

Gold Hill Fire Protection District Minutes

2/15/22

1900 Hours

Attendees:

Heidi Kessler
Richard Lopez
Jess Brookhart
Chris Dirolf
Gretchen Diefenderfer
Kris Gibson
Chris Finn
Marcus Moench
Debra Yeager
Max Yeager
Leslie Finn
Rich Sheingold

Minutes approved by board

Chiefs Report:

January training- Dave Wilson- Newest Officer- learning about pumps and moving water
Saturday, February 12- CPR training- 6-8 people/ Truck training- 2 people
We will still be wearing masks indoors regardless of Boulder County orders
Boulder County wants to distribute COVID rapid tests and Chief wants volunteers to assist with distributing tests.

Who is our DEO? Designated Election Official. Jay Clark may be volunteering. Identifying what is required. Jess and Rich report that conversations are ongoing. Chief reports that people have asked him about self nomination forms. Rich says he can get them the forms.

Other Business:

Rich talks about the Mill Levy campaign. Rich had an in person meeting at the store on Saturday. FourMile -22/ Lefthand- 17

Our sister stations have much higher levies

We are further out from help than FourMile or Lefthand

Could we do the mill levy increase in steps? Vs. doing all at once?

We would like to get it up to 16, you would roughly be paying 3X as much as you were prior.

How would this affect elderly people? Or people on fixed incomes?

Marcus reports- we need a good list of all residents with good contact information. In order to justify a mill levy increase we need to identify high priority areas the levy would be used for.

Mitigation, rapid response, admin capacity, write and administer grants more effectively, better equipment. People want to see how this would affect them financially. An increase also assists with working with other districts. The DEO does not have to live in the district. Jay Clark is a potential election official. Kris Gibson reports that Fourmile reports that they may hire an admin

who they would be willing to share. In addition Kris had a contact at the Assessors Office (Erin Gray) who can provide us updated information on property information and what people's increase would be. The more information we can get to locate people and provide addresses/email/phone the better.

The ballot will spell out what specifically the increase in the mill will provide

How will this \$\$ be used? How do you convince a community to invest in their future?

Would more money alleviate the pressure for the department?

Chief feels that it's a volunteer issue.

Kris Gibson reports that she worked from a scarcity model and the department has always been that way. Marcus reports that small steps can help us work towards building staff and working away from a reactive model to a proactive model.

Gretchen reports that an increase in the mill levy tax would increase by maybe a few hundred dollars.

Rick asks is there a way to write the levy where if someone has a financial burden they could avoid paying? Probably not.

Chief supports an increase in the levy, unsure of how much?

Where will the \$\$ go?

How can we solve the volunteer issue?

Ability to participate on an equal basis. The better we can share resources the better off we all will be. This way other fire departments residents aren't subsidizing us. We need to pay our fair share.

Leslie asks if a stepped system was brought up in the last meeting? Should we map out a step system? Leslie reports that people are freaked out about a large increase. Should we just increase to 12% and step up to 6% after 3-5 years?

Board decides we will go for the full amount in the mill levy.

DEO- Do we need a new one? Gretchen has been our DEO.

Board will have to pay \$\$ for training for the new DEO. How much work is involved? A few hours a week. Are we willing to pay someone? Board decides \$25.00 an hour to pay someone to do the DEO position. Motion to approve \$25.00 an hour for new DEO position.

Update from Jess on new website. Website is up to date. For events, how do people know the location of the training event? Leslie will clarify locations for upcoming events.

Colorado Wildfire Strategic Event- Rich will be looking at and sending out an email regarding. Friday morning at 0700.

Meeting adjourned at 2057 hours

