Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 25, 2022
410 E. 5th Street, Loveland, CO 80537
EOC Conference Room
and Via Video and Audio Conference
12:30 p.m.

Members Present:
Chairman Jeff Swanty, Director of the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District ("Rural District")
Director Steve Adams, Loveland City Manager
Vice Chairman John Fogle, City of Loveland Council Member
Director Richard Ball, City of Loveland Council Member
Director Dave Legts, Rural District President

Members Absent:
None

Staff Present:
Tim Sendelbach, LFRA Fire Chief
Tim Smith, LFRA Division Chief
Andrea Wright, LFRA Human Resources Manager
Cheryl Cabaruvias, LFRA Administrative Analyst
Kristi Coleman, LFRA Board Secretary
Emily Powell, Legal Counsel to the Authority
Robert Carmosino, LFRA Emergency Manager

Visitors:
Elaina Cobb, Loveland Rural Fire District
Brian Waldes, CFO, City of Loveland

Call to Order:
Chairman Swanty called the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority ("LFRA") Board meeting to order
on the above date at 1:31 p.m.

Approval or Amendment of Agenda:
It was the consensus of the Board to approve the agenda as presented.

Awards and Presentation:
None

**Swearing In:**
None

**Public Comment:**
None

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Consider a Motion to Approve the Minutes from the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority April 30, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
2. Consider a Motion to Appoint Mark Miller to the Consolidated Volunteer Firefighters Pension Board

Motion made by Vice Chairman Fogle to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Seconded by Director Legits; motion carried unanimously.

**Regular Agenda:**

3. Review Briefing Papers and Correspondence
   
   **a. Chief's Report**

   Director Adams requested that the slides for the Chief's Report be included in the emailed Board Packet moving forward.

   Chief Sendelbach expressed appreciation to the artist Julie Kramer Cole for her donation of a portrait to Fire Station 7 at the Open House on May 21st, and also to the Loveland Chamber of Commerce for providing gift cards to the members of LFRA in honor of Firefighter Appreciation Day.

   Chief Sendelbach reported the following matters to the Board:

   - **The Leadership Encounter Graduates**

     Chief Sendelbach noted that LFRA had 3 graduates in the most recent Leadership Encounter program. Chief Sendelbach expressed appreciation to both Chief Randy Mirowski and his wife for their efforts and sacrifice over the years while leading this program.

   - **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)**

     Chief Sendelbach expressed his thanks to Emily Powell for reviewing the CWPP contract for services, which is now ready to be sent back to Ember Alliance for their review. Ember Alliance is a local nonprofit that LFRA will be contracting with to create LFRA's wildfire preparedness plan. This gives LFRA the ability to address the specific fuels within its jurisdiction, start the mitigation process, and the public
education and outreach process as well. This process should engage LFRA personnel starting mid to late June in both the Rural District and the City.

- **Grant Applications**

Chief Sendelbach stated that he had hoped to hear about the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) by now, but that they have not released any announcements yet. Chief Sendelbach feels very confident with the grant application and hopes to hear back soon.

Chief Sendelbach expressed gratitude to The Lauren Project, a non-profit organization that provides carbon monoxide alarms to the general public and provides the public with information on the hazards of carbon monoxide, for the donation of carbon monoxide alarms for all of LFRA’s jump kits.

The next round of applications for the Firehouse Subs grant opens again in July. LFRA will apply at that time with the intent to replace the UTV at Station 9.

- **Congressman Neguse - Appropriations**

Chief Sendelbach received notification that the appropriations application related to the health & wellness center has moved out of Congressman Neguse’s office and has been selected for submission to the Appropriations Committee.

- **CORE Construction – Health & Wellness Center**

To keep the Congressman’s appropriations application fresh, LFRA worked with CORE construction to come up with conceptual drawings to help the committee visualize what the project will entail.

It was discussed that, after the next federal election cycle, the City will be in Congressman’s Ken Buck’s district, and that the Rural District may be in Congressman Neguse’s district, meaning that LFRA as a combined agency would be in both.

- **Strategic Planning**

Chief Sendelbach stated that the Facilitated Strategic Planning sessions kick off on May, 26th, where all of the Chiefs will meet with the facilitators, Chief Forest Reeder and Chief Kevin Milan, then the Chiefs will draft a strategic plan that will go to the staff for review. After staff has reviewed and provided comment on the draft Strategic Plan, it will come back to the Chiefs for final editing and will then be sent to the LFRA Board for final approval. Chief Sendelbach expects a turnaround time of 60 days or less to have the final Strategic Plan ready to send out as a final draft.

- **Counselor Tours**
Chief Sendelbach has had tours with Councilor Fogle, Councilor Mallo, and has a tour scheduled with Councilor Samson and City of Loveland CFO Brian Waldes. The tours consist of visiting Station 10, the Training Center, Station 2, the new location for Station 3 and Station 5.

- **Lightning eMotors**

  Chief Sendelbach expressed gratitude to Lightning eMotors for granting the Front Range Fire Consortium (FRFC) access to “C” building at the Forge Campus to use as the classroom, workout facility and showers for the upcoming FRFC Fire Academy. They have granted permission to use the facility for 2 years for the FRFC regional academies.

Division Chief Ward reported the following matters to the Board:

- **Training Update**

  LFRA recently completed a round of live fire drills which included participation from Berthoud Fire Protection District and Front Range Fire Rescue Fire Protection District. LFRA put together its first all female crew during this training. There were some weather issues, with Red Flag warnings occurring during the live fire training, during which LFRA did not conduct live fire training in accordance with our direction to the public to not conduct any open burning due to increased wildfire risk. This also allows the crews to be available if there were to be a wildfire that requires LFRA response.

- **Apparatus Update**

  There are some concerns due to manufacturer supply chain issues. LFRA is waiting on a production date for the QRV’s F450 and the staff vehicles. The Type 5 Engine for Station 10 does not currently have a production date.

- **Station Update**

  Chief Ward provided some Station 10 progress pictures and an update. He also discussed Station 3 and the progress of the planning process with City of Loveland Facilities; and the issues at Station 2 with the foundation shifting, walls cracking, and the floor drains not working.

- **Logistics Update**

  Captain Lyons now has the equipment warehouse under his oversight; this includes uniforms, radios communications, medical supplies, station supplies, and coordination of hose, ladder and air pack testing. LFRA will move the equipment warehouse to Front Range Fire Rescue Fire Protection District’s newly remodeled warehouse either this fall or early next year to help with common spec and design ordering.
• **Community Safety Update**

On June 27th Chris Reed will be starting as a Fire Inspector with LFRA, he is currently a Firefighter Paramedic with the Laramie Wyoming Fire Department.

Chief Ward attended the Colorado Risk Reduction Conference last month and learned more about risk reduction programs for fire educators and how to implement a risk reduction multifaceted education system into LFRA’s public education for the community. Chief Sendelbach discussed each fire station’s heat map in the "LFRA by the Numbers" document and how LFRA would focus on risk reduction education in each fire station’s area.

Division Chief Smith reported the following matters to the Board:

• **Operational Responses**

There have been 5 different structure fires, some significant grass fires, including a storage facility fire, a rope rescue call at Devil’s Backbone with access issues, and a water rescue that a community member responded to after hearing about it on PulsePoint.

Chief Sendelbach added to the discussion on the water rescue, stating that, while LFRA does not want community members to respond to incidents and take undue risk, we want to let the community know about the young man that responded to this incident by recognizing him, and to re-launch PulsePoint in the next month or so, letting the community know how to utilize the tool and the benefit for survivability in the community.

Chief Smith continued discussing some of the residential fires: one in a tool chest, one that involved a garage and impinged on power lines, and one on Winona that resulted in personnel being transported to the hospital and later being released. There were multiple Alert 3 calls at the airport that were not aircraft crashes, rather incidents of low fuel or a plane off the runway.

• **In-District Canyon Volunteer Pagers**

LFRA has issued alpha-numeric pagers to the In-District Canyon Volunteers which should help with difficulties in communication in the Canyon.

• **Budweiser Events Center (BEC) Standbys at The Ranch**

Anytime there is a large event at The Budweiser Events Center, LFRA does a standby to help with crowd control and monitor the alarm panel. There are approximately 55 LFRA members that can fill that roll.

• **Station 7 Open House**
The event was very successful with lots of community engagement and almost all of our partner organizations attending. Chief Sendelbach expressed thanks to our partners that attended and to Chief Smith for his work organizing the event.

- Questions and Comments

Chairman Swanty asked what LFRA’s operational preparations are for a school shooting type of events. Chief Smith stated that LFRA has multiple response profiles that engage surrounding communities to help support LFRA and the community in the event of one of these types of incidents, and that LFRA works closely with Loveland Police Department and Thompson Valley EMS in doing training for these events.

Andrea Wright stated that the LFRA Board will be asked to consider LFRA’s participation in the Proposition 118 State paid Family Medical Leave Program funded by employer and employee contributions. Contributions start on January 1, 2023 and benefits would start January 1, 2024. It will require a vote from the Board to opt-in or opt-out of the program. Human Resources is working with the LFRA legal team to get the timeframes and decisional process set up. In July or August there will be a presentation to the Board going over all the details of the program and what family and medical leave benefits LFRA currently offers. After the presentation, the Board will have the opportunity to opt-in or opt-out of the state program. Opting in means that the employer and all employees have to participate, opting out means that the employer does not participate but employees may opt-in individually.

Director Legits shared that coalition between the Forest Service and Big Thompson Water Coalition has ¾ of the mitigation around Cedar Springs completed, including all the felling and piling. Chief Sendelbach stated that he is on their board and is meeting with one of the Board members regarding mitigation efforts. The interior of the subdivision is not on board, but LFRA wants to educate and guide them about impacts.

4. Other Business for Board Consideration

Board Chairman Swanty asked if there was any further business.

Chairman Swanty stated that he had researched the boundary of the new Congressional Districts and that the LFRA is in both Congressman Neguse and Congressman Buck’s districts.

Attorney Powell stated she did not have any new business. Chief Sendelbach asked her to comment on correspondence about the AM Frequency license. She stated that Chief Carmosino had discovered that the AM Frequency license held by the City of Loveland since 2009 had lapsed in 2015, which is the frequency on which all emergency notifications go out to the traffic signage. Chief Carmosino had applied to the FCC to get the license reinstated, but the FCC required a “letter of concurrence” due to a frequency overlap with a station in Lakewood. Emily contacted the general council for the station in Lakewood and worked with them and City of Loveland Attorneys’ Office to get the letter of concurrence signed, with some reasonable
conditions included.

Chief Carmosino gave a brief update on EOC operations. There will be a June 26th exercise on power outage scenario; this is the 2nd in a series of 4 exercises.

Director Legits reported on Fuel Hazards being low due to recent rain.

With no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Swanty adjourned the meeting at 2:36 p.m.

The foregoing minutes, having been approved by the LFRA Board of Directors, constitute the official minutes of the meeting held on the date stated above.

Jeffrey M. Swanty, Chairman

Kristi Coleman, Secretary