

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE LOVELAND RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District was held at Station 1 on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 5:30 P.M.

The following members were present:

Dave Legits, Barry Gustafson, Mike McKenna, Leroy Anderson and Jeff Swanty

Also present were:

Greg White, Secretary, Loveland Rural Fire Protection District  
Randy Mirowski, Loveland Fire and Rescue Department  
Merlin Green, Loveland Fire and Rescue Department  
Ned Sparks, Loveland Fire and Rescue Department  
Renee Wheeler, Loveland Fire and Rescue Department  
Bill Lundquist, Big Thompson Canyon Volunteer Fire Department

President Legits called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 regular meeting were presented. Director Swanty requested that the Minutes of June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012, be changed with regard to the discussion of the purchase of radios by the Rural District. The Minutes should state that some Board members felt purchasing new radios would send the wrong message and set a dangerous precedent for future decisions. Said Board members felt that said decisions being based on the possibility of the newly formed Authority failing would set the Fire Authority up for failure. The minutes should also reflect that the Board voted unanimously to send a letter to the Fire Authority concerning the Board's commitment to the Fire Authority and the District's financial responsibilities. Upon motion by McKenna, seconded by Gustafson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012 minutes subject to the changes requested by Director Swanty.

White presented the June 2012 bills. Upon motion by Gustafson, seconded by Swanty, and unanimously carried, the following bills were approved, including the April Fire Authority bill once received.

Loveland Rescue Fire Authority (1) June		<b>\$ 123,716.00</b>
City of Loveland		
Canyon Facilities Cost (2)	61.06	
Canyon Facilities Cost (2)	13.73	<b>74.79</b>
Poudre Valley REA		
Canyon Facilities Cost (2)		<b>29.44</b>
Schrader Propane		
Canyon Facilities Cost (2)		<b>124.44</b>
Qwest		
Miscellaneous (5)		<b>100.00</b>
Qwest		
Miscellaneous (5)		<b>500.00</b>
Go Daddy		
Miscellaneous (5)		<b>99.05</b>
Henry's Pub		
Election Expense (13)		<b>300.00</b>

Gregory A. White	
Legal Fees (11 a)	<b>2,475.00</b>
Gregory A. White	
Administrative Fee (11 b)	<b>1,000.00</b>
Board Secretary Fee (7 a)	<b>316.67</b>
Donna Holst	
Bookkeeper Fee (7 c)	<b>468.33</b>
Dave Legits	
Board Meeting (7 b)	<b>50.00</b>
Mike McKenna	
Board Meeting (7 b)	<b>50.00</b>
Leroy Anderson	
Board Meeting (7 b)	<b>50.00</b>
Jeff Swanty	
Board Meeting (7 b)	<b>50.00</b>
TOTAL	<b>\$ 129,403.72</b>

White presented the Financial Report. He stated that he had not reviewed the June disbursements from Larimer County, but usually those disbursements are in the neighborhood of \$270,000. All other matters in the financial part are within budgetary limits.

Chief Mirowski gave the Chief's Report. He briefed the Board on the upcoming Fire Authority meeting agenda. There will be recognition of those involved in the Department in the receipt of numerous grants the Department has received in the past years. The presentation from the Department on sustainability of response based upon the Southwest 42<sup>nd</sup> incident will be presented to the Authority Board. The meeting will be held at the Training Center in order to have the Board view the demonstration of the Blue Card training.

Mirowski briefed the Board on recent discussion by the Loveland City Council concerning fire restrictions. Recently, the City Council invoked a ban on all fires and fireworks which was tied to the Governor Hickenlooper's Executive Order. On July 8, 2012, Governor Hickenlooper rescinded this Executive Order. As a result, currently there is no fire ban on open fires and/or use of legal fireworks within the City. The Larimer County Commissioners are considering rescinding Larimer County's ban on open fires and fireworks within unincorporated Larimer County. The City Council is considering its options with regard to this issue.

White asked whether or not the Fire Code gave the Department or the Rural Board any power to impose a fire ban and or restrictions within the Fire District boundaries. Chief Green commented that he would have to look at the Fire Code to determine whether or not the Fire District had authority.

Mirowski reported that he has received the final draft of the Strategic Plan. Subject to one more review, the Strategic Plan will be distributed to all interested parties.

Renee Wheeler gave the Public Safety Administrative Director's Report. Wheeler presented a report to the Board concerning the 2013 budget process for the Fire Authority. The City has reviewed and made certain changes to its Capital Program. Those changes include keeping the construction of Station No. 2 in its current place to begin in 2013 with the moving of construction of Station No. 10 to 2018. All major apparatus purchases remained as previously scheduled. Mirowski reported that there is a possibility that Station No. 10 could move back to an earlier construction based upon availability of revenues from the Rural District and CEF revenues to the City.

Renee stated that the proposed Department budget has been submitted and will be reviewed by the City Manager and the Budget Review Team on July 31, 2012. The entire City Budget will be presented to the Loveland City Council at its Study Session of September 11, 2012, with approval of the Budget scheduled for October 2 and October 16, 2012. Wheeler stated that following the July 31, 2012 review by the City Manager, that further details of the Budget will be presented to the Rural and Fire Authority Boards.

Chief Sparks gave the Operation Division Report. The old SCBAs have been replaced by the new SCBAs. The new air compressor is operational. Engine No. 6 was put into service on July 4, 2012.

Sparks reported that 21 applications were filed for reserve firefighters. The Department may take up to 12 in anticipation of new hirings from the part-time firefighters by the Department. There needs to be a sufficient reserve pool of reserve and part-time firefighters to meet the Department needs.

Sparks reported the building permit for Station No. 6 has been issued and the construction is scheduled for 120 days.

Sparks briefed the Board on the High Park Fire. The Department deployed the Type 3 Crimson Engine to the High Park Fire. Two crews participated in the deployment. The Engine and crew were also assigned during the deployment period to the Boulder, Palisade, and Squirrel Creek fire in Wyoming.

Sparks briefed the Board on the Masonville Task Force which was deployed as part of the High Park Fire response. He expressed appreciation for Canyon participation in this deployment. Sparks also noted that both the Department and the Canyon Department had participated in the Woodland Heights fire in Estes Park.

Sparks noted that the cost for the High Park Fire deployment including the Masonville Task Force was approximately \$115,000 with some federal reimbursement of these costs.

Sparks reported on a recent Dive Rescue response which unfortunately involved two fatalities. However, a thirteen year old survived the incident. Sparks complimented the Dive Team for their response including their sensitive handling of the thirteen year old's situation.

Mirowski briefed the Board on a letter had been received from a homeowner in Rist Canyon. The letter was very complimentary and included description of the arrival of the Crimson engine with its crew just prior to the homeowner leaving the area which resulted in the saving of the home. Mirowski and Legits complimented the crew including the Crew Boss, Mark Lyons, for their response to extreme fire behavior in saving these types of structures. Mirowski commented that the Crimson has proved to be a valuable piece of apparatus for this type of wildland fire response and complimented the Rural Board for its procurement of this vehicle.

Chief Green gave the Community Safety Division Report. He noted that the Department only responded to four calls during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July with the Police Department responding to approximately 30 calls for fireworks. This is considerably lower than most 4<sup>th</sup> of Julys.

The Community Safety Division is working on reviewing the 2012 Fire Code and the 2012 Building Code. Those Codes will be brought forward for approval following review.

This is a particularly busy time for the Community Safety Division with regard to special events that are being held, including necessary inspecting and licensing.

The Department is moving forward with the acquisition of the land from Ray and Sonya Mehaffy for Station No. 2. Chief Mirowski complimented Green in his work with regard to this matter including his preliminary conceptual review of the construction process.

Chief Bill Lundquist gave the Canyon Chief's report. It has been a busy month. The Department has responded to between 12 – 14 calls with the numerous calls for smoke investigation. He reported that the Department had provided apparatus and crew for the Mansonville Task Force and also participated in the Woodland Heights fire in Estes Park. The Department is currently experiencing some problems with its radio and pagers which is under review. The Department has one new application for a new firefighter.

Chief Mirowski presented an Issue Paper with regard to the Department's response outside of the Rural District during the last few weeks. The purpose of the Issue Paper was to provide the Board with the Department's current strategy for response outside the Rural District. Chief Mirowski requested comments by the Board with regard to the strategy and any other issues due to response outside the Rural District. White presented the Board with a historical recap of response outside the Rural District including the current Board policy of charging for structure fire response outside the Rural District. Mirowski emphasized that the current response strategy of heavy response from multiple agencies to quell small fires before they get large, including any available air resources, is for the purpose of containing the incidents before they can grow to major problems. He stated that at least four times the Department has responded and extinguished these types of fires. An example of this strategy is the Mansonville Task Force during the High Park Fire. He stated the unintended consequences of this response strategy were:

1. People viewing these responses have the impression that Loveland Fire Rescue Authority is their fire department even though they live outside of District boundaries; and
2. When informed that the fact that other than Larimer County, there is no governmental agency that is responsible for fire response in their area, there is a tendency for these individuals to consider forming their own fire departments.

Director McKenna strongly supported this strategy of dispersion of resources. Director McKenna stated that this is an operational issue for the Department and the responsibility for this response will vary depending on circumstances including the availability of resources.

President Legits suggested the possibility of placing signage on the Pinewood Lake District and Storm Mountain areas of the District to inform those areas that they were not within the Rural District. White stated that the responsibility of educating those outside the District was that of Larimer County as this is the government entity responsible for both structure and wildland response outside District boundaries.

Following more discussion, the Board unanimously supported the actions of the Department over the past number of weeks.

President Legits asked that since Director Gustafson was not present at last month's meeting for the discussion on the purchasing of radios, whether or not this matter needed to be re-reviewed. There was discussion among the Board members as to whether or not this matter should be re-reviewed. There was no motion to re-review this matter.

White noted that the Special meeting on July 18, 2012 is to discuss the May 2012 election and future mill levy elections.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

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Gregory A. White, Secretary/Assistant Treasurer

ATTEST:

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President