members. They included Frank Barone, President Barone, Inc; Ken Fellman, Attorney, Kissinger & Fellman and former Arvada Mayor; Brett Haigler, Market President, Guarantee Bank and Trust Company; Robert Wilson, Ph.D., P.E. Energy Systems Engineer; and Duane Youse, retired business owner. All of the members are proud Arvada residents.

Chief Greer thanked the committee for the four long nights of work, the 100's of pages of documents they reviewed and the extreme effort involved in preparing this report for the District. The Board added their thanks as well.

#### **Recognition of New Paramedics**

Chief Greer called Paramedics Colin McKeever and Mark Spiessbach to the podium. He thanked Firefighters Spiessbach and McKeever for their effort in completing paramedic school and told those present that he was proud to now call them Firefighter Paramedics.

Chief Greer noted that the addition of these two will allow the District to staff another engine, which will give the District four stations with Advanced Life Support capabilities.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice-President Kerr made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2010 meeting. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **RECESS TO PENSION BOARD**

Assistant-Secretary Matt Kramer moved to recess to the Volunteer Firefighters Pension Board Meeting. Treasurer Ted Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

President Schneider reconvened the District Board Meeting.

### **ATTORNEYS' REPORT**

Attorney Ross stated that he had nothing to add to the written report.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Fire Chief Jon Greer

**Auto-X Presentation**

Firefighter Dave Cannon

Firefighter Cannon told the Board that this was the second year for Arvada's AutoX held May 21-23 at the Training Center. This is a class in automobile extrication with basic and advanced techniques. There were 96 students, both from Colorado and out-of-state, ten of who were from Arvada Fire. This was nearly double the size of last year's class, which was 54 students. The \$2,950 that Arvada made on the 2009 class was used to purchase extrication equipment. The expected total for 2010 is \$8800. There are already fourteen students on the waiting list for 2011.

Firefighter Cannon thanked the Board and Chief Staff for their assistance. He also thanked Jason Feinstein from L. N. Curtis Equipment who helped bring AutoX to Arvada and was also an instructor, the Fire Academy recruits who acted as runners to provide water and food and to keep the drill ground clear of debris, the hybrid specialist from Stevenson West who presented invaluable information on dealing with hybrid vehicles and the numerous sponsors who collectively gave over \$10,000 worth of donations.

Firefighter Cannon also recognized several Arvada Fire personnel. Captain Todd Hyatt served as Incident Commander of the over 130 personnel on the drill ground at any one time. Lieutenant Clay Steward headed up Planning and Documentation. Lt. Steward is one of the best planning guys in the United States and is in planning for USAR. Firefighter Cannon handled logistics. The Safety Training Officers (STO's) acted as safety officers. Lt Cary Hammond, Firefighter Dan Snyder, Lt. Matt Osier, Lt. Tim Piel, Captain Dave Cogswell, and Captain Jamie Denison served as shadow instructors.

President Schneider asked how many vehicles were used for the class. Firefighter Cannon responded that there were 77. Connolley's Towing, one of the biggest supporters of AutoX, started collecting vehicles back in January. Jefferson County Schools donated a school bus. John Connolley also brought in their 60-ton wrecker and shared ways to use his services if needed on the 1500-2000 motor vehicle accidents in the District each year.

**Fire Prevention Division**

Fire Marshal Sparky Shriver

Fire Marshal Shriver noted that the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks display was a huge success despite the rain. Arvada Fire was there on the 4<sup>th</sup> with the Safety House and truck displays. Prior to the event, Fire Prevention staff inspected mortars and cordoned off the fallout area. This presentation required a great deal work from many entities. The set-up area is at the top of Lutz hill. The mortars are loaded, covered with aluminum to protect them from rain and then wired into a computer box. Sixty computer hours were needed to blend the music and the display. Certified fireworks technicians controlled the display. This year's program lasted for 24 minutes-30 seconds and cost \$35,000.

Odds and Ends – Arvada Fire was recognized as a "Build for Life" fire department and won a banner to display for our work promoting residential fire sprinklers. Fire Marshal Shriver served as an assessor for Denver Fire. The Fire Prevention Office was informed by the City of Wheat Ridge that they are in preparation for light rail. New provisions for mixed-use buildings of up to eight stories, in a half-mile area around the commuter station at 54<sup>th</sup> and Ward have been approved.

## **Training Division**

Training Chief Charlie Johlgrén

There were 79 calls in June for shift training officers, 15 of them were carbon monoxide-related. Squad Trainings are on schedule for the year. AutoX will be the next training and starts tomorrow. The night training for this year will be self-survival skills and will start in the fall. Officer Development will include size up, leadership and writing skills. Three of the classes will be on the Life-Size. This has worked very well and will probably be continued next year.

The first 2010 Fire Academy graduated thirteen in March. The current Academy will finish on August 7. Last Saturday, the recruits had just finished live burn training, when the temperature was 102 degrees. This group of recruits has been awesome including with AutoX and Fire Education.

The District is using Center Learn online training for EMT-B and EMT-P continuing education credits. A Life-Size library of trainings and fire critiques that are always available is being built. Deputy Chief Piper and Training Chief Johlgrén are now Blue Card Incident Command System trainers. The goal of the class they completed is to standardize incident command training across the country. Arvada Fire is now one of only two departments in Colorado that will be able to deliver this training. Safety Stand Down was June 21-23. Health, Fitness, Nutrition, Driving, and a review of Workers' Compensation claims were included in this year's agenda.

The Training Center continues to be used by outside groups. Chief Johlgrén showed a photo of a recent Santa Claus Academy that was held in the auditorium.

## **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

Vice-President Kerr attended the meeting with City of Arvada Representatives on July 12. The City is very aware of the impact of Proposition 101 and Amendments 60 and 61. A discussion regarding these three measures comprised most of the meeting. The effect of passage on the City would be about \$13,000,000 per year in decreased revenue. For Arvada Fire, it would be about \$1,000,000 to start and within five years would be about \$1,500,000.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **Approval of Bills**

Treasurer Terranova moved to approve payment of the bills for June 2010 as presented. Vice-President Kerr seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel**

Chief Greer noted that the Panel presented a full report during Executive Session. President Schneider said the presentation was very informative. Both Treasurer Terranova and Vice-President Kerr attended their meeting to answer questions. The panel members are all citizens who have served this committee in various positions. Because of their varied background, their points of view and what their recommendations would be were initially unknown. They recognized that even though we are a government entity, we are a service organization that provides a basic

service to the community. This group recognized our situation and they believe that we should move forward with an election for the safety of our citizens. They urged the Board to give strong consideration to their recommendations.

Treasurer Terranova moved to accept the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel. Vice-President Mike Kerr seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Consideration of Alternative Resolutions 10-09 calling for a Mail Ballot Election or Combining with Jefferson County for Election on November 2, 2010**

Were the District to coordinate with Jefferson County, 65,000 active voters would be eligible to vote in a polling place election. Of these voters, 70-80% of the voters are on the permanent mail-in ballot list and the remainder would be required to go to the polls on Election Day. There is a general voter trend towards receiving mail ballots. The cost for the coordinated election would be approximately \$55,000. This is a preliminary estimate based upon how many agencies participate with Jefferson County and is based on historical participation. The actual cost would not be known until the District received the invoice after the election. Arvada Fire would still have a Designated Election Official to assure everything on our side runs smoothly.

A Mail Ballot Election would be run independently. All 65,000 active voters would receive a mail ballot. Voters could either mail the ballot or, if they prefer, would be able to drop it in a ballot box at designated locations in the District. If the District decided to do the mail ballot, it would be prudent to have an outside entity run it. A request for proposal was sent out. Sue Blair of Community Resource Services has submitted a proposal. Another company, Pinnacle, declined to submit a proposal because of the workload they already have. Sue has been doing this for nearly 30 years. In her July 14<sup>th</sup> proposal, the cost for the total election including sending out mail ballots, running the election, training and supervising judges, etc. would be \$106,\_\_\_ and includes mailing costs. Board acceptance of this proposal would be conditional upon entering into an acceptable contract. North Washington used them for last year's election and gave them a recommendation. They felt that their election went very smoothly.

Both alternative resolutions are nearly the same and include the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel. Both include a 5.23 mill increase. The dollar figure associated with this mill levy is based on this year's current assessed value and is the most that citizens would be paying in dollar terms. Projections of a decrease in assessed value of as much as 7% have been made by the county.

Chief Greer noted that the mail ballot would be reaching more voters and it would be unknown until September 3 if any other entities would be participating in the County-coordinated election.

Treasurer Terranova stated that if the county was doing a mail ballot, we would obviously go with them. The citizens need to have the right to vote as easily as possible. Treasurer Terranova stated that he is in favor of the mail ballot, President Schneider and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Matt Kramer agreed.

Treasurer Terranova made a motion to pass Resolution 10-09 Calling for a Mail Ballot. Vice-President Kerr seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consideration of Provisional Approval of Proposal from Community Resource Services**

Vice-President Kerr made a motion to accept the proposal for conducting a mail ballot election from Community Resource Services pending completion of an acceptable contract with the understanding that the contract will not need to be brought back to the Board for approval. Treasurer Terranova seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Ross thanked the Board for working through these difficult issues. The Blue Ribbon Advisory Panel was a good idea in reaching out to the committee.

Treasurer Terranova told Attorney Ross that the Board appreciated his help in working with C.R.S. as the original proposal was over \$190,000.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Greer noted that the Honor Guard and the Pipe and Drum Band will be opening the Little League World Series to be held at the NAAC with approximately 5000 attendees. They will also be doing the Ralston House .5K Walk in Olde Town, Station One and Pridemark will be on hand for any needs during this grueling event.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Matt Kramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice-President Mike Kerr seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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Gary M. Kerr, Secretary

cc: Website