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

**Present:** Chair Jonathan (Jon) Smela, Vice Chair Janet Bailey, Paul Pfeiffer, David (Dave) Adams, William (Willy) Tillman, Mary Moore, Tim Hitchcock, Rural Board Member Andy Anderson, Fire Chief Randy Mirowski, Mayor Cecil Gutierrez, Fire Marshal/Division Chief Merlin Green, and Lisa Burkland.

**Absent:** Jerry Ward is on furlough.

**Introduction of new member:** presented by Jonathan Smela
- FM/DC Merlin Green was present for the introduction.
- William (Willy) Tillman shared some information about himself.
  - Lives in the Canyon half-way between Loveland and Estes Park
  - Currently a Thompson District teacher with the Soars Program (10 years)
  - Master’s degree in Education through the USAF.

**Thank you and farewell for Moore & Hitchcock:** presented by Chief Mirowski
- The commission is pleased to welcome new members and to wish the retiring members all the best.
  - To Mary Moore and Tim Hitchcock: we appreciate both of your leadership roles you held with FRAC. Both Tim and Mary have been with FRAC for 6 years.
  - The Chief presented to both their own personalized Strategic Plan.
  - Mary and Tim were given Certificates of Appreciation for their tenure with FRAC.
  - As a newly started tradition, Tim and Mary were each given a LFRA Tapestry.

< FM/DC Merlin Green, Tim Hitchcock and Mary Moore left the meeting at 6:05 p.m.>

**Minutes Approval:** Paul Pfeiffer moved to approve the August 8th, 2012 minutes and Janet Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried.
City Council Report: presented by Mayor Cecil Gutierrez

- Budget information from last night’s City Council meeting
  - Adoption of budget to be in October.
  - 6 new firefighters are in the budget.
  - Public safety is the number one priority for City Council
  - Regarding taxes; sales taxes are on a good path compared to the 2007 benchmark year for tax generation.
  - Use tax (building activity) is still down. Commercial- nothing much coming from this area. Residential is on the rise.

- Paul asked about the Allegiant news.
  - City general fund not currently effected.
  - Will feel more of the effect – end of 2013 and 2014.
  - Working diligently on finding another airline.
  - Internal decision on Allegiant’s part
  - When Allegiant announced their near future departure, another airline made contact with interest to take their place.
  - Udall’s office called to offer assistance.
  - A tower is in the works, as well as the runway extension (1,000 ft.), slow process.
  - Janet asked if the Allegiant change impacts RMCIT (Rocky Mountain Center for Innovation and Technology); no.
  - Dave asked about the growth impact of RMCIT. The Mayor and Chief answered on this, how it will take time to fill-in at RMCIT- not all at one time; similar to how it happened with Hewlett Packard.
  - Janet commented that with the Allegiant news, we will have the staff back in full service. The Mayor and Chief agreed that it can be a time to reset some things and discuss with PFA as to their role being that both Loveland and Fort Collins are Authorities.
  - Janet asked if there was citizen involvement with the airport. No, not currently. The steering company will discuss many things like that and establish necessary relationships.

< Mayor Cecil Gutierrez left the meeting at 6:30 p.m.>

Rural Board Update: presented by Andy Anderson

- Election discussion occurred with board members at the Rural Board meeting
  - Good support from firefighter crews
  - The Chief mentioned that the Rural Board received their Strategic Plans at the meeting.
  - Andy spoke about how there was a discussion on the possibility of cut-backs in service if the mil levy doesn’t pass and how to get that information out to the rural public.
  - Andy and the Chief made mention of how this time around the strategy includes more face to face contact and a clear message: Save the Rural Fire Services.
  - In a 20 year history and 5 elections, 4 have failed.
  - Dave asked about the target voters. Based on the last election poll 82% of the voters were over 50. Issues from that election included misunderstanding of tax change, no sunset date and no consequences were explained.
Willy asked how the rate is determined. The answer is by percentage of calls. 78% of the calls received to LFRA are from the City and 22% rural/county with a steady decline. The plateau of the rural percentage is estimated to be at 18%, which will be how much they will need to contribute to LFRA.

A mil levy fact sheet will be posted on the rural district website: http://lovelandrfpd.org - It can't say anything specific to supporting or opposing a position.

There could also be an impact of this rural mil levy to the city residents, i.e. city residents eating at restaurants in the rural jurisdiction that won’t have the same support.

Willy asked how the fire tax is done. Rural, through property taxes and City, through use, sales and property taxes.

The Chief and Jon discussed on getting information out to Rural District citizens to avoid going to a 2 tier system, which is something everyone would like to avoid.

The Chief shared the statistic that an average home of 250k will only increase a homeowner’s taxes $4.81 per month.

Andy passed around the rural board election ballot issue wording and the factual summary.

Paul inquired as to whether rural representatives will be present at the Safety Expo this Saturday. Probably not, cannot wear firefighter attire and solicit the mil levy.

Chief Updates:
- No questions were asked of the Chief’s report.
- Chief mentioned the issue of 2 person engine companies and how the SAFER Grant has helped on some of this.
  - The 2013 budget will help us with the remaining 2 person crews on Engine 6 and Truck 6 (3 shifts) by providing the 6 new firefighters.

FRAC Agenda & Brainstorming: Presented by Jonathan Smela
- Directions and Services discussion for the commission to take on. Foundation material pieces are the Strategic Plan and Budget Biz.
- No questions on the Strategic Plan thus far.
- Regarding Budget Biz, rural funding 18% currently but using reserves to do it, by the end of 2013 only 10k will be left in the reserves. 2.9% mil levy allows rural to meet phase 1 and 2.
  - An Authority is a good government, if we had 2 separate departments the costs would be more with less overall service delivered.
  - Our Authority Board is comprised of 2 Rural Board representatives and 3 City Council representatives including 2 Councilors and the City Manager.
- Brainstorming; role for guiding LFRA
  - Coming out of the strategic plan document
  - Set and provide direction
  - Summarize on City Manager's presentation last week.
  - The Chief made mention of how there will be less of “being talked at” from Fire and City staff.
  - Dave expressed still wanting to hear from the Chief and City, wanting to know where the help is needed so we can go from there.
  - Jon responded with stating that we will have annual things to do regularly, i.e. performance measures as well as hot topics issues like the election.
• It is still good to hear background from Fire/City with interaction, not just in an outward flow.
• The Strategic Plan is a working tool for us – a “live document”. Note that Section 9 refers to Performance Measures.
• Delivery of service, manage contracts.
• Prevention side of things as well, public education
• Grants, SAFER, AFGs.
• Jon also suggested subjects: community outreach, i.e. surveys and training center, education to firefighters in mass, cost recovery analysis, etc.
• Janet noted that there will be specific timing on agenda points, not all will be monthly subjects.
• See Easel Pad (attached photo) for bullet points for brainstorming.
• Brainstorming will continue next month. The next few months can be work for the New Year agenda, construction of the 2013 calendar.

Public Comment/Presentation: No public comment.

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

The next FRAC meeting will be Wednesday, October 10th 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