

LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

La Veta Fire Station
100 Birch St
La Veta, Colorado
MINUTES

July 12th, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Present: Directors Schmidt, Alt, and Lacy, were in attendance, Director Brunner joined by Zoom. Director Valdez was absent.

Staff: EMS Director/District Administrator Eddie Ray and Fire Chief Ron Jameson.

Guests: Jim Littlefield, Dave Mower, Haley Jameson, Eric Guadagnoli, Sue Alt, Justin Jameson, Danette Chimenti, Bob McClelland, and Brian Jameson. Christina Guadagnoli, Paula Berg, and Jim Berg joined via ZOOM

Call to Order – Pledge - Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 18:00, the Pledge of Allegiance was given, roll call was taken four Board Members were present.

Approval of Agenda

Director Brunner made a motion to move the new business of the Letter from Volunteers to the Board of Directors and the building maintenance to the beginning of the agenda so he would be able to be present for the discussion, the motion was seconded by Director Alt. Director Schmidt stated that due to the fact that Director Valdez was absent and the fact that Director Brunner and Director Alt would have to abstain from the discussion, the Board of Directors would be left without a quorum. Director Schmidt stated that he would like to keep the items where they are on the agenda in hopes that Director Valdez would be able to arrive at the meeting to fulfill the quorum and action could be taken. The vote was tied at 2 for and 2 against the motion failed. So, the agenda was left as is.

Minutes

* **MSA**: Minutes of the June 5th, 2023 regular meeting were approved.

Public Forum

Guests, Correspondence, and Presenters

Treasurer's Report

- Director Alt presented the treasurers report and the new format. Director Alt explained the financial reports and went into detail regarding the EMS income and the billing write-offs.
- * **MSA**: The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Fire Chief Report

- Training: Ladder training.
- Hose testing was completed on the 4 structure engines. We had an issue with the company that did the test putting the hose back on the 4th truck wet, so it had to be unloaded, dried, and then reloaded back onto the truck. Chief Jameson stated he would be looking for a new company to do the testing or we will do it in-house ourselves.

*MSA = Moved, Seconded and Approved (unanimously unless otherwise indicated)

- The Firehouse fire grant has been submitted to the grant writers and we are waiting for their response. The DFPC grant will be opening soon so we can submit an application for the grant for bunker gear.
- The burn permit ordinance was passed by the County Commissioners and is now in effect. There will be no more barrel burning, no piles larger than 8x8x8, and no more pit burning. The only variance is in the area of Agriculture burns.
- The E-911 Board will be meeting next month with hopes that they have met with the attorney and will have an agreement that all districts will sign. Director Schmidt requested that Chief Jameson bring the letter to the Board of Directors so it can be reviewed by all.
- A scorpion has been found at the station in some of the bunker gear. The request was made to have an exterminator come and spray the building. We will be calling to get that scheduled as soon as possible.
- The ISO inspector had a conversation with Chief Jameson and the pump testing on the 3 structure engines is scheduled for the end of August or first of September to meet the requirements of the inspection.
- The Stonewall Century Ride (8/12/2023) is asking for permission to sleep at the station during the event. Director Brunner asked if they were planning on using both the Men's and the Women's showers. If they wanted to use the Men's shower, they would have to have access to bays where the equipment is located. Chief Jameson stated that he would work it out so that someone was around the station while they were using the shower.
- Chief Jameson requested a subscription to the Salamander application for accountability and inventory tracking. There was discussion regarding signing up for cellular data on the tablet at \$500.00 per year or not. It was decided to not sign up for cellular data but purchase the license for the Salamander application and utilize cellular hotspot if needed.
 - a. * **MSA:** The Board of Directors voted to purchase a tablet and the Salamander subscription for the department.

EMT Director's Report:

- Training covered Trauma Treatment and Trauma Assessment with G Wagner.
- Repaired the rear bumper on Rescue 1 where the rivets had broken holding a decorative diamond plate strip.
- We had 13 total calls for the month, 5 were transported to the hospital and 8 were refusals or cancellations.
- We covered the Mud-Bog at the Fairgrounds.
- The EMS Director/District Administrator will be on vacation August 2nd – August 12th. Director Schmidt asked about the job description and when the vacation period starts and ends. Is it on the calendar year or the anniversary year. Director Schmidt requested a workshop to discuss the Job Description of the EMS Director/District Administrator position. The workshop is scheduled for August 1st, 2023, at 3pm at Station 1, but the date may change based on the Board of Directors personal schedules.

Administrator's Report:

- The Firehouse Grant application has been submitted and we are waiting for the grant writers to get back to us. The grant is for us to be able to purchase updated SCBA equipment.
- The photo in the Ops room above the television keeps disappearing and reappearing. Not sure who keeps taking it down or why. Director Schmidt suggested that we purchase additional cameras to put in and around the station so we can see who is coming in and leaving the building.
 - The Board of Directors (Directors Schmidt, Alt, and Lacy) voted to purchase 5 additional cameras to add to the system.

Director Brunner had to leave the meeting at 7:16pm.

Old Business

- The district inventory is coming along. We are continuing to work on our inventory and entering it into a spreadsheet that can be easily verified and accounted for.
- Concerning the issue regarding the outside of the building, Director Brunner submitted the following email:

Fellow Board Members,

We have been working on two problems with the La Veta Fire Protection District Station One. The first problem goes way back to the construction of the building. The original installer of the Nucor building system used an inferior touch up paint to cover up construction marks and damage. This touchup paint has been fading and is dramatically lighter than the surrounding building. This is especially apparent on the south side of the building. We contacted the original contractor for the building, Houston construction, and requested that they address the problem and see if it is under warranty. Houston and their subcontractor Corsentino have agreed to try a two-step method to rectify the problem. The first step would be to see if they could remove the faded touch up paint exposing the original baked on panel finish. Where the original defect is located, they would then use a matching touchup paint that had approval from the building system manufacturer. This would then make the original defect and faded paint look more like the surrounding surface. They would also leave us some touchup paint and the paint color schematic. These areas will most likely fade again in five to ten years....

The second problem is we have two roof leaks, and the roof is still under warranty against leakage. The roof was installed by the same subcontractor to Houston construction. When they are down, Corsentino will look at the roof and try to locate the leaks. It is possible that the hail damage from the previous large hailstorm that struck La Veta has contributed to or caused the leaks. If this is the case, the leaks would not be covered under the existing roof warranty. Once the leaks are fixed, the district will need to address the drywall damage on the east wall.

Directors Schmidt and Director Alt recommended that we get a second opinion after the initial estimate from Huston Construction.

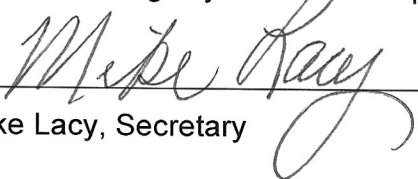
- Tax Revenue: Director Schmidt and Director Alt attended a seminar regarding the upcoming House Bill and the Tabor law. The new law will impact on our district and the amount of income we receive from the tax revenue. Director Alt also contacted the SDA in regard to our Degaligorizing and setting our income amount with a fluctuating Mill Levy, asking if we can change how our income is calculated, can we change to a set Mill Levy amount instead. If so how?

New Business

- Director Schmidt read a letter from the volunteer firefighters regarding their request that the Board Members not be allowed to also serve as volunteers on EMS and fire calls. Director Schmidt read a section in the By-Laws that states "**Section 12. Conflict of Interest. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest. Any Director who is present at a meeting at which is discussed any matter in which he has a potential conflicting interest as defined by C.R.S., as amended, shall disclose such interest in the manner required by law. Such Director shall refrain from advocating for or against the matter and shall disqualify himself from voting on such matter.**" Director Schmidt stated that there is a conflict of interest with Director Alt and Director Brunner so, with Director Valdez being absent, there are not enough Board of Directors to fill a quorum. The matter was placed on hold until next month.

Executive Session – not needed.

* **MSA**: The meeting adjourned at 7:37pm


Mike Lacy, Secretary