

MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 25, 2023

At 7:02 PM Wayne DeGesualdo called the meeting to order. Wayne DeGesualdo, Randy Zellner, and Chuck Nelson were present for the board. Eric Brown had an excused absence.

Everyone said the pledge of allegiance.

Wayne DeGesualdo said an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Wayne DeGesualdo asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes. Randy Zellner made a motion to accept the June minutes as presented. Darrel Charlesworth seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Tanks

Linda Weber was present and said that the tanks have been turned on their sides and blocked up so the fiberglass company can have access to the top and bottom so JCP Fiberglass can come do the repairs. There was no charge for moving and blocking up the tanks.

Handbook

On hold until new chief is hired

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurers Report

Chuck Nelson presented the year to date treasurer's report. Chuck said everything is looking really good and Chief Cox doing a good job of keeping costs low. Chuck pointed out the utilities and fuel costs. Randy Zellner made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as written. Wayne DeGesualdo seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Reviews for Employees/Compensation

Wayne DeGesualdo said that compensation policy needs to be looked at to make sure that we are compensating our employees and volunteers for their work. Stacy Cox advised that this was supposed to be about employee establishing reviews for paid employees. It was also discussed that we need to be rewarding those providers that responses to more calls for example.

Chiefs Report (given by Stacy Cox as Chief was at training)

Vehicles: Ambulance 51 back in service needed new batteries. Tender 51 Back in Service starter on pump repaired and working. Parts for Brush truck have arrived and will be back in service next week.

Grants:

FEMA AFG COM- Prebuild is done- no changes made, waiting on VIN

CDPHE 2023 EMTS Funding Program Prebuild is done, waiting on new drawing and VIN

FEMA AFG – applied for a Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) \$500,000 and is a 5% match. Round one was award on June 9th awards are expected to continue for the next 8-10 weeks. Turndown letters for those applications that did not go to peer-panel review are expected to go out soon.

CDPHE 2024 EMTS Funding Program RFA #41271- Awarded half the cost of the gurney and power lift.

Trainings: CPR Class, Knots and Rigging, Ropes and Flat Angle Rescue, Saturday Over the Edge Training and BBQ, 4th of July- no training snacks and firework watching by drag way as a group.

Personal- 1 new volunteer, 1 returning volunteer from LEFPD, 1 returning volunteer that was on COMFPD.

Standby: Signed contract back from Lands End Hill Climb which is August 5th & 6th.

Calls: From 6/27 to 7/24 9PM

M-F 8-5	16
M-F 5-8	12
Weekend	12
Total	40

Report 1 Calls by Category (1 month)

Report 2 Calls by Area/District (1 month)

Report 3 Time of Day & Arrival in Minutes (1 Month)

Report 4 Mutual Aid (1 Month)

Other Matters before the Board:

Chuck Nelson advised had exit interview with Troy Fronczek and that he asked only Board members be present and it turned into a venting session and feels that he if was going to make accusation that those he was accessing should be there to answer the accusations. Turned in one radio but still has the charging base and battery. Says he has stuff at station 51 he would like returned. Stacy Cox advised that the exit paperwork might want to be revised for those who are let go verse those who move on voluntarily.

Stacy Cox advised she will be off in September but Linda Weber will be taking notes for her.

Stacy Cox also advised that the SDA Conference is coming up and believes that everyone should attend that can. Wayne will check his schedule and get back to her. Chuck Nelson and Darrell Charlesworth will both be unavailable to attend.

Hiring Process: Darrel Charlesworth was asked to leave the building until he is asked to return.

Wayne DeGesualdo said that Dave Hancock and himself represented Lands End Fire Protection Board and Murray Thiessen and Eric Talley represented Central Orchard Mesa Fire Protection Board at the Oral Board they held with Darrell Charlesworth on July 19, 2023 along with Rich Phillips who represented the public. Many tough questions were posed to Darrell for all sides and he had good responses. The oral board took place for about an hour. After which the five members of the Oral Board came to a unanimous conclusion that Darrell Charlesworth would make a good chief and represent both districts and the authority well. Rich Phillips brought up that Darrell did ask for \$50,000 a year salary and \$5,000 a year insurance allowance. Randy Zellner made a motion that based on the recommendation of the hiring committee that they offer the position of Mesa County Fire Chief to Darrell Charlesworth with a salary of \$50k and \$5k insurance allowance, 3 weeks of paid vacation to be accrued though out the year, contingent on him passing his physical, background check, driving record and phycological elevation with the condition that he get on protocol with Mesa County as an EMT by January 1, 2024. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried. Darrell was asked back in and presented the offer, Darrel accepted. Darrell's physical is scheduled on August 1st at 14:00 and Stacy is working setting up MCFA's account for the phycological evaluation and once it is set up will email him the link to set up his appointment. Shawn Cox will continue as chief until all tests have been completed, reports are in and he is cleared to be hired.

Public Comment:

Linda Weber said that she just wanted to say congratulation and job well done to Shawn Cox, Stacy Cox and Chuck Nelson for getting the CDPHE 2024 EMTS Funding Program RFA #41271. She went on to say she is excited at the prospect of having Darrell as the new chief at Mesa County Fire Authority and believes he will be a good fit.

Adjournment of meeting

Darrell Charlesworth made his last motion to adjourn the meeting as he will be stepping down from the board of directors. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Next Board Meeting is August 22, 2023 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy Cox, Board/Fire Chief Assistant

Mesa County Fire Authority



ATTEST



ATTEST