



## Board of Directors Regular Meeting February 21, 2018

Meeting called to order at 4:08pm by Karl

### Roll Call:

- Board of Directors: Karl Adam, Denis Murray, John Ward (arrived at 6:43pm), Stoney Davis, Dave Walbert
- Absent:
- Staff/Volunteers: Rick Balentine, Jan Schubert, Nikki Lapin, Mike Lyons, Josh Burnaman
- Public/Others: Jenny Lyons, four residents of the Twin Ridge neighborhood and Meadowwood neighborhood.

### Approval of Minutes:

**Motion from Denis to approve minutes from Regular Meeting on January 25, 2018. Dave Second. All Approved.**

### Public Comment:

- Mike Lyons, Aspen Ambulance Petition: Mike, along with several other neighbors in the Twin Ridge and Meadowwood neighborhood, attended the board meeting to discuss a petition that Mike Lyons will be pursuing to dissolve the Aspen Ambulance District.
  - This could require a mill levy increase and responsibilities could be moved to Aspen Fire Protection District.
  - The district boundaries would need to be moved to cover Aspen Ambulance District. Mike suggested Aspen Fire may want to look at increasing the district boundaries further up Independence Pass to cover last house that is currently covered through mutual agreement with Pitkin County Sheriff office. The other expansion would be further down Lower River Road and Castle Creek Road.
  - Mike suggested Aspen Fire do a study on the number of EMS calls and the proximity to headquarters station. He feels this would serve the public better by having ambulance in town.
  - Mike pointed out that Aspen Fire is the only district in the Valley and Western Colorado that doesn't offer ambulance service. 96% of the country is served by a fire district ambulance.
  - Mike believes that by dissolving Aspen Ambulance, it will improve customer service and save tax payers six to eight million dollars.
- Karl A. welcomed others from the public and pointed out that public is always welcome to speak at our meetings.
- Dave W. made point that this is not something being initiated by Aspen Fire Protection District and that this is being pursued by a member of the public. Mike is taking this on as individual citizen, not currently as a particular group.
- Karl A. explained to public that the board is not for or against this petition. This was approached in the recent past with BOCC. It was expressed that Aspen Fire has the facilities and the infrastructure to handle. There was not a favorable outcome for a relationship at that time. Aspen Fire does have space for housing an ambulance and sleeping area for paramedics.

### **Good of District:**

- Thank you to Josh Burnaman, President of AVFD Inc., for attending meeting.
- February business meeting was a family night.

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

- **Motion by Denis to Adopt Resolution 2018-02-01: Election Resolution – Mail Ballot. Second by Karl, Vote was 3-1 in favor.**
- Starwood Substation: Planning & Zoning board approved plans at their last meeting.
- AVFD Inc. Representation: Karl A. met with Josh Burnaman and asked him to attend the district board meeting ever so often. Karl suggested putting a schedule together to have one board member attend an operation meeting each month. Nikki was asked to put together a schedule for the year. Karl H. asked that it be limited to one board member and reminded the board they are there to observe and have no authority to make decisions at those meetings.
- Disciplinary Committee: Rick walked the board through how the disciplinary committee works. The committee is comprised of three volunteers voted on by the body, the Deputy Chief and one Captain. This committee will make disciplinary recommendation to the Chief. Karl H. and Nikki pointed out that some situations may warrant a decision from the Chief immediately without review by committee when safety is a concern and/or for privacy of individual(s).
- Traffic Flow on Hopkins: Rick spoke with city engineers. It was expressed that Aspen Fire would not support a one way flow on Hopkins in front of station due to safety.
- Mutual Aid Agreement with Basalt/Snowmass: There was discussion if Aspen Fire was okay with just a verbal agreement. Rick doesn't believe a verbal agreement is enough and would like to see a signed agreement.

### **Financials:**

- Audit: Auditors were here this past week.
- Stationkeeper Program: There is a new agreement for the stationkeeper that better defines the money paid in and what they receive back. Rick will be working on new agreement for Starwood housing.

### **CEO/Fire Chief**

- Next Focus Group: Critical Needs Strategic Planning. This will be coming up soon.
- Mill Levy Strategy: Campaign committee needs to be organized outside of the district workplace and AVFD Inc. Dan O'Connell has agreed to help at no charge. Rick will be working with volunteers, staff and board to work through needs. There will need to be some money spent on research and design.
- Housing: There was much discussion around all the potential housing coming in, the cost to operate it and manage it. Rick mentioned that 95% of current firefighters are either in employee housing or started out in employee housing.

### **AVFD Inc.**

- Josh would like to see the volunteers involved in the housing process and tabletop discussion in regards to dispatch screening.

### **Old Business:**

- Airport MOU: Meeting didn't happen this month.

- Aspen Village – Rick spoke to HOA at meeting last week. They would be ok with us putting in a small caretaker unit.
- North 40 Housing: Stoney suggested reaching out to other organizations with housing and ACPCHA to find out what issues and/or suggestions they have.