

**CORTEZ FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
January 8, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Bridgewater called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the meeting room at Station #1. Roll call followed and the board members present were Orly Lucero, Lori Johnson, Kent Lindsay, Keenan Ertel and Jim Bridgewater. Administrative Assistant Wendy Mimiaga, Asst. Chief Charles Balke and Chief Jeff Vandevorde were present for the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the regular meeting, held on December 11, 2013, were brought before the board for approval.

OLori Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular Board of Directors meeting held on December 11, 2013, Orly Lucero seconded. The minutes for the meeting were approved on the following vote:

Ertel	Lindsay	Lucero	Johnson	Bridgewater
Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS**

The board reviewed the list of bills and accounts and the financials included in the Board packet. Ms. Johnson asked about a check paid to Chad Daniels for \$2,600. Ms. Mimiaga explained that was for Christmas gifts purchased for the eleven families the firefighters adopt. This money is from a payroll liability that is deducted from employee paychecks each pay period. It is not District money. Ms. Johnson also inquired if some of the Christmas gifts were bought on the Wal-Mart card as there were charges for Christmas items on the bill. Ms. Mimiaga explained that those charges were for items purchased to decorate the station and the fire truck for the Parade of Lights and the party afterwards. President Bridgewater asked about the \$888.00 charge to Home Depot. Chief Vandevorde explained that was to purchase additional wardrobe cabinets for the on duty firefighters. Two additional beds were also purchased as we will have five firefighters on duty instead of four.

Kent Lindsay made a motion to accept the bills and financials including the supplemental list of bills, Lori Johnson seconded. The motion passed as follows:

Ertel	Lindsay	Lucero	Johnson	Bridgewater
Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chief Vandevorde introduced the three new fulltime firefighters, Kevin Dunn, Ben Kiessel and Brock Fortson, to the Board. They will start on January 13, 2014. The Board welcomed them to the department.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Included in the packet were inclusions from the Cortez Journal from December 24, 27, 31, 2013.

**REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

A report of the current financial accounts was included in the packet. The county treasurers' office distributed a total of \$6,272.95 to the district for the month of December, 2013. \$6,200.47 for the general

mill levy, and \$72.48 for the additional two (2) mill levy.

The business money market account at 1<sup>st</sup> Southwest Bank had a balance of \$128,946.85 as of December 31, 2013 with Interest earned in December, 2013 of \$28.26, total interest paid in 2013 was \$482.05. The annual percentage yield remained at 0.25%. The 24 month jumbo CD of \$252,500 at 0.90% earned \$189.81 on December 13, 2013. Total interest paid in 2013 is \$2,299.89 and total to date is \$4,199.69. The current balance is \$256,699.69. Ms. Mimiaga will inquire about current interest rates the first part of February as this CD matures on February 13, 2014.

The balance in the State Farm account, as of December 31, 2013, was \$990,271.68 with interest earned in December, 2013 of \$546.53. Interest earned in 2013 was \$6,502.08. The interest rate remained at 0.65%. The total in the reserve accounts is \$1,375,918.22.

Ms. Johnson had a question at the last Board meeting about the \$2,000 increased health insurance payment in October. After looking at the payment, Ms. Mimiaga explained that it was for the quarterly payment made to two fulltime firefighters who have opted out of the health benefit package. Those who have health insurance coverage through a different provider, i.e. on their spouse's policy, are paid \$4,000 per year in lieu of the health benefit. This will give them a benefit, cash payment, and also saved the District as the \$4,000 is less than what the actual health insurance premium would cost. These payments are made quarterly.

The Federal Reserve voted to decrease the quantitative easing \$10 billion per month, \$75 billion from \$85 billion, at the December FOMC meeting. The fed funds rate will remain the same, 0 to .25%, until unemployment falls below 6.5%, and inflation does not increase above 2%. This \$10 billion decrease should not affect the markets, and it will probably not help in increasing interest rates. Ben Bernanke will step down as the Chairman of the Federal Reserve at the end of January, 2014, and Janet Yellen will take his place. Ms. Yellen has been the vice-chair of the Board of Governors for the Federal Reserve since October, 2012.

#### **REPORT FROM THE ASST. CHIEF**

Asst. Chief Balke went over his report that was included in the packet along with a list of the trainings, meetings and events he attended. Asst. Chief Balke reported that there was a live fire training in December in Farmington.

The Provider Grant has opened and we will be putting in for more rope rescue equipment and AED's to replace some of the older equipment we have. We are also looking into a city/county wide AED grant program.

Also included in the report was a graph of the monthly calls and response times for December broken down by district. The weighted average response time for the month of December, taking into consideration all districts, was five minutes, fifty-one seconds.

The web site is up and running. All members will need to re-register. The bell ringing for the Salvation Army went very well. There were a lot of positive comments about the fire District throughout the day from the public. Mel Heath, Salvation Army, reported that the firefighters took in the most amount of money in one day at Wal-Mart again this year, about \$1,500. He attributes this to the fact that the public really likes and respects the firefighters.

#### **REPORT FROM THE FIRE CHIEF**

Chief Vandevoorde went over his report and list of meetings that was included in the packet. The Chief reminded the Board that the Board Retreat will be held on Sunday, January 26, 2014 at noon at the First National Bank community room.

Chief Vandevoorde reported that the new fire truck was picked up the day after Christmas and taken to Albuquerque for additional work. This is the closest place to have warranty work done. It should be

back the week of January 13, 2014.

There were 142 calls during the month of December, 115 EMS, 23 fire and 4 vehicle accidents. The total calls for the year 2013, is 1612. The Chief commented that this is a lot of calls for one station to run

Chief Vandevoorde thanked all the members who participated in all the holiday events we had, delivering the toys to the eleven families we adopted, bringing Santa to Market and Main and helping hand out toys with the American Legion, and ringing the bell all day at Wal-Mart for the Salvation Army.

Nick McDonald submitted a letter of resignation as a volunteer and a reserve firefighter. Chief Vandevoorde commented that Mr. McDonald has been a member of the Cortez Fire District for many years, and will be missed. He will always be welcomed back.

Ms. Mimiaga asked if there needed to be a motion to accept Mr. McDonald's resignation. *(note: This was incorrect as the Board would only accept the resignation from the Chief, all other resignations are handled by the Chief.)*

Keenan Ertel made a motion to accept Nick McDonalds resignation, Orly Lucero seconded. The motion passed as follows:

Ertel	Lindsay	Lucero	Johnson	Bridgewater
Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to come before the board, Keenan Ertel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Orly Lucero seconded. The motion passed as follows:

Ertel	Lindsay	Lucero	Johnson	Bridgewater
Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

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Jim Bridgewater – President

Attest:

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Kent Lindsay – Secretary/Treasurer