

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
February 9, 2023**

Commissioner Larry Scarborough called the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 5:31 p.m. at the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station.

The following Cascade Rural Fire Protection District officials were present: Commissioner Larry Scarborough, Commissioner Mike Arnold, Fire Chief Steven Hull, Emergency Medical Services Director Keri Rueth, Secretary / Treasurer Pam DeChambeau, and an excused absence for Commissioner LaDawn Saxton.

Mike Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2023 regular Commissioner's meeting as presented, and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Scarborough made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills dated February 9, 2023, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported on completing applying for the Assistance to Firefighters grant for a wildland type 6 engine. Reported the cost of the wildland type 6 engine is \$285,000. Reported the required grant funding match is \$26,500 and that includes payment to JMCM Consulting, the grant writer. Reported notice of awards for the grant will be in September 2023. Reported on the plan to apply for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant. Reported on a meeting with the Valley County Commissioners and the Donnelly and McCall fire departments to discuss emergency medical services funding. Presented and reviewed the annual cost to provide ambulance services in Valley County. Reviewed the 10 year replacement cost per ambulance and personnel costs and reported an additional \$653,187 for each fire department is needed. Reported Valley County stated they will report back to the fire departments in a couple of weeks.

Keri Rueth presented the research completed to propose an increase in emergency medical services fees and reported on increasing the fees ten percent (10%). Requested to schedule a public hearing to increase emergency medical services fees at the next regular meeting Thursday, March 9, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported twenty-four (24) incidents for the month of January 2023, and reported the average for January is thirty-one (31) incidents. Reported incident responses are being posted to the department's Facebook page. Reported on requesting additional help five (5) times. Reported on continuing to learn the new incident reporting software. Reported February 8 was the one year anniversary of the Watkins Pharmacy structure fire.

Keri Rueth reported on completion of applying for the renewal of the State of Idaho Emergency Medical Services Agency License. Reported on receiving notice that an inspection for the renewal of the agency license will be scheduled but reported an inspection was never scheduled or completed last year for the renewal of the agency license. Reported on receipt of two (2) employment applications for volunteer Emergency Medical Technician. Reported on two (2) current volunteer employees enrolled in the Emergency Medical Technician certification course being held at Donnelly Fire Department.

Steven Hull presented an annual current salary worksheet with an increase to \$32.00 per hour for Paramedic / Firefighters and an increase to \$28.00 per hour for Emergency Medical Technician / Firefighters. Reported the annual increase is in the amount of \$303,000. Presented an annual current salary worksheet with the addition of three (3) Paramedic / Firefighters and three Emergency Medical Technician / Firefighters and with a moderate increase in the current hourly wages. Reported total annual salaries in the amount of \$967,000. Presented an annual current salary worksheet with an increase to \$32.00 per hour for Paramedic / Firefighters and an increase to \$28.00 per hour for Emergency Medical Technician / Firefighters, with the addition of three (3) Paramedic / Firefighters and three Emergency Medical Technician / Firefighters, with the addition of a Deputy Chief position, and with a full-time Secretary/ Treasurer. Reported the annual increase is in the amount of \$482,460. Reported on the worksheets showing numbers for the direction need to head. Reported on the need for a special tax levy election to submit the question to increase the property tax levy revenues six hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000). Discussion followed on providing more and continued information to voters for a permanent tax levy override election and the avenues to provide the information to the voters. Steven Hull reported on writing in the City of Cascade monthly newsletter about the about the upcoming special tax levy election. Discussion followed on speaking with older community members. Mike Arnold asked what the medium home price is in the fire district. Reported the annual increase in property tax for a home valued at \$350,000 would be \$181, or \$15 per month, if the election was successful.

Resolution 23-04, a resolution calling for a Special Tax Levy Election Tuesday, May 16, 2023 to submit the question to increase the property tax levy revenues six hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) was reviewed. Larry Scarborough made a motion to adopt Resolution 23-04 authorizing the special tax levy override election Tuesday, May 16, 2023, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Larry Scarborough, aye; Mike Arnold, aye. Motion carried.

The official ballot for the Special Tax Levy authorizing a permanent Special Tax Levy up to \$650,00.00 per year was reviewed. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the official ballot for the special tax levy, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chairperson