



**Gold Hill Fire Protection District**  
**Board of Directors Meeting: Minutes**  
**April 20, 2021**

The meeting was conducted over Zoom and was called to order by Jessica Brookhart at 1903 hours. Present were board members Boyd Brown, Chris Dirolf, Jessica Brookhart and Kent Coghill. Board member Rich Lopez was unable to join due to internet difficulties. Additional attendees included Chief Chris Finn, Gretchen Diefender, Leslie Finn, Debra and Max Yeager, Rick Sheingold, Steffi Wilson, Val Crist, Julien Blundell, Wes Barbour, Brian Chamelrain, Erin Fried, and Korey Mcquaide. Since the meeting was conducted by Zoom all attendees were properly socially distanced.

The minutes from the March meeting were unanimously approved.

**Chief Report**

The Chief Report was submitted in person via zoom by Chief Chris Finn.

***CALLS:***

- ❖ March 19- Pile Burn at 2000 Switzerland Trail
- ❖ March 30- Medical call on Pine Street. Ambulance took Lickskillet with no 4 wheel drive, Sunshine and 4 mile assisted with putting chains on the ambulance. Sunshine managed landing zone, Lesson learned- Department personnel need to remind dispatchers that ambulance can't take Lickskillet, also need to be aware if Lickskillet is blocked, contact dispatch so they know and will dispatch properly
- ❖ Training- Conducted a lot of pump training.
- ❖ April 7- Med Training for 2 hours with 3 responders.
- ❖ April 10-Pump training with 7 Firefighters for 3.5 hours
- ❖ Wildland refresher trainings are ongoing
- ❖ 4 people did SCBA certifications, Chief is asking Firefighters to become comfortable with SCBA's and take them home
- ❖ Teams Meetings- Quartermaster, Station, and Training Teams are setting up meetings, other teams have not had organizational meetings yet and hope is by September teams will be fully functioning
- ❖ Met with the chair of town meetings regarding getting on the same page regarding mitigation and grants.
- ❖ 2 weeks ago Chief applied for a VFA grant for wildland gear and radios-\$7,500 from the state- grant is a 50/50 match.



## Other business

Maya Machammer reports with three CU Masters of the Environment students-

- ❖ Upcoming mitigation work encompasses wildfire risk reduction but is also meant for improved ecosystems and wildlife habitat, water resources, etc. Will be doing both ecological monitoring and sociological monitoring
- ❖ Julien Blundell- survey being put out beginning of June to gauge towns knowledge level about wildland fire, what are the values and community factors and how that may be impacted with the mitigation project.
- ❖ Brian Chamberlain will be doing a hybrid model of releasing survey to the public, door to door, emailing, QR codes
- ❖ Korey Mcquaide- will be doing vegetation monitoring and wildlife monitoring with game cameras with the intent to monitor the project and effects.
- ❖ Maya Machammer- Grant from Boulder County for 18 game cameras, wants to put all cameras out to stream as wildlife cameras, also will be monitoring understory vegetation and bird monitoring.
- ❖ Maya will reach out to the Boulder Fire Department to get their perspective
- ❖ Jess Brookhart requests that the students provide a draft of questions they intend to release in their survey so the board can review and add questions.
- ❖ New foresters are on board and are actively working on forest management plans, landowners have met foresters and helped with prescriptions.
- ❖ Wifi for Firebarn- Jess and Chief installed Wifi, a security system will be installed with an email address to prevent security breaches. Chief reports Gold Hill Inn also has free wifi.
- ❖ Chris Dirolf- ArcGIS is good to go and Emma and Chris will start adding to maps, waiting on better weather to meet in person with mapping team
- ❖ Max Yeager- Reporting on Drone Test Flight- Did test flights from fire station, 6-7 minutes from beginning of call to location of target, went out to slash piles and took 8 minutes to locate piles, Provided good high definition video, 1-1.5 mile range
- ❖ Val questions what certifications we need for operating drones, Max provides that we just need to register with the FAA. Attorneys recommend that people in the department should get certified through the FAA program and would cover the department on liability. Chief recommends that we look at liability and SOPS closer before proceeding.
- ❖ Campers west of town- Chief provided information regarding Forest Ranger response and how to proceed. Make sure to take pictures if possible and get a license plate if witnessing people in violation of forest service regulations. Do no approach.
- ❖ Val asks about qualifying station duties- Val has prepared a current list of qualifying station duties.
  1. Quartermaster- tracking all the gear, adding data
  2. SOP/SOG's/FF Orientation
  3. Training Officer and Team
  4. Equipment maintenance
  5. Inventory



6. Station Maintenance

7. NFIRS reports

- ❖ Would like to see all of these tasks as training, Chief reports that he thinks they should be included which would count into a retirement fund.
- ❖ Wes- new homeowner asks about cistern situation- 360 Boulder St. Current plan for an individual fire cistern but due to proximity to community cistern and fire hydrant he wants to see what is the standard money due to provide for the community cistern if he does not install one on his own property. Board reports that they would require a \$5,000 donation to the department which is based on what is standard for other departments in other municipalities.
- ❖ Jess wants department pictures to make the new website look more professional. The website should be completed by 4th of July.
- ❖ No date for town cleanup yet. Question regarding what information should be provided to the public for guidance on cleanup and fire mitigation in town and on their properties.

### **Grants**

- ❖ Marcus and Kris Gibson not present, Jess and Marcus submitted a grant 1-2 weeks ago for a 20k grant which would go towards an ATV and a drone for the fire department.
- ❖ No update from Kris Gibson regarding AFG grant success, a lot of grants are getting done, big thanks to Maya, Kris Gibson, Marcus, Jess, Chief Finn, and all who have contributed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kent Coghill