

# CRAIG RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2024

## Call the Meeting to Order

K.C. Hume called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. All Board members, Chiefs Mercer & Hampton, Tonya were present.

## Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

## Approval of Agenda

J.B. Chapman made a motion to approve the Agenda. Rod Kowach seconded. Motion passed. (5:0)

## Approval of Minutes

Kowach moved to approve the April 18, 2024 minutes as presented. Mark Bangs seconded. Motion passed. (5:0).

## Approval of Bills

Chris Nichols moved to approve the bills for May 16, 2024 as presented (Fire Department bills in the amount of \$54,052.71, Haz-Mat bills in the amount of \$0.00 and Pension bills of \$0.00 for a total of \$54,052.71. Chapman seconded. Motion passed. (5:0)

## Purchase Orders

None

## Budget Review

Nichols – We have some anomalies that are skewing the percentages. We have finished paying for the roof repair, and have received payment for the claim. There will need to be a supplemental budget to reflect correct percentages. We have also received backfill from the State. Admin 41.1%, Operations 22%, testing and maintenance is scheduled for the summer, expecting to soon see billing there. Capital 273%, reflects the roof repair. 67.6% Total expenses of total budget.

## New Business

State Backfill – Hume – In November 2023 the Voters defeated HH, property tax reduction. The Governor held a special session in December, and crafted two bills for one year that accomplished the same goal. As a part of the legislation, there was a provision for entities to receive backfill from the State. There were many conversations, and no one knew how this was going to work. We believed the backfill to be close to \$40,000.00, as a general expectation. Received a check for 1.1 million, which included our regular mil levy collections, as well as \$982,000.00 backfill from state. Hume contacted Robert Razzano at the Treasurer's office, who had also talked to Larona McPherson at the Assessors office. Each had checked it independently, and had determined that was how the state created formulas worked. Since it was determined to be correct, we did deposit it. Recommend holding onto it to see what happens.

SB24-194 – Nichols – Legislature passed a bill allowing Fire and EMS to assess impact fees on any new development. It could create another source of revenue. Does the board have interest to follow up on, and implement it? Can also ask for a sales tax increase. Nichols did not recommend sales tax at this time. Hume read from the statute regarding impact fees. Discussion followed.

Actuarial Study – The draft of the actuarial study has come in. We have lost some, but are still in good shape if we continue our level of contribution. Hume asked to authorize Tonya to have the study finalized. Consensus was to have it finalized.

## **Correspondence**

None

## **Reports from the Chief –**

Chief Mercer – We had 15 calls in March. 15 Fire, 0 EMS, and 0 HazMat. We are working with dispatch on paging on car wrecks. Probationary FF Strecker passed his written exams, needs fire practical. All rookies go to Gypsum for HM written on Saturday. PR has been very busy with kids' safety days, job fair, cleaning the parking lot at the court house. The fleet is in pretty good shape. L1 have received one of the hoses for the waterway. R1 had a DEF sensor issue last year, and E! now is having same issue. Parts are on order. The bunker racks have shipped. Capital purchases are on order; fans, saws, wildland helmets to replace expired ones. Gym expansion started painting. They are also going to clean and fix ceiling. Pump testing is June 8<sup>th</sup>. Hose testing is September 21. The Luau is June 8<sup>th</sup> at The OP Bar & Grill. Firefighters started brainstorming other ideas, and we are having a Pancake breakfast June 22 in the bays. Whittle the Wood and the Car Show going on at the same time. Trying something new. Support Firefighter process started. Have received two applications so far. Makes most sense to run like academy. June 14<sup>th</sup> deadline. Would like to have live around the 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

Kowach asked about replacing trucks. Chief – polled department about it, and came up with ideas. Looking into replacing one or both twins, replace roof over the bay portion of fire station, replace Rescue 2, and replace tanks on the tenders. Discussion was held on the 5-year plan.

## **Board Member Reports**

Rod Kowach – Thanks for everything. Luau and breakfast sound great. Hoping for a light year on fire calls. Appreciate the PR. Thank you Tonya for what you do.

Chris Nichols – PR, thank you for doing an outstanding job. Was going to ask for clarification on pages. Have some conversations with regional communications. Appreciate the job that you do, Thank you.

J.B. Chapman — Not much more needs said.

Mark Bangs – Support firefighter is an awesome thing. Timing isn't always right for the January academy. It's a great step. Thank you.

KC Hume — The 800 paging is coming through the Moffat County 911 Authority. Funding for the com center comes from the surcharge on your phone bill. The conversation is to move away from VHF paging, and move to 800 MHz, to update the pagers for all first responders in Moffat County. Moving forward, the last fire code adopted by the board was IFC 2006. Look into adopting a more current version. Thank you, Chief for coming to court house to wash the winter away from the curb and gutter. Appreciate that. Job fair was great. July 13<sup>th</sup> is the Memorial for John Forgay. There will be a ride/drive to Rabbit Ears, and then return to the Granary in Hayden.

## **Audience Comments**

None

**Adjournment**

Hume entertained a motion to adjourn. Chapman moved. Kowach seconded. Motion passed. (5:0) Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

  
President KC Hume

  
Secretary/Treasurer Chris Nichols

  
MEMBER Rodney Kowach