

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## Meeting Minutes of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District

January 11, 2023 4:30 p.m.

Dannels Fire Station, 901 N. St. Vrain Ave., Estes Park, CO 80517

**Board:** Jon Hodde, Larry Leaming, Dave Hamrick, Brian Tseng, Ryan Bross

**Staff:** Board Recording Secretary Goetz, Chief Wolf, Div. Chief Landkamer, Div. Chief Capo

**Also Attending:** Captain Rick Spear, Mark Igel, Kelly Brenner, and Bill from WR Communications via ZOOM at 5:12pm

**Absent:** all present

The following minutes reflect the order of the agenda and not necessarily the chronological sequence of the meeting.

**President Jon Hodde called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.**

**Chief Wolf led the Pledge of Allegiance**

**Secretary Goetz performed roll call – all present**

### CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

### PUBLIC COMMENT / BOARD COMMENT

No public comment

Secretary Hamrick quoted items from the 2022 US Fire Administration Summit on Fire Prevention & Control. These items underscores the need for us to highlight the work we are tasked with.

During a fire today, you have the least amount of time to exit than at any other time in history

Your chance of dying in a fire today are higher than 40 years ago

Fires disproportionately affect lower income communities

1/3 of the US population live in the WUI

Fire departments (both career and volunteer) are experiencing personnel shortages

Technology including mobility products powered by lithium batteries are providing a new ware of fire causes

Automatic fire suppression systems like sprinklers save lives, yet resistance remains

Brian Tseng acknowledged the letter from Ryan Bross in the local paper to help bridge the knowledge gap.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Ryan Bross, seconded by Dave Hamrick to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Larry Leaming, seconded by Ryan Bross to approve the 12/14/2022 meeting minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### **Election – Discussion & Sharpen the Pencil**

The district is holding two open houses for community input this month, one next week on the 18<sup>th</sup> and one on the 30<sup>th</sup>. A ballot question will need to be certified by the end of February. The district has conducted an internal survey, a community survey, and Bill Ray from WR Communications has compiled the results and presented it to the board at previous meetings in 2022. Given the information gathered, where do we go from here? At this time we do not feel like we have community support to make an ask for a bond successful. There is still a need for facilities, but we need more time to educate the community.

Discussion took place and questions were asked about the various elements of the strategic plan and how to prioritize them. If we hire more people, we need a place to put them. Do we rent space or purchase an existing building. Pros and cons were discussed. The district is still in talks with the Town of Estes Park about possible 1A tax if it was renewed in a 2024 election. Discussion took place on other funding options such as grants or starting a foundation. Pros and cons were discussed.

Floor was opened for public comment. Comment was received from three people. Comments included: The bond can't be pushed off forever, the need is still there. Can the district afford to renovate station 71 if there is no bond? Needs need to be confidently communicated.

Brian Tseng noted that the board needs to be accountable to the mission.

Purchase of property has been tabled for later discussion.

Consensus was made to drop the ask for a bond, but to not change the mill levy ask at this time.

The district is going to continue to push social engagement and the board members will continue to submit letters to the newspapers.

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### **Resolution 2023-01 Calling for 2023 Election and Appointing a DEO**

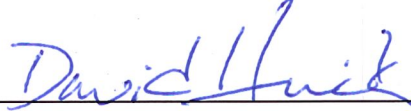
Resolution 2023-01 was presented to the board to call a regular election in May of 2023. Election to include a mill levy increase and two board seats will be voted on. DEO to be Erika Goetz and Sarah Luetjen as deputy DEO.

Motion by Brian Tseng, seconded by Ryan Bross to approve resolution 2023-01 to call an election and appoint a DEO. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Open House on Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.



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David Hamrick, Secretary

*The Mission of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District is to provide the citizens of and visitors to the Estes Valley with superior fire prevention, fire protection and emergency services in a safe and efficient manner."*

*"The Mission of the Board of Directors of the Estes Valley Fire Protection District is to establish policy, goals, strategies and financial leadership that are the foundation for the long-term sustainability of the District."*