

SNOWMASS-WILDCAT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Minutes of the Virtual Board Meeting Held

April 20, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Snowmass-Wildcat Fire Protection District was held on Tuesday April 20, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. Noting that a quorum was present Chair William Boineau called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present William Boineau, Donna Aiken, Drew Detrick and Dave Heivly. Also, present were Chief Scott Thompson, Deputy Chiefs Kevin Issel and John Mele, Deputy Fire Marshal Brooke Stott, Division Chief Richard Cornelius, Human Resources Director Renee Thomas, Finance Director Jennifer Thompson, Information Technology Director Erik Johnson, and Administrative Assistant Susan Herwick.

Guest: Kaya Williams from the Aspen Times

Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes – December 08, 2020

The minutes of the December 2020 Regular Board meeting were reviewed. Director Detrick made a motion to accept the minutes as read, it was seconded by Director Aiken and the motion carried 4 – 0.

Public Comments

None

Finance Report

Finance Director Jennifer Thompson stated that the 2020 audit had been finished. There were no issues.

Chief's Report

Chief Thompson stated that wildland fire season is our priority right now. All of our apparatus and equipment has been readied to respond. He feels the need to add four additional temporary full-time personnel from June thru September 11, 2021 during wildfire season due to the exceptional drought that we are experiencing in our area. The cost of this program will be approximately \$100,000. Last year we were the only county out of ten in our region that didn't have a major wildfire event. Next month is wildland-urban interface awareness month. We want to put a severity patrol on the road in order to catch wildfires when they are small.

Director Detrick asked how helping other Districts out with their fires affected our staffing levels. Chief Thompson explained that with one hundred plus members, we can keep our District covered. We always take staffing into account when sending resources out of District to other fires in the State.

Fire Marshal's Report

Deputy Chief John Mele stated that he is struggling with managing the wildfire mitigation projects that are scheduled for this year. The State Wildland Inmate Firefighting Team (SWIFT) is in high demand now and is harder to schedule for projects. We need to prioritize our projects. Director Heivly asked if HOA's could provide the labor for mitigation projects. Deputy Chief Mele stated no, because large mitigation projects are too dangerous. They could help each other out with small projects such as trimming back shrubs, raking leaves from under decks and out of gutters, moving firewood piles away from structures, etc.

We currently have over one million square feet of development underway in our District.

Deputy Chief of Administration Report

DC Issel stated that Station 45 is in great shape. He is bidding out the landscaping for the three manned fire stations. An air handling unit was installed above the training room to help with temperature control.

Human Resources Report

Human Resources Director Renee Thomas stated that we recently made eight contingent job offers (five for part-time, two for full-time, and one for fleet mechanic). We will be interviewing for the open Lieutenant's position tomorrow and for the open Battalion Chief's position next week. The Deputy Chief's position will be looked at once we have brought the line staff back up to capacity.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Executive Session

None

Non-Agenda Items

None

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, Director Heivly made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Director Boineau and the motion carried 4 – 0. Chair William Boineau declared the meeting adjourned at 8:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chair William Boineau

Accepted:

Vice-Chair Donna Aiken

To watch this meeting in its entirety, please follow the link below:

<https://youtu.be/R0eEY-Q7jjw>