



Grand Lake Fire Protection District Board Meeting Minutes from October 11, 2023

201 W Portal Road, Public Viewing by Video Conference

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1834.

Board Members Present: Rich Beeson, Hecky Heckendorf (remote), Pete Trezoglou, Cathy Ross (remote), Shaul Hagen

Others Present: Seth St. Germain, Krystal Steward, Dan Mayer, Assistant Chief David Wolf from Grand Fire

Introduction: Assistant Chief David Wolf from Grand Fire introduced himself.

Opening Remarks: There were no opening remarks.

Public Input: None

Changes to the Agenda: Seth St. Germain introduced Chief Wolf and explained his role in the joint wildland division. Chief David Wolf gave a brief history of his career in the fire service, focusing on the wildland program and county-level projects and the headwaters program.

Approval of September Minutes: The minutes from the September board meeting were reviewed. Rich Beeson moved to approve the minutes, and Shaul Hagen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by all at 1837.

Review and Approval of Financial Statements: The financial summary was reviewed, and the open paramedic position, overtime, and part-time expenses were discussed. The 2023 year-end forecast was reviewed. Motion to approve by Shaul Hagen, seconded by Pete Trezoglou, and approved by all at 1947.

Chief's Report: Chief Seth St. Germain presented a comprehensive overview of the district's operations and administration. He noted a 4% shift in call volume, indicating an increased demand for fire-related responses over EMS calls. Chief St. Germain expressed gratitude to the board for their guidance and leadership. Notable accomplishments included progress with the volunteer pension board, successful staff salaries resolution, and the initiation of ESO checklists and inventory tracking.

The Chief highlighted upcoming events, such as Fire Prevention Open Houses and a community event scheduled for Friday, the 13th. He also provided insights into ongoing training initiatives, wildland deployments, and EMS training. The report included preparations for the winter season, which involved removing the 375 rescue boat from the water, and updates on infrastructure improvements near Station 1.

In addition, Chief St. Germain welcomed new paramedic reserves and extended congratulations to Lucas Schmitz and his wife on the birth of their daughter. He also discussed the significance of preplans, emphasizing their role in

gathering crucial information about district structures to support staff in emergency response and foster relationships with local business owners.

Dan Mayer Fire Marshal Report: Dan Mayer discussed his involvement in preplanning efforts. Alongside Krystal Steward, he conducted a comprehensive audit of short-term rental invoicing and payments, striving for full compliance. Their diligent efforts revealed approximately eight outstanding invoices, each overdue by more than 30 days. Dan also provided a forecast, expecting January and February to be particularly busy due to town and county licensing activities.

Furthermore, Dan highlighted the upcoming community events for Constitution Week and the Steps for Cancer 5K. He shared a review of a recent structure fire incident on CR 4.

Wildland Report: The Chief presented Brian Faith's report on wildland activities. Notably, the joint wildland division's operations will conclude on Friday, October 13. The Chief commended the team for their unwavering dedication and their enhanced qualifications achieved throughout the year.

He elaborated on activities such as slash pile burning and the successful completion of all mitigation projects. The team was actively deployed from June 5th to September 18th, contributing to their robust and commendable performance.

Budget Workshop: Rich Beeson talks about Prop HH: He saw good messaging in mailers this week and expects a low turnout in the election. If Prop HH passes, special districts receive an extra 20 days to complete budget deadlines. The board discussed what the income will look like if HH passes or if it fails. Krystal Steward and Chief Seth St. Germain give a review of the 2024 budget. The board plans to adopt the budget at the November meeting.

Adjournment: Rich Beeson moved to adjourn the meeting, and Shaul Hagen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1944.