

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2022

Present:	Jim Albee, Chair	Bob Baker, Fire Chief
	Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Assistant Chief
	William Shriver, Treasurer	Tobias Kirschke, Assistant Chief
	Hank Eng, Secretary	Kevin Milan, Assistant Chief
	Sue Roche	Jon Adams, Assistant Chief
	Cindy Hathaway	Dillon Miskimins, Chief Financial Officer
	Alison Rausch	Kristin Eckmann, Chief Communications Officer
		Camie Chapman, Human Resources Director
		Bob Cole, Legal Counsel

Others Present: SMFR Staff Members

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Regular Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:01 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

All of the members of the Board were present in person.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Local 2086 Representative Mark Dzengelewski reported that the majority of the Local E Board is at the IAFF Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. to discuss first responder issues at the federal level and lobby with Colorado governmental representatives, including the issue of early retiree health care. The Local is back to conducting in-person meetings at their new location & the next meeting is this Thursday night. Some additional in-person events are being scheduled, such as the Local 2086 Foundation Hockey Tournament in May, IAFF 56th Convention in Ottawa, ON Canada in June; MDA in September; and Chili Cookoff which is still in the planning stages.

At Director Anderson's request, Local Representative Dzengelewski clarified that the E Board is lobbying for issues in elections, although sometimes the Local does assist with local elections and endorse candidates.

INTRODUCTION

SMFR's Medical Director Dr. Jonathan Apfelbaum – Chief Curtis introduced Dr. Apfelbaum and provided a brief personal bio, informing that prior to stepping into this role he had been functioning as the medical director for our SWAT paramedic program & has been a long-standing figure in the EMS community here in Colorado and across the country.

Dr. Apfelbaum stated that he is happy to be here and is always willing to offer assistance.

The Board thanked both and welcomed Dr. Apfelbaum to the organization.

PRESENTATION

CFSI Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award – Chief Curtis stated that Former GV Mayor Rakowski was supposed to be here tonight to present EMS Clinical Services Director Jodi Peterson with the Military Order of World Wars Law and Order Award for her work on the Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Program to assist paramedics in confirming specific

diagnoses in the field to resolve medical issues without hospitalization or hasten patient care upon arrival at the hospital. That presentation has been rescheduled for the April 4th Board meeting.

Chief Curtis informed that the CFSI/Masimo Excellence Award Program was established in 2010 to recognize volunteer, career and combination fire departments for excellence in delivering emergency medical services by implementing a unique practice that has enhanced EMS capabilities. Chief Curtis added that he is thrilled at how Staff has put everything into the Point of Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Program and that we will be receiving this award & recognized at the national level next month in Washington, D.C. Chief Curtis shared an *Ultrasound Case of the Month* video and displayed one of the ultrasound machines.

At Director Eng's request, Dr. Apfelbaum stated that EMS worked with local physicians to make sure all necessary protocols were in place, including extensive training for the paramedics that would be using the machine and all scans are saved to the cloud and reviewed by a doctor to verify the correct interpretation and reducing the time between arrival in the ER and the OR. Chief Curtis informed that every SMFR medic unit has an ultrasound machine, one of several models, available for use if the Paramedic is trained to use it.

At Director Anderson's request, Dr. Apfelbaum stated that if you have a broken leg the ultrasound would not be used; but it can determine if a shortness of breath is the result of heart failure, COVID-19 or other specific lung issues.

Director Roche informed that she was one of the first models to test the machine and it was amazing how quickly the Paramedics caught on in the trainings.

CONSENT AGENDA

February 7, 2022 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2022 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes

Director Eng asked to approve the consent agenda items separate since he was not present at the February 28th meeting.

Director Roche asked to have who made and seconded the motions on pages 2 and 3 verified.

A motion was made by Alison Rausch and seconded by Hank Eng to approve the February 7, 2022 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Director Anderson requested the reserve percentages be reversed on page 2.

A motion was made by Renee Anderson and seconded by Sue Roche to approve the February 28, 2022 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Directors Eng and Rausch abstained because they were not present. All other Board Members were in favor and the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

Chair Albee opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Public Hearing: Order by Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District for Exclusion of Real Property – Matthew and Allison Eckblad – Chief Dell'Orfano informed that this parcel is one of 13 homes in the City of Aurora that are requesting to exclude from the District. The general area, east of E470 and south of Smoky Hill Road, used to be in the Parker Fire Protection District boundaries and much of it has since been annexed into the City of Aurora. SMFR has been excluding parcels from our District over the past several years, as we discover parcels that were missing during annexation. The Matthew and Allison Eckblad property is located at 24222 E. Canyon Place, Aurora, CO 80016 and includes a single-family home. The property owners have submitted a Petition for Exclusion and the associated costs are being waived in accordance with policy. This property is capable of being served by the Aurora Fire Department although SMFR will continue assisting through auto aid agreements. Staff recommends approval of the exclusion request.

At Director Anderson's request, Chief Dell'Orfano provided one of the scenarios when Staff went door-to-door to contact homeowners within this parcel of homes & stated that the January deadline date was to motivate the homeowners to act before missing the deadline and paying double taxes for another year.

No public comment.

Chair Albee closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.

A motion was made by Sue Roche and seconded by Renee Anderson to approve the Order by Board of Directors of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District for Exclusion of Real Property – Matthew and Allison Eckblad as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.

SMFR Resolution No. 2022-04 – Adopting the Colorado Statewide Investment Pool – CFO Miskimins, as presented at the February 28th Special Board Meeting, stated that Staff recommends the District participate in the Colorado Statewide Investment Program (CSIP) and approve the prepared resolution, the same one that was presented last week.

At Director Shriver's request, CFO Miskimins confirmed that the biggest advantage is that we can take advantage of some short-term investments as a member of this pool. CFO Miskimins added that Staff will be putting information in front of the Board using a ladder program structure and inputting our cash flow numbers.

At Director Anderson's request, CFO Miskimins estimated it would take a month or so to get everything in place; in the meantime, Staff will deposit as normal and then transfer into the pool.

A motion was made by Bill Shriver and seconded by Hank Eng to approve SMFR Resolution No. 2022-04 Adopting the Colorado State Investment Pool as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.

January 2022 Financial Statements – CFO Miskimins reviewed the financial statements, highlighting:

1. Fund balance decreased by \$7 million compared to the prior month bringing the fund balance to a total of \$54.1 million.
2. Through January, the District has collected \$1.8 million in property taxes and \$756 thousand in specific ownership tax revenue, which reflects 1.42% collection vs. 2.12% at this time last year for property taxes, and 7.08% vs. 9.16% for specific ownership taxes. A total of \$7,083 of property taxes have been diverted to TIF in 2022.
3. As of January 31st, the District has expended \$11.2 million in the General Fund related to operations or 7.27% of the annual budget not including Capital Project transfers.
4. In January, ambulance number of transports of 2,090 was our highest month ever. The District has made 564 more transports this January than in the same period last year and 577 transports over our expected amount. The District's net revenue is \$393K over budgeted amounts and \$459K more than the same period last year.
5. Through January, the District has expended \$382.7 thousand or 2.82% of our total budgeted expenditures in the Capital Projects Fund.
6. The bond market environment has caused investment income to be drastically under budget largely due to losses in the value of our portfolios. In January, the District has collected \$30K in interest income and had a market loss of \$227K bringing our year-to-date actuals under the annual budget by 42%.
7. In January, the District has billed \$213 thousand in Plan Review Fees or 11.7% of the total budgeted amount. January was our busiest month since August of 2018. A rolling 12-month average spreadsheet is included in the packet for Permit Fee Collections.

CFO Miskimins highlighted the operating reserves and percentages (page 2) demonstrating how Staff had to use some of the reserve funds for the month of January to avoid a negative on the Unassigned line; adjusting the Operating Reserves to 21% rather than 22% for cash flow needs.

At Director Anderson's request, CFO Miskimins stated that we benefit after the regular tax collection periods, but the first one is not until March so that would not be the only reason for the \$1.8 million collected in January. Adding that a table is included in the back of the report that breaks down the collections.

A motion was made by Bill Shriver and seconded by Hank Eng to accept the January 2022 Financial Statements as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Year End Response Statistics – Strategic Services Manager Kim McAndrews provided an interactive demographic overview created from ESRI Business Analyst Online, which Staff has been using since 2019, and allows for over 15,000 variables, reports and infographics. SS Manager McAndrews provided an overview of the District’s New Fact Sheet, which includes various population and demographics statistics as well as an interactive map reflecting changes in diversity from 2010 to 2026 predictions.

At Director Eng’s & Anderson’s request, SS Manager McAndrews reviewed how call types are used to help determine hot spots for fall types, smoke alarm blitzes, etc. but have not been specifically used to determine high accident locations based on time of day. Staff is really trying to find pockets and hot spots, manually pulling out senior living housing, to determine areas that are increasing in Fire & EMS calls. Although there are automated systems, she believes there should still be a human element to review the information.

2020 Annual Review – Strategic Services Manager McAndrews reported that every quarter Business Intelligence Analyst Mark Stevens updates the annual reports and posts them on the internal PowerDMS page and hopefully on the website in the near future for citizens to see. SS Manager McAndrews reviewed the report types, overall call volume, call density, call volume by day/time of the week, total response time by population density, and the emerging hot spot map & travel time compliance.

At Chair Albee’s request, SS Manager McAndrews stated that maybe the next project will be to combine the emerging hot spot and trends together in a predictive way to assist with new station discussions.

At Director Anderson’s request, Chief Dell’Orfano stated that SS Manager McAndrews is working on travel times and where the traffic is coming from as well as emergency hot spots where calls are increasing and ways to change response times, so the presentation could be refined for presentation to specific cities to show them what SMFR is doing.

The Board thanked SS Manager McAndrews for the very informative presentation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Correspondence items in the Board’s packet are summarized below as well as other information items that were communicated:

- Chief Dell’Orfano reminded the next Partnership of Douglas County Governments meeting is on Wednesday, March 23rd at the Historic Highlands Ranch Mansion. Please let him know if you would like to attend.
- Director Shriver reported that he had a citizen reach out to him with some concerns, one of which is too many winding roads in a new development in Aurora adjacent to SMFR, so he talked to Chief Dell’Orfano to learn more about the GIS data.
- Chair Albee said he attended the Northwest Douglas County Chamber meeting last Friday and it was an interesting presentation.
- Chair Albee reviewed the lot drawing results for the 9 Board Candidates and stated that he is thankful for the people having interest in being on the board but as a citizen and member of the Board, he wished the six people who self-nominated were here and watching what we are doing as a board.
- Dispatch Dashboard & KPI Report for the month of February were included in the packet.
- A thank you letter was received from the Retired Firefighters Association of Denver for Captain Amend and the crew at Station 12 for allowing them to bring their E-04 Antique Fire Truck into the firehouse and helped wash the rig so it looked its best for the funeral procession of one of its members.
- A thank you note was received from a young person for a patch received to be added to over 100 received since 2021 that will be made into a quilt.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

N/A

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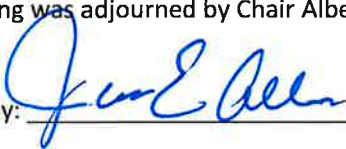
NEXT MEETING

The next Special South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on March 21, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at Station 21, 2250 S. Emporia Street, Denver, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Albee at 7:27 pm.

Attested by: _____



Date: _____

4/4/2022