RED CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE

Minutes of the Annual Board of Directors meeting, held on March 18, 2023, at Fire Station located at 2579 Canyon Heights Road, Pueblo, Colorado, 81005.

Board Members Present: Kennette Oldham, Julie Donohue, Tammy Toxvard, Tressa Frazier and Bill Hokanson.

Board Members Absent:

Firefighters Present: Justin Youngren, Pam Youngren, Lu Toxvard, Bill Barr, Joe Kennedy, Chris Truby, Eloise Wenzel, Rick Ludwig and Jim Hurzeler

Guests Present: sign in sheet provided

Call Meeting to Order:

President Kennette Oldham called the meeting to order at 10:20 am.

Candidate Introduction: Kennette Oldham, Tammy Toxvard, Joe Kennedy, Jamie Brown, Rick Ludwig and Jeremy Vassey. Each candidate spoke for two minutes to introduce themselves. Jeremy Vassey was not in attendance for the meeting. The following is the tally of the board candidate election. Kennette Oldham 16 votes, Tammy Toxvard 16 votes, Joe Kennedy 15 votes, Jamie Brown 17 votes, Rick Ludwig 15 votes and Jeremy Vassey 14 votes.

Minutes of Previous Meetings:

The minutes of the previous board meeting held, were read by Kennette. Kennette motioned to accept the minutes with the revision and the motion was seconded by Tressa. The motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report:

Bill Hokanson gave a verbal Treasurer’s Report and a copy was sent by e-mailed to all of the board members. A motion was made by Tammy and seconded by Kennette to approve the report. The motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief’s Report:

Chief Youngren submitted his monthly report. Chief spoke regarding his service to the community. The department now has flex cad system that documents our calls which is helpful for after action review. The new brush truck has been received and is available at the department. Expansion of the fire department will increase space for the fire equipment and a place for the firefighters to clean up after any calls. We have a contract setup with Roads and Bridges for repairs on the fire trucks. He acknowledged the people that have helped with achieving many of the fire department advances. Training in April will be FIRE ON THE PLAINS 2023 located at 100 College Ave. Sterling, Colorado on April 21-23, 2023. This training will replace the department’s normal monthly training. Lu Toxvard was promoted to Assistant Chief. A motion was made by Kennette and seconded by Julie to approve the report. The motion carried unanimously.

Medical Report:

Chief Youngren submitted his monthly medical report. Justin discussed in detail his report verbally with the members present.

Old Business:

* Gravel Locos - Jim Hurzeler informed the community about the upcoming bicycle race, fundraiser and request for volunteers. This year’s event will be September 30, 2023.
* Building addition- contractor has been put under contract. The expansion will include two more bays and a restroom. The building will be done in phases. The community asked if it would be a free standing structure or attached. The Chief responded that it would be attached. The community asked if it would be done by a contractor and if there would be volunteers doing some of the work. Chief stated that we do have a contractor and some of the work would be done by volunteers to help lower the cost of the building. The community asked who the contractor is, if they were community residents, if the contract went out for bid, building type and septic system. Chief informed them that the contractor is Jeff Miller from Penrose and yes there was a bid for the contract. The building will be metal similar to the existing building, potable water will be hauled in and septic would be contained and pumped. The community asked how close to the property line the addition would be. Chief said the setback would be determined by planning and zoning. The community asked if the fire department pays HOA fees for road maintenance. Kennette stated the department serves the community and is not required to pay HOA fees.
* Low water crossing on Red Creek Springs Rd – Kennette stated that the low water crossing is still in progress and she will continue to work with the Roads and Bridges to get it completed as soon as possible.

New Business:

* Building security – Kennette spoke of the issues the department has had regarding the saw that disappeared and returned twice. The flag disappeared from the flag pole and then reappeared on the pole when the pole was on the ground. The flag was retrieved and put in the building. The pole has been repaired and the flag has been replaced. The department will have cameras, keyless entry code doors that were donated by Kennette Oldham and Ed Carlson and the bay door remotes will be reset to a new code.
* There was a question about if the well has been fixed and Kennette said she will be getting someone to fix it. The well is still working but not at it’s best.
* Concerns about the road conditions. Kennette and Mario Heredia, community member, asked the community to call Pueblo County Public Works and let the county roads and bridges know about the condition of our roads.
* Kennette stated that the department will be getting an answering machine with a contact number if they need to call someone directly.
* Controlled burns are not the responsibility of the department. To report a controlled burn you must call 583burn. The numbers are all on the Department web.

Next Board Meeting:

The next board meeting will be April 3, 2023 at 6:00 pm, at Fire Station located at 2579 Canyon Heights Road, Pueblo, Colorado, 81005. Kennette motioned to adjourn the meeting and Julie seconded. The motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:53 pm.