

**Gunnison County Fire Protection District**  
**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**September 19, 2024**

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Dennis Spritzer. Meeting was held upstairs in the meeting room at the Fire House.

The following board members were present: Dennis Spritzer, Heath Smith, Walt Cranor and Paul Morgan. Mark Selkee via zoom.

Board Accountant present: Tom Stoeber

Board Secretary present: Deborah Ferchau

Fire Marshal/Chief present: Hugo Ferchau

Fleet Maintenance Manager present: Tom McDonough

Maintenance Technician present: Tyler Brown

The following firemen were present: None.

Others: None.

**II. Minutes:**

The minutes from the August 15, 2024 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Cranor to approve the August 15, 2024 regular meeting minutes with typos corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

**III. Financial Report:**

Stoeber handed out the financial report through August, 2024. Stoeber advised the Board that he has completed moving District fund moved money from BMO. New CD's have been purchased, 200, 140, 360 at 4%. Property taxes are and revenues are up. A motion was made by Cranor and seconded by Smith to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Bills:**

Stoeber handed out the bills packet. The bills were reviewed and approved. The Motorola bill is for 9 truck radios that should be allocated to each truck they are being installed in. City bill was for April, May, June and July. Morgan asked about Stoeber's. Stoeber said that his base rate is 800 and then charges for special projects like National Dispatch, Audit, etc. Morgan stated for the record that he feels Stoeber should charge for his time spent in meeting, etc. Stoeber stated that he will take that under advisement but is happy to donate some of his time back to the community. Selkee asked about the SenseIt bill. HF warranty repair on a gas detector. A motion

was made by Selkee and seconded by Cranor to approve payment of the bills. Motion passed unanimously. No transfer needed.

**V. Correspondence:**

None.

**VI. Old Business:**

- A. **City/District IGA:** Committee decided to use the City's bidding process for the new fire house project. An advertisement has been put out locally and online for Letters of Interest. Smith wants to make sure that the District Board and fire department are kept informed before major decisions are made. Morgan said that he feels like the Board assigned two members to the Committee to represent the District Board. Smith understands that but wants to make sure that the entire board and fire department are included when we get to the point where major decisions are being made. Stoeber commented that his position on the committee is not a voting member but he thinks that a volunteer should be a part of the discussions to make sure they are happy with the path forward because they are the boots on the ground part of this. Kendall, District Attorney, needs to make sure that he knows what the District and Fire Department want so he can represent them well. HF has spoke with Bob Gydessen and he has agreed to come to the committee meetings and HF wouldn't mind one more volunteer as well. Morgan asked how other people get on the committee, can it be done. Spritzer more members can be added as long as the numbers per entity are no exceeded. HF said that bottom line is that this is being done for the volunteers. If this doesn't benefit the volunteers then we are doing it wrong. Smith is worried that there is not a lot of information coming out of the committee meetings. HF and Stoeber commented that the IGA is far from completed. Stoeber, who has the votes. HF stated that the votes will actually happen at the District and City levels.
- B. **Buidling** – nothing
- C. **Truck** – McD reported that Tender 25 is almost complete, 60 days out on new Hazmat. F250's – are in que.
- D. **Election – Mil Levy Increase/New Station (November, 2025):** Nothing new to report.

**VII. Fire Marshal's/Chief's Report:**

- A. H. Ferchau reported that it has been busy the last few weeks. Labor day was super busy. Lost of wrecks on the outer limits of the District, Camper fire. Spritzer asked about response. HF response has been ok, but during Labor day weekend if they had been more calls may have been a problem.

**VIII. Fleet Maintenance Manager's Report:**

- A. McDonough reported that pump testing is going. Engine 24 failed, debris in the pump. Morgan – flushing. There are screens in place already but he thinks that this debris came in from the top when filling. Doesn't happen very often. Putting tires on a few trucks.

**IX. New Business:**

- A. Pension Board: Spritzer reported that back in 1960 the City purchased a term life insurance policy on specific people. When this people pass away the family gets \$2,000. There are 4 people left. The process of getting these funds is hard and Ben Cowan would like to pay out the 4 people now 50,50 (4,000 and 4,000). Cranor, Selkee, motion passed.

- B. Budget: HF handed out the proposed budget for review. Highlights: HF – regular operating budget – highlighted. Salaries are not listed, would like to have an Executive Meeting, on the agenda. Capital budget – f250’s, city line item that will be reimbursed, training facility concrete is added since nothing was done last year, heavy duty drive on lift. 2025 general fund budget sheet shows the way it has been done in the past and shows what it would look like with the City District 50 50 split. Morgan asked if the CSU program is being used. HF it has been in the past but this year was a little light. Morgan – drone – no interest?? HF – passed out some books for people to get certified and no interest. SO has a good drone program that is available to the fire department. Valuation sheet – City is half of the District’s, this is because the big hazards in the city don’t pay taxes (schools, city, county, hospital, etc.)

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Spritzer stated “The Gunnison County Fire Protection District would like to go into an executive session. There is no intention to take any formal action during this executive session. This executive session is to gather information only.” A motion was made by Smith and seconded by Selkee to enter into an executive session to discuss personnel compensation pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4) (f) (I). Motion passed unanimously.

#### X. **Unscheduled Business:**

- A. Cranor spoke about his schedule with District meetings and committee meeting with health appointments. Treatments are wrapping up so he should be able to attend meetings with regularity. Cranor wants to stay on the City District committee.
- B. McDonough – Jared Lee wants out of Sargents VFD, funds needs to be moved from Jared to District until Sargents starts back up. This is also done for Almont with the land. Stober – put in an interest bearing account until needed. Morgan asked if there should be a sunset date. Motion by Cranor seconded by smith . Passed unanimously.
- C. Request from Pitkin for \$4,000 annual contribution. Looking at installing culverts and excavation for their new fire house and repairing their fire siren / paging system. All paperwork turned in. Morgan would like to see a purchase first and then reimburse. Spritzer, may not have the funds to do the work. Selkee, can they get a bid or quote for work to be done? Morgan is looking for more accountability for funds being requested. Selkee agrees with more accountability. Board consensus for receiving Proof of purchase. A motion was made by Cranor and seconded by Smith to approve payment of the \$4,000 contribution and proof of purchase. Passed unaanimously

Executive session - board members and HF 7:49pm  
Spritzer –

Smith, Selkee – passed unanimously.

Ended 8:47

**XI.** **Adjourn:**

A motion was made by Morgan and seconded by Morgan to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.