

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ELIZABETH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Held: Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 6:00 p.m.

### Attendance

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Elizabeth Fire Protection District ("District") was called and held in accordance with the laws of the State of Colorado.

The following Directors were in attendance:

Scott Christensen, Board Vice President  
Wayne Austgen, Board Secretary  
Don Means, Board Treasurer

The following Directors were Absent:

Rick Young, Board President  
Stacey Collis, Board Director

Also present were:

T.J. Steck, Fire Chief  
Kara Gerczynski, Division Chief Fire Prevention and  
Administration  
Nick Carnesi, Battalion Chief of Training  
Brenden Regan, Lieutenant  
Adam Neisen, Lieutenant (Virtual attendance)  
Shane Johnson, Paramedic-Firefighter  
Wesley McClain, Firefighter  
Colton Tyler, Firefighter  
Nicholas Richardson, Reserve Firefighter  
Sarah Fischer, Director of Finance and HR  
Taylor Clark, HR Generalist – Executive Assistant  
Michelle Ferguson, District Legal Counsel (Virtual attendance)

### Call to Order

Director Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Director Christensen stated for the record that Director Young and Director Collis were absent. He called for a motion to excuse

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Director Young and Director Collis. Director Austgen made the motion. Director Means seconded the motion. All in favor.

Director Christensen called for a motion to allow Director Christensen to run the meeting in Director Young's absence. Director Austgen made the motion. Director Means seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Director Christensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Public Comment

Director Christensen opened the meeting for public comment. There was no public comment.

## Addition/Deletions to Agenda

Director Christensen asked if there were any changes to the Agenda.

Chief Steck stated that there was no need for the "Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive advice of legal counsel relating to a confidential personnel matter" and recommended it be removed from the Agenda.

Director Christensen called for a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Director Means made the motion. Director Austgen seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the draft minutes from the February 13, 2024, regular Board meeting.

Director Christensen called for a motion to approve the February 13, 2024, minutes as presented. Director Austgen made the motion. Director Means seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Financial Matters

- Ratify the bills

Director Christensen stated that the Board has been provided with the financials and asked if there were any questions.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

Director of Finance and HR Fischer provided the Board with an update on the financial statements. Director Austgen asked if Admin Staff could inform the Board how much money had been spent on personnel matters since the beginning of the year. Director of Finance and HR Fischer stated she would do some research on it and update the Board at the next meeting.

Director Christensen called for a motion to ratify the payment of the February bills. Director Means made the motion. Director Austgen seconded the motion. All in favor.

## Staff Report

Chief Steck presented an overview of the staff report.

Chief Steck stated that he had had a meeting with staff from U.S. Congressman Ken Buck's office regarding grant funding and the lack of volunteers in the fire service. He stated that he wasn't certain what would come from the meeting in light of Congressman Buck's recent resignation.

Chief Steck stated that new full-time firefighter Brittany McGhee and new full-time paramedic-firefighter Justin Hinz were doing well in their new positions. He stated that both new hires were well qualified additions to their respective shifts.

Chief Steck stated that he testified in hearings at the Colorado State Capitol about proposed bill HB24-1219, titled First Responder Employer Health Benefit Trusts, which, if passed, would expand state funding to provide health benefits programs to part-time and volunteer firefighters. He stated that the bill had so far received a great deal of support.

Chief Steck stated that Division Chief Fire Prevention and Administration Gerczynski had been engaged in meetings with two citizens co-developing their properties near the Chisholm subdivision. Chief Steck stated that he had spoken to Chief Woodrick of Franktown Fire Protection District about the possibility of building a joint fire station located in that subdivision, and the associated benefits. He stated that one benefit would be lower ISO ratings for the properties in that subdivision, dropping ISO 10 ratings to ISO 4 ratings. He stated that the two developers were interested in providing the land for a joint station. He stated that the cost would be slightly over what it had cost the District to

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

construct the joint station off of County Road 166 shared with Rattlesnake Fire Protection District. He stated that he was looking into the possibility of a joint grant from the Department of Local Affairs for a 50% match on the project, which would reduce costs to around \$75,000 per department. He stated that he wished to receive Board direction on whether or not to continue pursuing the potential project. The Board provided Chief Staff with direction to pursue more details and discuss further with the landowners about the possibility of building a joint station.

Discussion followed.

Director Christensen asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

## Legal Report

Director Christensen stated that the next order of business was the legal report.

Attorney Ferguson stated that the Board had been provided with both the attorney's report and the legislative tracker. She stated that most of the work Legal Counsel had been involved with in the last month had had to do with personnel matters. She stated she did not have any additions to the legal report.

Director Christensen asked if there were any questions. There were no questions.

## Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Director Austgen moved to adjourn, Director Means seconded, and the vote was unanimously carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

## Meeting Schedule

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at 155 West Kiowa Ave, Elizabeth, Colorado.

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

---

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: April 9, 2024  
Rick Young, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: April 9, 2024  
Wayne Austgen, Secretary