

Aspen Fire Protection District



420 E Hopkins Avenue ▪ Aspen, CO 81611 ▪ 970-925-5532 ▪ www.aspenfire.com

Board of Directors Regular Meeting June 18, 2018

Meeting called to order at 5:05 pm by Karl

Roll Call:

- Board of Directors: Karl Adam, Denis Murray, John Ward (arrived 5:40), Stoney Davis, Dave Walbert
- Absent:
- Staff/Volunteers: Rick Balentine, Parker Lathrop, Ken Josselyn, Jan Schubert, Ryan Warren, Adrian Aguilar, Charles Curtis, Roy Holloway, Josh Burnaman, Jan Legersky, Jeff Edelson, Erin Smiddy, Adam Cohen, Jason Lasser, Ritchie Zah, Mike Haman, Bruce Bradshaw, Jacob Arywitz, Sandy Schiff and Braulio Jerez
- Public/Others: Don Diones, Karl Hanlon

Approval of Minutes:

Motion from Denis to approve minutes from Regular Meeting on May 11, 2018. Karl Second. All Approved.

Don Diones, Gerge K. Baum & Company

- George K. Baum & Company is a municipal bonds firm and look forward to working with district in helping pass mill levy/revenue increase. They just came off successful campaign for Platteville-Gilcrest Fire Protection District. Don met today with Chief Balentine, along with several staff/volunteer members and public to discuss campaign committee.
- AFD has an evaluation of \$2.4 billion. The numbers that have been looked at are the equivalent to approximately 1 mill or approximately \$2,500,000. You can vote for a new mill levy or a set dollar amount for tax increase. The advantage of a mill levy increase is that when evaluation goes up, you can collect more money in tax revenues. If you do dollar amount and evaluation goes down, you collect same amount of money.
- Don discussed the Gallagher Amendment and the effects it could have on a district.
- Don went over timelines for putting question on ballot. Board will need to approve resolution to place on ballot by September 7th. Clerks office will need to be notified by July 27th that district will participate in election. An IGA between Aspen Fire and Pitkin County Clerks office will need to be signed sometime in August.
- Don will provide board with sample questions in July for consideration.

Public Comment:

- Karl thanked the staff/volunteers for the letters written to the board.
- Ken Josselyn spoke as citizen, volunteer and career member of district. Ken circulated a petition that was signed by 26 of 38 members, along with personal letters to the board. Ken asked that an amendment be made to resolution that was passed last month to include funding more mills to include operational costs and future staffing needs for volunteers and career positions. Ken pointed out that there were several people wanting to speak, that didn't speak last meeting and didn't feel what was represented last month was how they felt. Several members stood up and spoke. **Recording of this meeting may be requested from the District Administrator.**

- Karl A. proposed setting up a committee involving board member, voted on members and volunteers to discuss services needed, performance metrics for volunteers and come up with clear plan for future. Rick has worked on much of this already. He believes the operational plan that was presented is a strong one. This plan is to help back up the volunteers and make the training program better. Rick believes that the majority of people who have read it and understand it, do support it.
- Mike Haman stated that the campaign committee is ready to move forward.

Board Comments/Action Items:

- **Motion from Stoney to officially notify County that we will have a question on November ballot. John Second. 4-1 Vote in favor.**
- **Motion from Stoney to set 1.25 mill levy. Wabs Second. Discussion: There was further discussion if this amount is enough. It was discussed moving forward to get this passed. Rick to continue to fine tune details of mill levy allocation amounts to determine best use of funds based on needs of district that best serve public interest, safety of citizens and responders. Vote 4-1 in favor.**
- Dave Walbert, Stoney Davis and Denis Murray took Oathes.
- Board Seats: Stoney nominated Karl for President, Wabs Second. All Approved. Denis will remain Vice President, Stoney will stay as Treasurer and John will be Secretary.
- Board requested agenda item for Aspen Ambulance Letter to Editor be removed.
- Stoney mentioned to board he doesn't think Chief should be out at wildfires. Rick stated there were three new firefighters and he felt obligated to go.

CEO/Fire Chief:

- U.S. Honor Flag Firehouse Chefs was great. There was a lot of support. There was approximately \$7000 brought in before expenses.
- July 4th: This will be a fundraiser this year.
- Grand Junction Property: There is a new offer on the table. They have attended first Planning & Zoning meeting. It looks positive.
- Starwood Substation: Rick will be attending meeting June 19th and will discuss the second bay enclosure.
- Airport MOU: The meeting was cancelled again last week. Rick asked advice from the board. Karl Hanlon encouraged board to create relationship to work with Board of County Commissioners.

Motion from John to adjourn. Second by Karl. All Approved.