

**Gold Hill Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes  
December 15, 2020**

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and was called to order by Rich Lopez at 1903 hours. Present were board members Jessica Brookhart, Boyd Brown, Chris Dirolf, and Kent Coghill. Additional attendees included Chief Chris Finn, Gretchen Diefender, Dwight Debroux, Val Crist, Leslie Finn, Max Yeagar, and Emily Rose. Since the meeting was conducted by Zoom all attendees were properly socially distanced.

The minutes from the November meeting were unanimously approved. These minutes as well as minutes to the previous month will be published on the Gold Hill Fire website once it is operational in the coming months.

### **Chief Report**

The Chief Report was submitted in person via zoom by Chief Chris Finn. The calls covered were as follows:

- Two medical calls on Gold Hill Road
  - One call required a helicopter for patient evacuation and another required an ambulance

The Chief reported the following updates:

- Gold Hill Fire and other mountain departments have been in talks with the EOC and health department about COVID 19 vaccinations
- Changes to firefighter priority has moved firefighters to 1B
- Trainings will continue to be socially distanced throughout the summer and the department will be using Microsoft Teams to conduct these trainings
- Update on electrical issue with food pantry outside firebarn has been given a temporary solution with planned installation of an outlet on the back of the firebarn
- Chief will send out transparency notice to Jessica Brookhart to post on website

### **Budget**

The Budget was discussed in regards to the following:

- Boyd Brown asked about the impact of the Gallagher Bill and how much money it will provide Gold Hill. Chief Finn anticipates that the new bill will not change the budget.
- The department will request audit exception in March
- \$1000 of 2021 fire equipment budget will be used to purchase new hose for the department
- The department will bid out to three different companies to get the lowest rate

### **New/ Other Business**

- Status of the food pantry is in flux and is projected to be needed until the end of COVID or until next summer. Chief Finn requests that the community structure/activities and the fire barn need to be separate. Possibility of creating a space outside the firebarn to house community activities and needs.
- Chris Dirolf brought up citizens' concerns regarding upcoming forestry projects. Chris D and Kent Coghill will meet with Maya Machammer later in the week to discuss the project. Citizens concerns will need to be addressed and Maya as well as some board members should be present at Town Board meetings to address concerns.
- Rich Lopez brings up possibilities of using new technologies or masticators to assist in mitigation work. Should have more updates on new technology use by next meeting.
- Boyd Brown brings up possibility of creating or distributing a newsletter regarding mitigation projects and fire department projects

- Board will work with Maya to create an information sheet from Maya which could be handed out to firefighters. Dwight Debroux agrees to post any information at the general store which could be distributed to the public.
- Kris Gibson is working with several board members and Marcus Moench on Grants for 2021. Equipment priorities include Bunker Gear, a new Engine, a new Station, and various new equipment.
- Marcus Moench is working on figuring out wifi opportunities for the fire barn.
- Emma Dirolf is working with a group of firefighters and volunteers on ARC GIS mapping software.
- Jessica Brookhart requested \$2500 to complete the new fire department website. Board unanimously approved a motion to move forward with a new website. Department had \$1500 in additional funds which will be used towards the project from a Go Fund Me project.
- Kent Coghill brought up options for different paging technologies including using 'Active 911'.

The meeting was adjourned at 2039 hours

Respectfully submitted,  
Kent Coghill