

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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### 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 No. 1 on Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

The following members were present: Dave Legits, Barry Gustafson, Andy Anderson, and Jeff Swanty.

Also present were:

Greg White, Secretary, Loveland Rural Fire Protection District  
Mark Miller, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority  
Ned Sparks, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority  
Greg Ward, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority  
Bob Boggio, Rural Citizen

President Legits opened the meeting.

The minutes of the March 6, 2019 regular meeting were reviewed. Upon motion by Anderson, seconded by Gustafson, and unanimously carried, the minutes were approved.

White presented the March 2019 bills. Upon motion by Swanty, seconded by Anderson, and unanimously carried, the following bills were approved:

Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (1)	<b>\$ 227,076.50</b>
City of Loveland	
Apparatus Replacement Fund (6)	<b>169,845.00</b>
Special Districts Association	
Miscellaneous (5)	<b>1,650.00</b>
Gregory A. White	
Legal (13a)	<b>1,250.00</b>
Haynie & Company	
Accounting & Audit (12)	<b>475.00</b>
Gregory A. White	
Administrative (13b)	<b>1,000.00</b>
Gregory A. White	
Board Secretary (9a)	<b>400.00</b>
Dave Legits	
Board Meetings (9b)	<b>100.00</b>
Mike McKenna	
Board Meetings (9b)	<b>100.00</b>
Leroy Anderson	
Board Meetings (9b)	<b>100.00</b>
Jeff Swanty	
Board Meetings (9b)	<b>100.00</b>
TOTAL	<b>\$ 402,096.50</b>

White reviewed the Financial Report. He noted that revenues were slightly higher than budgeted projections and expenses were slightly lower. However, since only two months of the year have passed, there were no definitive trends in the financial report.

Chief Miller presented the Chief's Report. He stated that LFRA had selected the bid of GTC (Gold Triangle Construction) for construction of Station 7. The Contract is close to being executed by the contractor and LFRA. Upon execution of the Contract, the Notice of Award will be sent to GTC. Once the schedule for construction is available, LFRA will schedule a groundbreaking.

Miller reported that on April 2, 2019, the Loveland City Council unanimously approved the Supplemental Appropriation for the staffing of Station 7. The Supplemental Appropriation appropriates an additional \$700,000 for the City for the increased staffing in 2019. He noted the Rural District had approved \$150,000 in its 2019 Budget for Station 7 staffing. In 2020, the Station 7 staffing will be \$1.1 million for the City and \$244,000 for the Rural District.

Miller noted that the Department has experienced resignations and retirements from the Department at an unusual pace. Two firefighters are in the process of leaving the Department to pursue other interests and two firefighters are retiring. Also, there is a possibility that two more firefighters will leave the Department in the near future. Any loss of personnel places more stress on the Department due to the necessity to fill the position. The only current way to fill a position is through overtime which is both expensive and takes a toll on individual members of the Department. The Department will be bringing a proposal to the LFRA Board for new relief positions to try to get ahead of the loss of personnel. The new relief positions will be filled at the same time as the hiring of the new personnel for Station 7 to allow all new hires to go through the internal academy.

Miller noted that at the present time over 50% of personnel at LFRA has less than five years of experience.

Miller stated that Asplundh Tree Company will be using Station 8 for parking during the summer. Asplundh is working for the City of Loveland in its installation of new power poles in the Canyon.

Chief Sparks presented the Community Services Division Report. He stated that the two fires, one at the Fire House storage and the other at Ranch Acres, are currently under investigation.

The Department is continuing discussion with the owner of the Lovelander in downtown Loveland with regard to the necessity of either installing sprinklers or making necessary changes to the structure.

Sparks briefed the Board on the situation involving fire sprinkler systems in residences on Garnet Valley Court. He noted that one owners of a residence on Garnet Valley Court had sent a letter to the Rural District and LFRA through Jeff Swanty concerning this issue. This residence was constructed in 2015, and pursuant to the adopted Fire Code, was required to have a sprinkler system installed during construction of the residence. This requirement dates back to the approval of the Subdivision Plat of the property in the early 2000s by Larimer County and was required since the residence was more than 400 feet from a fire hydrant. Also, the water main serving the fire hydrant did not have adequate flow.

The letter requested that LFRA and/or the Rural District compensate the owners for the installation of the fire sprinkler system and also stated that the owners wish to turn off the fire sprinkler system.

Sparks stated that the first house constructed by the developer in the Subdivision did not contain a residential sprinkler system even through it was a requirement of the Plat. This was done through the Larimer County building permit process at the time, and there is no explanation from Larimer County on why sprinklers were not required. Subsequently, across the street a house is being constructed. The drywall is in and the house is almost complete. According to the 400 feet regulation, the house should have a fire sprinkler system installed but this has not occurred. The Department has visited this site twice and left contact information, but has received no contact from either the

owner or the contractor building the residence. The other residence completed in the Subdivision was within 400 feet of a fire hydrant and fire sprinklers were not required.

There was considerable discussion among the Board and the Department as to how to react to this letter. The general consensus following discussion is that there should be an immediate response to the letter to acknowledge receipt of the same and state that the Department is looking into circumstances surrounding the issues raised in the letter. The second was that in the event that it was determined that there was a requirement for a fire sprinkler system in the residence currently under construction and if the owner of the property was not responsible or did not know that a fire sprinkler system should be installed, that it would be appropriate for the Board to grant a variance due to the amount of cost of installing the system.

After further discussion, upon motion by Swanty, seconded by Gustafson, and unanimously carried, the Board approved a variance to allow the owner not to install the fire sprinkler system if there was no knowledge by the owner of the requirement for the installation of a fire sprinkler system.

The Department stated that they would immediately look into all of the circumstances in order to obtain the necessary facts to respond to the original letter as soon as possible. This will include contacting Larimer County to ensure that communication of the requirement for fire sprinkler systems in Larimer County is handled appropriately.

Chief Ward presented the Operation Division Report. He noted the following significant incidents for the month of March:

- March 12 a fire in the storage units at the Fire House storage on South 287. There were 20 units involved of 58 units. The construction of the storage units led to swift speed of the fire, but fortunately installation of firewalls stopped the fire at 20 units.
- March 23 a single engine airplane crash just north of the Fort Collins/Loveland Airport. A fire started from fuel from the crash and was properly contained. The three occupants of the aircraft sustained non-life threatening injuries.
- March 29 a structure fire in Ranch Acres. At the time of arrival of the first units, the structure was already heavily involved.

Chief Ward noted that the Department had received 170 applications for the Station 7 personnel. Of those, at least 100 meet the qualifications. The Department will begin the hiring process in the near future.

Since there is currently no Canyon Chief, President Legits gave the Canyon Report. He noted there had been a small increase in the call volume in the Canyon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Gregory A. White, Secretary/  
Assistant Treasurer

ATTEST:

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President