



FLORISSANT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Special Meeting

2606 US-24, Florissant, CO 80816

Oct 8, 2022 Special Meeting

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order

President Starla Thompson called to order the special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florissant Fire Protection District (FFPD) at 1201 hrs.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Starla Thompson lead the board in citing the Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call:

President, Starla Thompson
Vice President, Justin Snare
Treasurer, James McGovern
Board members absent : n/a

4. Public Comment:

Public comment not included on agenda

5. Opening Remarks:

Remarks made by President Starla Thompson: Chief holt asked for approval for absence – watching 148 FF lost life recognized at national ff memorial; close friend Christopher lost his life and one of the 148 recognized today. President lead all in attendance to observe a moment of silence for fallen Fire Fighters

6. Open discussion of two boards seats currently available

- Each board member narrowed down to their own final 4
- President stated there was a new unique circumstance – Amanda Sutton had resigned two months ago in light of surgery and has asked for consideration of reinstatement to the board

- The board members proceeded to discuss consideration of Amanda Sutton appointment to the board.
 - President addressed Amanda Sutton in the audience of her own intents – Amanda’s response; letter to Board with considerable health considerations potential to have a much longer recovery period, thankful it hasn’t been. Would continue to serve dutifully if asked to rejoin the board
 - Vice President Snare responded does not see a problem with [her] rejoining and liked she can speak to both sides of the fence, no necessary bias
 - Treasurer McGovern’s responded that the board set up a process agreed upon to select 2 board members via application which expired a couple weeks ago, that he enjoyed working with Amanda and also felt it would be a violation to the process the board laid out and an insult to the 13 people who had applied
 - President Thompson responded to Jim – SDA is nonspecific in appointing; everything thus far has been overkill to include the community; Reinstatement is not asking to reapply, asking to be reinstated from a position that left on good terms
 - Treasurer McGovern – Directed response to Amanda to respond to [her] resignation letter
 - Amanda Sutton’s response: Stands by statements in the letter and feels strongly that a path forward needs to be a cultural transformation that is happening and had stated and intended to volunteer when personal circumstances allowed. Stated [she is] I going to be critical analyzing decisions and challenging each other to bring our own opinions objectively and analyzing information that is presented.
 - President Thompson responded she appreciated Amanda’s level headedness, difference of opinions, her slower approach. Feels she is qualified, already vetted and offered a balance to bring good ideas to debate and would be in favor of bringing her back.
 - Treasurer McGovern made a statement that is not criticism of Amanda as she is qualified and talented and they had agreed and disagreed on somethings. Factually, Amanda resigned and there are 13 applicants who applied.
 - Discussion ensued between Treasurer McGovern and President Thompson regarding state of the FFPD, not filling the board sooner and filling all board seats vs operating with 3 board members until elections

- Treasurer McGovern reiterated there are 13 applicants and the board each picked their own top 4; the board all agreed one 1 unanimously and at least 2 of the applicants were on each board member's list. Directed a question to President Thompson why the applicants should be left out in exchange for Amanda
 - Discussion ensued between Treasurer McGovern and President Thompson regarding recommendation to reappoint Amanda; McGovern's perspective Amanda is not less qualified but it is a contradiction to the process the board agreed on and may further cause public distrust and this is the wrong thing to do; Thompson's perspective no defined process in SDA guidelines and this is a unique opportunity is akin to bringing back an excellent employee
 - President Thompson stated preference is to bring Amanda back and appoint another member from their final list's and redirected input to Vice President Snare
 - VP Snare values Amanda knowing the [board] history and where we do/do not want to go; felt all 13 candidates were strong and stated it may be easier to one new member. Called out one strong candidate reaching with how they would have handled the last board meeting.
 - President Thompson stated there are looming deadlines to certify the mill levy, approve proposed 2023 budget
 - Treasurer McGovern stated Amanda is in no better position than other applicants, to which Starla disagreed and didn't want a 6-hr meeting to appoint two board members and said it is not that big of a deal with elections coming up in May; there are lots of good candidates and she was willing to bring reinstatement of previous board member to the board members
 - Treasurer McGovern responded stating to not take this as a threat just a matter of fact, if Amanda brought back on the board and completely ignore the process laid out, you're going to be also seeking to fill another seat.
 - President Thompson responded asking if he or her should make a motion and proceeded to make a motion
 - *Motion made by President Thompson: Motino to bring Amanda Sutton back on and bring her back and reinstate her as a board member. Second: Vice President Snare. Justin-Y, Jim-Abstain, Starla-Y; Motion passes.*
 - President Thompson makes a verbal note that at this point Jim has left the building and we will adjourn the meeting

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1243 hrs.