

# **GOLD HILL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES**

## **4.19.22**

Meeting begins at 1905 hours

Minutes to be approved in next meeting due to not having enough Board members present

Members present: Leslie Finn, Chris Finn, Rick Sheingold, Max Yeager, Boyd Brown, Kris Gibson, Jess Brookhart, Steffi Wilson, Michael Moench, Kent Coghill (ALL IN PERSON)

Chiefs Report:

3.16.22- medical call, auto aid from Sunshine, out on Gold Hill Road, Chief wasn't present

3.19.22- medical call Licksillet, auto aid Lefthand and Sunshine

3.22.22- cancelled

3.29.22- lift assist

4.4.22- car camper at Mt. Alto smelled burning coals, windy night, auto aid Sunshine and Fourmile. Investigated, UTL

Trainings- Wildland Fire Refresher training, Medical Training

Upcoming Trainings- Radios, Comm Plans, How to use them, Maps (Paper and Avenza)

They want everyone to opt into Everbridge, all of Gold Hill. And to save the Everbridge number into their phone.

Upcoming VFA grant for hoses and wildland gear

SCBA bottles will be hydrostatically tested in May

Jess Brookhart reports:

- Board missed deadlines for opting out of audit in 2021, we finally received our checks from the County that were withheld, close to 20K

Kris Gibson reports on Forestry projects:

- Building connections with landowners about upcoming projects.
- Local mitigation company has surveyed a local property owner and looked at costs and services for the future. Kris will send out correspondence with Maya and the watershed project.

Leslie Finn to report on Fire Mitigation Coalition:

- Postcards to talk about upcoming projects
- Walking tour of houses which have completed mitigation
- GHFPD information tables will be at the store
- Posters and Cards will have links to get a free burrito at the store

- Dumpsters at the ranch, top of the mill, down Lefthand Canyon. All slash dumpsters and will probably not leave them there overnight. Two other dumpster dates and community weed whacking will be set up. Middle of June and end of July.

#### OTHER:

- Trying to get 29k spent, received an extension until August to get the \$\$ spent. Ben will be looking at houses that can be hardened, perimeters, flashing, etc. Goal is to get a list of houses that need flashing and have a contractor do the work to help spend the \$\$.
- Maya has another grant that we received 45k. It was slated for more mitigation work.
- The Federal Government has put aside 100+ million dollars for mitigation in the front range. Kris Gibson is working with property owners to get our ducks in a row for being prepared to apply for the grant.
- Maya has been doing our grants and we will have her take care of helping us apply for this upcoming grant. Maya also represents the entire watershed and has a lot of good relationships with other watershed partners. If watersheds can work together and partner as a larger watershed then our chance of success in receiving the grant will be much higher.
- Kris Gibson reports that Maya has 45 additional acres we need to decide which should be mitigated in town.
- Attendees want to see statistics on how many prescription burns have become fires. What are the risks involved in prescription fires?
- Boyd asks about what the specifications will be for weed whacking. Will specifically be focused around homes, not the main lawn. Will need permission from homeowners to sign up for weed whacking.
- Steffi asks how will people get on a list for their homes to be hardened? Ben will come up to Gold Hill to look at homes for hardening. Already 10 people on the list. Once a post card is received, respond to get on the list.

#### Boyd on grass mowing around Gold Hill:

- What can we do to manage the town meadow? And other areas around town that are high risk? County owns property and may not be on board with mowing. Steffi anticipates resistance from other people in town. Boyd will bring it to town meetings to see how the town feels about it.
- Kris asks about BLM cutting. At some point all of BLM land was going to be turned over. Hasn't been turned over yet. No cutting until then.

#### UTV discussion:

- Grant for UTV is extended through this year. Leslie wants something useful for our department. Can't find one new that is in our budget range. We have 12K and will probably spend 20-25K. Also have bunker gear coming and wildland gear coming. We think we would probably have the \$\$ to accomplish our goal with the UTV. Anecdotally, adding water or a pump slows them down and makes them wonky. Sked on the back for medical equipment and backboard is a possibility or a small pump combo. Transport

people, tools, water packs. Will need to figure out the purpose of the UTV. We need to spend the money and get the UTV ordered. Need to make sure we have the correct system/UTV. We would have the UTV housed under some sort of canopy. Leslie will contact Polaris and ask further questions.

#### Mill Levy Campaign:

- Board decided to do a November election regarding Mill Levy. Jay is still on board with assisting as DEO. Need interesting advertising for Mill Levy to further advertise and educate. Will further explain what Mill Levy provides at day in front of the store. Jess will have a table at the store in May to advertise Mill Levy increase. "What do we get" letter to the public. Be able to pull up tax increases for people so they have that information. What other ideas outside of trucks and stations? Administrators? Seasonal mitigation crew? What will we be spending the \$\$ on? Need to dial in specifically on what we would be spending \$\$ on. We will be going for a full 22 mills vs. our current 6 mills.
- Jess will send out website login and how to put stuff up on the website.

Motion to adjourn at 2028 hours.