

**LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SPECIAL MEETING
La Veta Fire Station
100 Birch St.
La Veta, CO**

MINUTES
June 19, 2018
4:30 PM

Present: Directors Nielsen, Heikes, Shrou, Walker and Littlefield (via teleconference) were in attendance.
Staff: Fire Chief David DeTray, District Secretary Sue Pezze.
Guest: Tucker Shrou

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM and all in attendance were welcomed by presiding Chairman Nielsen and the Pledge of Allegiance was given.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved as presented.

Public Comments

None.

Old Business

A letter from Dave Mower was read advising that, with sincere regret, he is resigning from the La Veta Fire Protection District Fire Department. He stated that he will remain active in the EMS Department. The letter stated that he will return all LVFPD issued fire equipment except his portable radio and any EMS related equipment.

Dave Mower addressed the Board and stated that he desired to clarify, for the record, additional topics in the executive session of the May 10, 2018 meeting. In the executive session Director Shrou and Chief DeTray indicated that the Jamesons stated that they had not joined the fire department previously because of Dave Mower. Mower advised that he had had a conversation with the Jamesons and that Jameson denied any such statement. On a separate note, Chief DeTray made reference to Mower's "pencil whipping" documents and records at the Rye Fire Protection District during his tenure there and again Mower has had a conversation with Chief Steve Bennett of that District and Bennett confirmed that the statements are false and no such thing ever happened and he was willing to testify to the LVFPD Board to clear Mower's reputation and integrity. Mower also related that Jim Berg had indeed confirmed that he had made mention of the lack of the UTV and ATV training. Mower said he wanted it to be clear that it is the integrity of Chief DeTray and the Board that is in question in this matter and not his.

Director Nielsen advised that an email was received from Huerfano County Emergency Manager, Larry Sanders offering his services as a mediator to help resolve the problems between DeTray and Mower if both parties sincerely wish to reach resolution and both are open to a neutral, interested party to conduct the mediation. Sanders has high regard for the skills and abilities of both individuals and thinks they are both assets to the District. Director Littlefield offered that he is sorry to hear Mower's resignation from the fire department and concurs with Sanders regarding both individuals' skills and abilities. He supported and encouraged the individuals to accept the mediation offer if there was any interest in it.

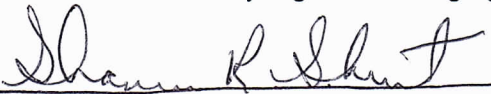
The purchase of the 2009 Ford pickup from Cucharas Sanitation and Water District (CS & WD) was introduced. Cost of the truck is \$12,000 plus and estimated \$7,000 for tires and outfitting it as a brush truck. Chief DeTray is working on a presentation to CS & WD with ideas and bullets points to be considered. Those being that CS & WD consider donating the truck or possibly consider a reduction of the \$12,000 purchase price, or accept multi-year installment payments. Chief DeTray stated that the \$4,000 donated to the Fire Department from the LVFPD Auxiliary in a prior year and \$11,000 from a capital reserve account could be used to purchase and outfit the pickup. The remaining \$4,000 would come out of the fire expense budget line. A donated pump has been received from CO Division of Fire Prevention and Control. The pickup is an extended cab, standard transmission model.

MSA: The Board approved moving forward with the \$12,000 purchase of the 2009 Ford extended cab pickup from CS & WD and allocate additional funds to convert the unit into a brush truck. The \$4,000 donated from the LVFPD Auxiliary in a prior year will be used as a part of the funding. The vote was Directors Nielsen, Walker, Littlefield and Heikes "Aye" and Director ShROUT "Nay". The motion passed.

Director ShROUT will contact Cory Ray at Pueblo Dodge to secure documentation regarding the LVFPD purchase vs. the original plan of CS & WD using the pickup as a trade-in.

Director Nielsen asked that the topic of a membership survey be added to the July regular meeting agenda.

MSA: Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.


Shannon R. ShROUT, Secretary