

**RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE PAGOSA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pagosa Fire Protection District was held Tuesday evening July 14, 2009 in the training room of Fire Station 1 at 191 North Pagosa Boulevard. Chairman Ron Maez called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

Present were Directors Ron Maez, LeRoy Lattin, Bob Frye, Michael Howell and Dick Cole. Also present were Chief Ron Thompson, Assistant Chief Manny Trujillo and Assistant Chief - Administration Diane Bower. Also present in the audience was Mrs. Linda Lattin, Secretary/Treasurer of the Archuleta School District 50 Joint Board.

Chairman Ron Maez opened the floor under "Other Business" to Mrs. Lattin for comments regarding the I.G.A. entered into for funding of an impact fee re-calibration study. Mrs. Lattin reported that after pressure from the Builder's Association and local Realtors, the Archuleta County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution on July 7, 2009 which waives 100 percent of county development fees "for any development activity on or after July 9, 2009, and for which construction begins on or after July 1, 2009 and is completed in calendar year 2009." She added that the resolution offers tax rebates through 2010 for construction materials purchased locally.

Mrs. Lattin said that like the Fire Board, the School District Board was a part of the same I.G.A. agreement and has committed funds to the project. She said that to date they have received no information regarding the status of the I.G.A. from either the Town or the County Board of Commissioners.

*Note:* The minutes of the Archuleta County Commissioner's meeting held on March 17, 2009 reflect that "Commissioner Lucero moved to accept the Grant Award in the amount of \$20,500 from Department of Local Affairs for a Joint Impact Fee Study (EIAF #6518). Commissioner Ranson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously."

Mrs. Lattin expressed her concern to the Fire District Board that neither the Town nor the County Board of Commissioners have informed District members of their actions. There followed a general discussion during which it was learned that the Pagosa Fire Protection District was never informed of the County Commissioners actions regarding the I.G.A. for Impact Fee Study and update. It was noted that on March 13, 2009, the Fire District Board specifically requested a written response from the County Board of Commissioners regarding the I.G.A. study. There has never been a response to that request.

During the discussion, Directors also suggested that with the impact fee waivers in effect, the impact fee study would again have to be re-calibrated in the future and that the money now spent on re-calibration will be wasted.

After the discussion, Director Bob Frye made a motion that The Fire District Board direct

letters to both the Archuleta County Commissioners and The Town Board that pursuant to the I.G.A. Agreement, The Fire District is giving 30 days notice of our intent to withdraw from the I.G.A. Agreement. Director Frye also moved that the letters should reflect this action is being taken because of the complete lack of professionalism of the agencies in not communicating with The Fire District Board and because of a concern about the effect upon obtaining future D.O.L.A. Grants. The letters should also reflect that The Fire District requests a written response regarding our actions within ten days of the notice of intent to withdraw.

The motion was seconded by Director Ron Maez and was passed unanimously by members present.

The minutes from our June 9<sup>th</sup> regular meeting were reviewed by the Board. Director Bob Frye made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director LeRoy Lattin seconded the motion which was then approved by a unanimous vote of those members present.

Fire District Financial Statements for the month of June 2009 were next reviewed by the Board without comment. The Board also reviewed a Financial Statement for Dept Service accounts that was prepared by Asst. Chief Diane Bower. After review, Director Bob Frye asked Chief Thompson what the cost was for the new engine. Chief Thompson reported that the new engine cost \$413,000 and estimated equipment costs at about \$80,000. He estimated the new engine cost to be between \$450,000 and \$500,000.

Assistant Chief - Administration, Diane Bower then asked for Board approval to close certain bank accounts for Fire Station 7. She requested permission to close the account at the Bank of Colorado which has an estimated balance of approximately \$900.00 and to close the account at Wells Fargo Bank with an estimated balance of \$700.00. She said the funds from those accounts will be transferred into the District's operating account. Director Michael Howell made a motion that since the accounts are no longer needed they should be closed. Chairman Ron Maez seconded the motion which was approved unanimously by members present.

Chief Thompson next presented his monthly report to The Board. A copy of the Chief's outline is incorporated by reference herein. He reported that on June 15<sup>th</sup>, Fire District Officials participated in a "Pandemic Exercise" at the County Emergency Operations Center. He reported that the exercise was "eye opening" and involved how our department would interface with other agencies if a pandemic should occur.

He reported that on June 20,2009, he met with the Navajo River Ranches Home Owners Association at Fire Station 7. He said he presented to them an update on District activities and services. He also said he made comments about the donations falling short for completion of Station 7. He said the association wants to improve their I.S.O. rating through mitigation , including improving their existing water system.

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He said that after the meeting, he received a call from an electrician who offered to donate his labor for electrical work to finish the building.

**He said there was a recent meeting of the EMS/Fire Consolidation Committee. He said that he and Dave Bronson, EMS Manager are going to create a list of pros and cons as they relate to a possible consolidation. He further said they were going to meet with Durango Fire and EMS authorities tomorrow to discuss the issues they faced when Mercy Hospital passed EMS to the Fire Department. He said he would report to the Fire Board about that meeting at the next regular Fire Board meeting in August.**

**He said that he recently attended a Missouri Valley Fire Chief's Conference in Overland Park, Kansas. He said one of the speakers was Randolph Mantooth who played Johnny Gage on the television series Emergency. He said Mr. Mantooth gave an excellent presentation about the history of EMS in the United States the idea of which started in 1968. He said that by 1971 EMS programs were in service in Miami, Seattle and Los Angeles.**

**Chief Thompson next reported on the progress of various department projects. He said that Standard Operating Procedure Manuals will soon be placed in all fire stations. He also plans on them being available by inter-net in the future.**

**He said that Assistant Chief - Administration Diane Bower has recently completed an application for a Federal Grant through the Assistance to Firefighters program. He said the District has applied for \$719,000 which will be used for the construction of a new fire station. Under the program, the District will have to contribute about 5% of the cost.**

**The Chief reported that new safety equipment including signs and traffic cones have been placed on District vehicles. He also said all staff vehicles are now carrying throw bags for swift water rescue.**

**He reported that a re- design of Station 4 to include work stations for paid firefighters is now in the "talking stages." He said the biggest problem is funding issues. He said that the District's property could be better utilized if we could do a property exchange with Cody Ross dba Buckskin Towing & Repair. He believes that such an exchange would also benefit Cody Ross. After a brief discussion, Board members suggested that the Chief contact Mr. Ross to see if he is open to the idea and then report back to the Board.**

**There followed a general discussion about the shortfall in funding Fire Station 7. The Chief reported that Asst. Chief Bower is going to contact the District's attorneys next week and discuss the possibility of using special assessments for future inclusions when there is a shortfall of funds from donations.**

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**Chief Thompson proposed that after we get a legal opinion regarding the matter we hold a meeting with all P.O.A. representatives or presidents involved in the project to inform them of the shortfall and what more funding is needed to finish the fire station. He also proposed that one or more Fire District Board members be present at the meeting.**

**The Chief also reported to District Directors that there have been recent problems in management of accumulated overtime. He explained that the District has limited overtime accumulations to 24 hours which is very difficult to manage. He proposed that the accrued limit be raised to 80 hours which would help solve the problem and put the District more in compliance with Federal Regulations.**

**Director Dick Cole made a motion that the Fire District rules regarding accrued overtime be changed to an 80 hour limit. The motion was seconded by Director Frye and approved by a unanimous vote of those members present.**

**Chief Thompson said that he and Assistant Chief - Administration Diane Bower have been working on budget projections for 2010 and what the District can and cannot do in preparation for the budget. He believes that there will have to be cutbacks on some items in the proposed budget.**

**Director Bob Frye made a motion that there being no further business before the Board, the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Director Howell and approved by unanimous vote of those Directors present. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.**

**Respectfully Submitted;**

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**Richard Cole  
Secretary/Treasurer**

**DISTRICT SEAL**

