

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
September 14, 2023**

Commissioner Larry Scarborough called the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 5:30 p.m. at the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station.

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

Larry Scarborough made a motion to accept the agenda as written, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion.

Perpetua Resources Community Relations Manager, Belinda Provancher reported Perpetua Resources is moving forward with the Stibnite Gold Project. Reported the draft Record of Decision will be by the end of this year along with a final Environmental Impact Statement. Reported after the final Environmental Impact Statement there is a forty-five (45) day comment period. Reported after the comment period, comments are reviewed and a final Record of Decision is issued. Reported after the final Record of Decision five or six more permits need to be obtained. Reported construction should begin by the end of next year with operations beginning in 2027. Reported the planning process for operations and safety programs are in place today. Reported the project will have to follow Occupations Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations & when the project is converted to a mining site will have to follow Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) regulations. Reported a meeting was scheduled and held with a supplier of cyanide and the Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall fire departments and the Valley County Sheriff's Department to provide hazardous material education. Reported over the course of the next couple of years plan to schedule meetings with the Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall fire departments and the Valley County Sheriff's Department more frequently. Reported on being committed to doing joint training sessions with the departments and addressing the concerns and needs of the departments. Discussed the fire department's need for large or specialized extrication equipment. Discussed the need to develop how to share information. Kyle Fend, Field Operations Manager and CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) Project Coordinator presented and reviewed the safety programs, the environmental and occupational health and safety management systems, and the emergency response plans. Reported the programs provide the procedure and process to step through for an incident. Reported on continuing to adjust and expand the safety programs and management systems as construction and operations progress through the different stages of the project. Reported on offering hazardous response training at the site. Reported the current training is mostly centered around transporting fuel out to the project site. Reported training courses are tracked for employees. Reported the employee team at the project site are HAZWOPER certified individuals. Reported the 40-hour HAZWOPER training course is designed for employees who are involved in clean-up operations, voluntary clean-up operations, emergency response operations, and storage, disposal, or treatment of hazardous substances or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Reported

Hazardous Materials Technician level training for some employees. Reported an on-site emergency response team will handle on-site responses to fire or hazardous material or emergency rescue until out to a higher level of care. Reported on being responsible for transporting hazardous materials to and from the project site and reported transported materials have escort vehicles in front and in back of the haul and the drivers have hazmat training for any incident that might happen. Confirmed a mutual aid agreement it an agreement to help each other in a time of need.

Lary Scarborough made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2023 regular Commissioner's meeting, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills dated September 14, 2023 as noted, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported an insurance claim was submitted for the damage to two (2) fire station bay door panels with the Rescue Truck, a check has been received, and parts are ordered but have not been received. Reported on being a Stibnite Foundation 2023 Grant recipient for first responder radios. Reported on receiving partial funding in the amount of \$2,250. Reported the Valley County the joint public hearings to establish Cascade Rural Fire Protection District, Donnelly Rural Fire Protection District, and McCall Fire Protection District Development Impact Fees is scheduled for Monday, October 16, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

Keri Rueth reported on the Valley County Emergency Medical Services District contract to provide emergency medical services from October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024 being finalized with the Valley County Commissioners, and reported the contract will be presented for approval at the next regular commissioner's meeting Thursday, October 12, 2023.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported forty-five (45) incidents for the month of August 2023, and reported fifty-one (51) is the average for August. Reported the pumps and ladders were tested on all the Engines and everything passed except Engine 4 did not pass pump test. Reported Engine 4 made it further than last year, pulled a draft, filled itself, but will not pump the necessary gallons per minute. Reported Engine 4 will not be used for structure fires and will be set-up for a second out for wildland fire to haul and shuttle water. Reported Gavin Courtney instructed extrication training, did a great job, and another extrication training is planned for next week.

Keri Rueth reported on replacing a Cascade School District AED with one returned from the Senior Center / Cascade Community Center.

Joe Gams presented his work and life experience and requested \$2,500 to cover the cost of the deposit for Paramedic certification training with the goal of obtaining certification within twenty-four (24) months. Reported on being volunteer employee on a weekly

basis. Reported the program costs \$10,500 not including lodging and airfare, and starts January 9, 2023. Reported he will pay for the rest of the program himself. Reviewed classroom time and travel requirements. This item will be on the next regular meeting agenda Thursday, October 12, 2023.

Steven Hull presented and reviewed changes to Vacation Leave. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the changes presented and requested for Vacation Leave, and LaDawn Saxton second the motion. Motion carried.

Keri Rueth presented a request for a discount for an emergency medical services billing for incident 23-210. Reported the discount request will pay in full and reported no health insurance. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve a fifteen percent (15%) discount for the emergency medical services billing for incident 23-210, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Mike Arnold discussed the three percent credit card processing fee and requested to amend the motion to include the three percent credit card processing fee if paid by credit card. Larry Scarborough amended his motion to approve a fifteen percent (15%) discount for the emergency medical services billing for incident 23-210, and to discount an additional three percent for the credit card processing fee if paid by credit card, and LaDawn Saxton amended her second to the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chairperson