



Loveland Fire & Rescue Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, August 8th, 2012, 5:30 p.m.
Fire Administration Building (FAB)
Emergency Operations Center (EOC), 2nd Floor
410 E. 5th St., Loveland, CO 80537**

Meeting called to order at 5:45 p.m.

Present: Chair Jonathan Smela, Vice Chair Janet Bailey, Paul Pfeiffer, David Adams, Fire Chief Randy Mirowski, Mayor Cecil Gutierrez, City Manager Bill Cahill, Fire Marshal/Division Chief Merlin Green and Lisa Burkland

Absent: Rural Board members Andy Anderson and William Tillman. Jerry Ward is on furlough.

Introduction of new members: presented by Jonathan Smela

- ❖ FM/DC Merlin Green was present for the introductions.
- ❖ Dave (David) Adams shared some information about himself.
 - Used to own Baskin Robins in Loveland and recently had arrival of their first granddaughter.
 - Has an Emergency Resources background and currently with Hero's Hand.

<Fire Marshall/Division Chief Merlin Green left the meeting at 5:55 p.m.>

Minutes Approval: Janet Bailey moved to approve the May 9th, 2012 minutes and Paul Pfeiffer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Boards & Commissions Presentation: presented by City Manager Bill Cahill

- ❖ To assist in our policy making role and to better equip everyone.
- ❖ Refer to overhead slides / presentation copies- attached.
- ❖ During the 1st slide- Janet asked the City Manager and Mayor if we will get the continued assistance Fire really needs.
 - The Mayor said yes, it's forward momentum with some challenges.
 - The City Manager stated that our city has award winning departments. Some departments are resource starved such as Fire, relying at times on volunteer force. There is a need to bring Fire up to the National Standards for staffing. Half the funding increases for the City this year are allocated for Fire.

- ❖ Regarding the 2nd slide- City Council Goals for 2012: The station 6 expansion/remodel helps to accommodate our highest need for more service in the East, many multi-family units have come up in the area. Along with the expansion is the need for more crew. Station 2 is at the inquiring land and preliminary planning stage for the area at west 29th just past Wilson, near a new-to-be City Park – “Mehaffey Park”. The area of the north, north-west is the 2nd area of our jurisdiction in need of more service support. The third area of need is the west side.
- ❖ CM Cahill also passed out the City of Loveland Fire and Rescue Advisory Commission (FRAC) Roles and duties. Paragraph B of this document is stated in the *unique FRAC role* slide. This slide evoked a question from Dave about the citizenry. How do we get info to and/or from the citizens? The City Manager stated it wasn't necessarily a directive of FRAC, but it could be. Both Janet and Jon mentioned how they regularly share information with personal and professional contacts, such as neighbors, co-workers, family, and friends. CM Cahill also mentioned that all the boards/commissions' information is posted on the City Website for the public to view. The Mayor commented that FRAC and other boards/commissions are his and other Council members connections to the community and the City Manager remarked how all the different boards/commissions bring in diversity.
- ❖ Time for questions was made available at the end of the presentation.
 - Paul inquired on some of the historical major advising FRAC has done in the recent past. Janet mentioned the Windsor tornado sirens research and presentation made to City Council by FRAC.
 - Jon asked on how the Authority shapes FRAC today. The Mayor responded that FRAC used to be focused on just the city, now we can be more global with the service we provide to both city and rural. The mil levy will be important and a challenge for the rural. The issue of FRAC vs. fracking is another thing to keep in mind. The Chief mentioned looking into a two tiered system of rural vs. city – a consideration by the Fire Authority Board in the future. Dave asked where else does this type of splitting happen. The Chief answered all over the nation, a good example is Greeley and Western Hills. Janet asked in respect to the Authority is there indeed a role for FRAC. The City Manager said yes, to advise the Authority and Rural. The Mayor added that there are unique challenges, advising the Authority as a whole to start with and then may have to pull back and contribute separately for city and rural advising.

<City Manager Bill Cahill left the meeting at 6:40 p.m.>

City Council Report: presented by Mayor Cecil Gutierrez

- ❖ Regarding a little more information on fracking, rural has to take this on first, before the city. Wells will begin to be drilled in the rural area first.
 - Drilling/ wells can come into the city- as oil and gas drilling is state mandated.
 - 2.5 acres minimum area for the drilling/well site.
 - Safety issues for the fracking process will need to be addressed.
 - There are currently 2 applications for fracking in the rural area.
 - August 21st, a proposed date to initially look at the process.
- ❖ End of August /first part of September will look at the budget for 2013.

Rural Board Update: in Andy Anderson's absence, presented by Chief Mirowski

- ❖ In the past 30 days, there has been a lot of movement with rural board. The mil levy election will be back in November.
- ❖ Factors causing this: living on reserves and timing with so many wildfires.
- ❖ Jon asked about the High Park Fire. There's about a \$100k strain associated from the High Park Fire for LFRA. Looking to get reimbursed somewhere between \$40k- \$80k from the State. An associated cost included the Masonville Task Force for preventative actions (overtime). The Mayor mentioned how it would be good to get the information to the rural public for the mill levy.
- ❖ The Authority contract is set-up as 18% rural and 82% city.
- ❖ The Chief noted that there are 3 areas that were critical to the loss of the mil levy last time.
 - Too high of an increase all at once.
 - No end stated –“ how many years sunset”
 - Explanation on if this doesn't pass – what will happen.
- ❖ Several members made comment that education on what/who all is included in the rural area (they may not know) and perhaps including the negative outcomes as part of the information could be beneficial this time.
- ❖ Reminder, anyone may attend either Authority or Rural Board meetings. The Rural Board typically meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the EOC meeting room of the FAB. Authority meetings are usually 8 days after the Rural Board meeting which typically lands on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m. in the EOC meeting room. Both meeting times/dates may be modified due to holidays, etc.

Strategic Plan: presented by Chief Randy Mirowski

- ❖ The Chief passed out the final Strategic Plan books to the FRAC team members, each having the member's name on them.
 - The work for this plan took 2 years.
 - The last plan was written back in 1995.
 - Thanks again to Janet for her time spent on this endeavor.

Budget Review: presented by Chief Randy Mirowski

- ❖ The Chief passed out the quarter 2 issue of Budget Biz.
 - This budget newsletter is written by Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director, who has been a very beneficial addition for Fire and Rescue Authority this year.

Chief Updates: presented by Chief Randy Mirowski

- ❖ No questions regarding the Chief's report. A busy couple of months were summarized in the report. There was also mention that the articles from the Fully Involved newsletter were informative and interesting. The newsletter links can be found on the Fire Rescue Authority's main page at: <http://www.cityofloveland.org/index.aspx?page=135>

Public Comment/Presentation: No public comment.

Summary from the Chair: presented by Jonathan Smela

- ❖ Next month prepare for brainstorm on specific items to tackle including coming up with a more concise FRAC agenda.

Motion to Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

The next FRAC meeting will be Wednesday, September 12th at 5:30 p.m. in the EOC.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Burkland, CSD Office Support Specialist

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**By: /s/ Jonathan Smela
Chair**