



## **Grand Lake Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes from January 21, 2019**

**Call meeting to order:** Meeting called to order at 1005 hours.

**Members present:** Samantha Bruegger, David Craig, Mindy Nelson, Dick Romshek, Chris Ruske

**Others present:** Cheryl Dale, Larry Goscha, Dan Mayer, Michael Arntson, Lucas Schmitz, Drew Mustari

**Members Absent:** None

### **Board Chairman's Opening Remarks:**

- David Craig thanked everyone for their contributions to the Fire Chief hiring process. Craig affirmed that due diligence was done in the process. Craig outlined the process for this board session as to notifying the candidates of the Board's selection for Fire Chief. Board agreed with the process.

### **Changes to the Agenda:**

- None.

### **Public Input:**

- None

### **New Fire Chief announcement:**

- The Board discussed the final candidates to determine if all Directors were still in agreement with their choice. David asked if anyone had heard any additional information about the candidates that they would like to share. The Directors indicated no additional information had been received. David shared that references were checked for Kevin Ratzmann that all came back favorable. The written references report was shared with the Board.
  - David Craig made the motion to offer the Fire Chief position to Kevin Ratzmann and Samantha Bruegger seconded. Approved by all.

David Craig left the general meeting to call Kevin Ratzmann and offer him the position.

### **Adam Makkai conversation update:**

- Still having a quorum and with David's approval, the Board meeting continued in David's absence. Mindy had had a conversation with Adam Makkai who manages our investment accounts. The conversation included discussion of our current investments, earnings, current market and continuing our relationship with LPL Financial and Adam. After their conversation, Mindy discussed the information and possible

changes with Larry Goscha, who was a former Board member and a retired banker. Board discussion ensued. The Board and Larry supported moving the LPL investment funds to a ColoTrust Plus account for a higher yield.

- Mindy Nelson made the motion to discontinue our relationship with LPL Financial and Adam Makkai and move our investment funds into a ColoTrust Plus account; Chris Ruske seconded the motion. Approved by all present. David Craig was not present for the vote.
- At the Board's direction, Cheryl will follow-up with Adam Makkai to determine the steps needed to move the funds before January 31<sup>st</sup>. Cheryl will also contact the ColoTrust Plus account representative to determine new account options.

Samantha Bruegger and Chris Ruske left the meeting.

The board had a quorum with Dick Romshek and Mindy Nelson still present and continued with meeting upon David Craig's return.

### **Kevin Ratzmann:**

- David announced to the Board and those present that Kevin Ratzmann had accepted the offer of the position of Fire Chief and is eager to get started.
- The Board discussed next steps to move forward.
  - David will call the other candidates to inform them of the Board's decision.
  - The Board will review the employment contract and provide feedback for any changes. To be coordinated by Cheryl who will send all comments to David.
  - Samantha Bruegger to confer with Kevin on a press release and coordinate with the Press to formalize the announcement.
  - Cheryl will contact Kevin and invite him to the February 7<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and also make arrangements as needed for his employment.
  - Finalize employment contract at the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - Dick requested talking points regarding Kevin and his recent employment history.
    - Samantha to create the talking points and distribute to the Board and Fire Dept staff.
  - Mindy and Samantha to inquire with their contacts regarding available rental properties.
  - The remaining Board members were in agreement to have a signed employment contract in place prior to his start date.
  - Possible start date will be February 11<sup>th</sup> unless other date agreed upon by the Board.

### **Adjournment:**

- Mindy Nelson made the motion to adjourn the Special Board Meeting and Dick Romshek seconded. Approved by all present. General meeting adjourned at 1040.

**The next Board of Directors regular meeting will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2019**

### **Future Board meeting dates for 2019:**

February 7<sup>th</sup> (date changed)

### **Wednesday meetings:**

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

June 12th

July 10th

August 14th  
September 11th  
October 9th  
November 13<sup>th</sup> (2020 Budget Public Hearing)  
December 4<sup>th</sup> (2020 Budget approval)