

**CORTEZ FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 8, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Orly Lucero called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room at Station #1. Roll call followed after the Pledge of Allegiance and the board members present were Lori Johnson, Kent Lindsay, Sherri Wright and Orly Lucero. Diane Fox was absent. Administrative Assistant Wendy Mimiaga, Asst. Chief Charles Balke and Chief Jeff Vandevoorde were present for the meeting.

Lori Johnson made a motion to excuse Diane Fox from the Board of Directors meeting, Sherri Wright seconded. The motion passed on the following vote:

|        |         |        |         |        |
|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox    | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| absent | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

There were no changes or additions to the agenda for the Board of Directors meeting, April 8, 2015.

Sherri Wright made a motion to approve the agenda for the April 8, 2015 Board of Directors meeting, Kent Lindsay seconded. The agenda was approved on the following vote:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the regular meeting, held on March 11, 2015, were brought before the board for approval.

Sherri Wright made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular Board of Directors meeting held on March 11, 2015, Kent Lindsay seconded. The minutes for the meeting were approved on the following vote:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

**BILLS AND ACCOUNTS**

The board reviewed the list of bills, accounts and the financials included in the Board packet. Ms. Johnson asked to go over the charges on the three (3) visa credit cards, which Chief Vandevoorde explained each.

Mr. Lindsay asked what was wrong with Rescue-2 based on the bills for Diesel Technology. Chief Vandevoorde explained that there was a problem with the foam system. When it was turned on, it would leak water into the fuel system, which would then need to be drained. It has since been fixed. Mr. Lindsay also inquired about the \$3,267.28 expenditure under Recruitment and Retention on the profit and loss statement. The Chief explained that it was for the awards banquet.

Lori Johnson made a motion to accept the bills and financials including the supplemental list of bills, Sherri Wright seconded. The motion passed on the following vote:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Included in the packet were inclusions from the Cortez Journal from April 3, 2015, and thank you notes from Haley Vallejos for Asst. Chief Balke's saving her horse, and the three grandchildren of Puff and Jim Bridgewater for the station tour they received from Kody Deavers..

### **REPORT FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**

A report of the current financial accounts was included in the packet. The county treasurer's office distributed a total of \$335,528.86 to the district for the month of March, 2015. \$193,637.69 for the general mill levy, and \$141,891.17 for the additional mill levy.

The business money market account at 1<sup>st</sup> Southwest Bank had a balance of \$129,349.32 as of March 31, 2015 with Interest earned in March, 2015 of \$28.35. The annual percentage yield remained at 0.25%, and the interest paid year to date was \$79.71. The 3 year jumbo CD of \$257,092.42 at 0.60% earned \$119.07 on March 13, 2015. Total interest paid year to date is \$382.53, with the total interest paid on the CD to date being \$1,666.22 for an updated balance of \$258,758.64.

There was no new update on the CD at First national Bank. It is only updated on a quarterly bases. \$250,000 was deposited in a jumbo CD, at 0.98%, for 5 years at the First National Bank of Cortez on February 14, 2014. On February 14, 2015, a quarterly interest payment was made on the CD of \$622.07. The total interest paid is \$2,459.02. The value, as of February 14, 2015 is \$252,459.02.

The balance in the State Farm account, as of March 31, 2015, was \$846,485.99 with interest earned in March, 2015 of \$431.25, and year to date \$1,208.67. The interest rate remained at 0.60%. The total in the reserve accounts is \$1,487,052.97.

A current update on the economy was included in the report. The jobless rate remained at 5.5% in March, adding only 126,000 jobs, less than the 245,000 expected. With the dollar as strong as it is, and the shortfall is job creation in March, it is expected that the Fed will postpone a rate increase at their June meeting. It is speculated that an increase in the short term rates will not happen until September, or later. The economy grew at 2.2% in 2014.

Ms. Johnson inquired about the FPPA audit, and asked to see a copy of it for next month. Ms. Mimiaga replied that the audit had been requested and required by FPPA and has been completed and sent to FPPA. According to our auditor, Rachel, everything seems to be in compliance. A copy will be included in the May Board packet.

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

Asst. Chief Balke included his report in the packet along with a list of the trainings, meetings and events he attended. Asst. Chief Balke reported that the shift trainings were canceled due to the changes in the shifts. These trainings will be rescheduled.

The cadet program is up and running. They will be meeting monthly each Thursday after the Board meeting. The cadets will also be attending a mini academy consisting of fourteen (14) classes for a total of fifty-six (56) hours of training.

The Asst. Chief is also working on updating the probationary and position task books and the probationary evaluation program.

We were approved for the 2014 VFA grant for PPE, tools and equipment. The grant is for \$4,566 with a fifty percent match. There has not been an update on the AFG grant, and we were just notified that we were denied the Firefighter Health and Safety grant. We have started working on gathering information to submit for an Energy Impact grant for the new station.

The Community CPR program is doing well. It is scheduled for the third Sunday of each month at Station One. We have had three months of the community classes, which have filled. We also offer classes for entities, the last being for the County Health Department, thirty people. This month, April, we have thirty-six people scheduled for the City of Cortez.

Reading with a Firefighter will begin again on Thursdays at the public library, and the Citizens Fire Academy is scheduled to begin on April 30, 2015.

A graph of the monthly calls and response times for March, broken down by district, was included. The weighted average response time for the month of March, taking into consideration all districts, was five minutes, fifty-four seconds.

Asst. Chief Balke went to Towaoc to help the Ute Mountain Ute fire department with one day of in-service safety aerial apparatus training. They have just recently purchased a 1981 aerial (ladder) truck. Additional training will be necessary.

## **REPORT FROM THE FIRE CHIEF**

Chief Vandevoorde went over his report and list of meetings that was included in the packet. Chief Vandevoorde reported that Jared Miller has submitted his resignation effective April 4, 2015. He has accepted a fulltime position with the Farmington fire department.

The building committee met with Ken Charles, Department of Local Affairs, on March 25, 2015 to discuss grants for the new station. Mr. Charles gave us good information on when to apply and an idea of what to expect based on current grant awards. We are currently working on a site and geo-tech surveys that need to be submitted to the architect. Mr. Lindsay commented that a study was done in the past by the USDA, soil conservation, and everything is fine, no hazardous material, etc. The soil is very good.

There were 169 calls during the month of March, 141 EMS calls, 21 fire calls and 7 vehicle accidents, for a total of 478 calls for 2015.

With Mr. Miller resigning, he was one of the newly promoted Lieutenants, Roger Beckermeyer will be promoted into the position. We had four people test for three positions. Mr. Beckermeyer did very well on the Lieutenants testing process, the scores were very close. Cody Rogers will be promoted to a full time firefighter, from part time, to fill Mr. Beckermeyer's position. Mr. Rogers

recently tested for a fulltime position and also did very well. Now six (6) of our nine (9) full time firefighters are local from Cortez.

A list of the fire inspections from Sean Canada was also included with the Chief's report.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation of Director Diane Fox** – Diane Fox submitted a letter of resignation from the Board of Directors as of April 8, 2015. She and her husband are moving out of the area and relocating to Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lori Johnson made a motion to accept the resignation of Diane Fox from the Board of Directors of the Cortez Fire Protection District, Sherri Wright seconded. The motion passed on the following vote:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

Mr. Lindsay asked that we send her a certificate.

Chief Vandevoorde asked the Board how they would like to proceed on filling the vacancy. Information from the attorney was included in the packet.

President Lucero stated that we should advertise the position for thirty (30) days and request a letter of intent form all interested, qualified individuals. Then schedule a special meeting to talk with the candidates. It was recommended to run an announcement in the legal section of the Cortez Journal once a week, varying Tuesdays and Fridays, and post the opening on our website and at the four (4) designated posting places for the Board meetings. The special meeting will be scheduled at the next regular Board meeting.

**CD rates** – Chief Vandevoorde explained to the Board that it is his belief there is an excessive amount of money in the State Farm Bank, and that it would be in the best interest of the District to re-invest \$250,000 - \$300,000 into a Certificate of Deposit (CD). A list of current local CD rates was included in the packet. The Chief recommended a five (5) year CD. Currently our CD maturity dates are staggered, and we will still have ample liquidity in our other investments.

Lori Johnson made a motion to move \$300,000 from the State Farm Bank to a five (5) year CD at 1.15% at the Community Banks of Colorado, Kent Lindsay seconded. The motion passed on the following vote:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

Mr. Lindsay inquired what we anticipate interest rates to do in this time frame. It was explained that we do not see much of a change anytime soon. When we talk about the Federal Reserve raising interest rates, we are referring to the short term federal funds rate, the rate at which the Fed charges banks to borrow money. When this rate goes up, it is expected to trickle down to consumer rates to borrow money, but the rates to invest will take a little longer to catch up. It is also not expected that the Fed will consider doing this at their June meeting as previously thought, due to other economic factors, and it will be a little further into the future. It was also pointed out that the way our CD maturities are staggered, if there is a sudden increase in interest rates, we will have other monies becoming liquid that will be available for reinvestment.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business to come before the board, Sherri Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Kent Lindsay seconded. The motion passed as follows:

|         |         |        |         |        |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Fox     | Lindsay | Wright | Johnson | Lucero |
| excused | yes     | yes    | yes     | yes    |

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Orly Lucero – President

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kent Lindsay – Secretary/Treasurer