

# Aspen Fire Protection District

420 E Hopkins Avenue ▪ Aspen, CO 81611 ▪ 970-925-5532 ▪ www.aspenfire.com



## Board of Directors Regular Meeting March 8, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Aspen Fire Protection District met for their regular meeting. The meeting was open to the public in person and virtually via Zoom.

### **Meeting called to order by Denis at 5:07pm**

#### **Roll Call:**

- Board of Directors Present: Denis Murray, Steve Wertheimer, Michael Buglione, Dave “Wabs” Walbert
- Board of Directors Absent: John Ward
- Staff/Volunteers Present: Rick Balentine, Jake Andersen, Jan Legersky, Jan Schubert, Ali Hager, Scott Arthur, Charlie Curtis
- Public/Others: Richard Peterson, Sebastian Wanatowicz

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION: Motion by Michael to approve minutes from: Special meeting held February 7, 2022 and Regular meeting held on February 8, 2022. Steve second.**

**Discussion: None**

**Vote: All approved**

#### **Public Comment: None**

#### **AVFD Inc., Ryan Warren: Not Present**

#### **North 40 Housing Project Update: Sebastian Wanatowicz**

- Project Budget Update: Pay application 13 is currently being reviewed in the amount of \$864,500. Pushing through finishes, dry wall and roughing of buildings one and four. Drywall in building three and took down scaffolding plastic on building two. Things are moving well. Overall, the project is on schedule, but it is tight.
- Project Allowances and Contingency Reconciliation:
  - Received \$95,000 back on wood escalation costs that came back to allowance 22. This helped the overall bottom line. This will help pay for the brick on the elevator shaft.
  - In terms of overall allowance 22 and credits back to the project, we’re at \$53,146, putting the project contingency, including soft costs outside of the general contractor, at \$419,830.58 that Aspen Fire still has remaining from the \$500,000 assuming the general contractor doesn’t come in under budget on their line items. There were two change orders that came out of contingency. The general contractor still has \$208,899 in their project contingency to cover unforeseen issues.
  - They are still working through the battery for photo-voltaic in terms of getting final pricing and coordination for install based on the last decision of the board. It was decided to spend \$265,000 and in the budget there is \$240,000. The remaining \$15,000 will most likely come out of the credit contingency.
  - There was discussion of having to pull a permit for the trash enclosure.
- Project updates and schedule:

- After a site visit, it was decided to utilize some dead space in attics of building four to gain some more square footage. Idea is to make them into walk-in closets. The architect is working on some revised drawings and working with FCI to make this a no cost item.

### **Wildfire Community Action Fund Project – Ali Hager**

- Project and Funding Update:
  - There has been an update to the fundraising amount from \$222,000 that was included in the board packet to \$242,600. There has been an increase of \$61,100 since the February meeting. Most of the funding is peer-to-peer fundraising which tells us that our community is really invested in this work. They see a value and want to support it.
  - Outreach has been focused on the upcoming Hunter Smuggler prescribed burn that is planned for mid-April. April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, we will be hosting open house in regards to the upcoming prescribed burns and fire safety/mitigation. Also, talking with HOA's directly.
  - Bark Beetle Project is still on target for this spring.
  - In the process of laying the groundwork for additional burn units in the 2024, possibly 2025 and working on getting full cost and scope for roadside evacuation clearing throughout the district starting with high-risk areas.
  - Scott Arthur wrote a grant and Ali assisted. The grant of \$25,000 was received for assistance to firefighters. This will give ability to purchase new thermal imaging camera.
  - Ali will be attending the wildland urban interface conference in Reno mid-March.

### **Financials**

- Monthly Financial Review: Monthly financial reports were included in the board packet.
- FPPA 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2021 Report: Included in the board packet.

### **Board Comments & Action Items:**

- Wabs posed question about how the after-action review went in regards to the explosion incident. Rick gave an overview and Jake discussed where the investigation stands. A final report is expected to be released soon.

### **Staff Report:**

- Fire Marshal and Prevention: Jan will be meeting with the city to discuss code amendments and still needs to set up something with the county. The Western Slope Fire Marshal Organization has revived itself to discuss these types of issues as well as UL listed anti-freeze. They will be meeting in May and this will give Jan a better idea of what may affect code amendments.
- Operations Overview:
  - New staff started this week. There were several days last month we had unstaffed stations. With additional of new staff, this shouldn't happen.
  - Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) is a membership we pay for which provides executive level education. This will help Deputy Chief and Battalion Chiefs with writing RFPs and other things similar. They also accredit fire agencies. It's a continuous performance evaluation and improvement model. Jake gave further overview.
  - Standard of Coverage was discussed. This is something that is part of the strategic plan for this year. The hope is to do this in conjunction with CPSE to help guide us through that process. There was a draft RFP included with staff report.
  - There have been multiple aircraft incidents. This has opened some issues that are currently being worked on with dispatch, in addition to expanding our major incident response with other agencies. We are in implementation phase, they are going through and redoing radios, redoing recommendations with dispatch and redoing some of the auto-aid zones drawn within CAD. The hope is to have some of this stuff rolled out early summer.

- Jake gave an overview of a mass casualty incident that Aspen Fire assisted with in the canyon. In the future this type of call would be immediate auto-aid dispatch. There was also an incident at Belly Up.
- Training Report:
  - Jake reviewed the training report included in staff report touching on a joint training with Roaring Fork Fire.
  - Scott Arthur touched on trainings in February, upcoming training and the SCBA annual recertification. The recruit class of 2021 was sworn in as full firefighters last week at March 2<sup>nd</sup> family night. They will now be signing up for 24-hour shifts. The recruit class of 22 are well into training at CMC.
- Fleet and Facilities:
  - Charlie Curtis gave an overview of how the inspection went in Appleton on the new engines. The trucks are expected to arrive in Denver at Front Range in the next week.

**CEO/Fire Chief and Good of the District:**

*\*\* There was audio interference on the recording moving forward. It was hard to make out the conversations. The minutes are brief based on what could be heard.*

- Rick discussed the family night and there will be an upcoming late spring/early summer family picnic. The firefighter of the year will be announced at that time.
- Rick has been talking with Michael Lawler who owns property behind Fire Place in regards to putting in a new fence.
- Rick gave an overview of the housing application and selection process.

**Old Business:**

- Aspen Village Housing Option: There was much discussion of housing options at Aspen Village. Jake suggested doing a needs assessment.

**MOTION:** Denis made a motion to proceed as planned (*due to audio interference, the motion could not be made out clearly*). Michael second.

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** All approved.

**MOTION:** Motion by Wabs to adjourn at 6:52pm. Michael second.

**Vote:** All approved.

**\*\*\* A full recording of this meeting can be requested by contacting the District Administrator at [nikki.lapin@aspensfire.com](mailto:nikki.lapin@aspensfire.com) or by calling 970-925-5532.**