

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES
March 14, 2024**

Commissioner Larry Scarborough called the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 5:29 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.

Pam DeChambeau reported two items, appointment of a member to the Valley Countywide EMS District, Ad Hoc Budget and Fees Committee, and the Standing Interagency EMS District Committee, were posted to the agenda at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, March 12 because the information was received Wednesday morning. Reported all other agenda items were posted on the website and fire station front door notice box well in advance of the forty-eight (48) hour agenda notice requirement. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the agenda with the two additional items, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Scarborough opened the public hearing and stated the hearing was to consider public comments on the amendment to the budget for the fiscal year October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2024. Stated the reason for the amendment is for revenue received in lieu of taxes from Valley County in the amount of \$216,857 and revenue received from Valley County EMS District in the amount \$9,582 for the contract to provide emergency medical services. Stated the notice of the public hearing was published in The Star-News on March 7, 2024. Stated no members of the public were present and no written correspondence has been received commenting on the proposed increase. Reported the amendment will increase the contract services - VCEMS District revenue line item \$226,430, and will increase the capital improvement expenditure line item \$226,430. The amended budget was reviewed. Larry Scarborough closed the public hearing.

Susan Lasuen, Operations Director of the Idaho Independent Intergovernmental Authority Trust, reviewed the Annual Report of the trust for the period October 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023. Reported 103 agencies, 2,139 employees, a \$35,000,000 annual budget, and \$629,000 total savings from programs. Reported ninety-eight percent (98%) of the agencies participated in wellness screenings. Reported on receiving approval from the Department of Insurance to sell products individually. Reported on purchases of the mental health program. Reported a reduction in administrative and operating expenses over the last three years. Reported for every dollar spent, 87.2 percent is spent on claims. Reported a \$2,900,000 coronavirus disease economic impact reimbursement. Reported \$1,800,000 in prescription rebates, an increase of 104 percent over last year. Reported twelve agencies joined a medical plan. Reported twenty-three (23) members' claims were over \$100,000, compared to last year's thirty-five (35) members. Reported the savings from the maternity, medical infusion, telehealth, wondr health, tobacco cessation, and health coaching medical programs. Reported on the Wellness Screening Program, and reported on detecting four (4) elevated prostate-specific antigen (PSA) levels, two (2)

Type-2 diabetes diagnoses, and 125 elevated lipid panels. Reported on dermatology skin checks at wellness screenings and expanding the skins checks. Reported ten employees joined a dental plan and nine employees joined a vision plan. Reported the mental health plan had 2,139 employees and 1,788 visits. Reported 216 First Responder Helpline Calls and reported 5 were crisis calls.

Larry Scarborough reviewed Resolution 24-04 to amend and increase the 2023-2024 budget \$226,439 for revenue received in lieu of taxes from Valley County in the amount of \$216,857 and revenue received from Valley County EMS District in the amount \$9,582 for the contract to provide emergency medical services. Reported the amendment will increase the contract services - VCEMS District revenue line item \$226,430, and will increase the capital improvement expenditure line item \$226,430. Mike Arnold made a motion to approve Resolution 24-04 to amend and increase the 2023-2024 budget in the amount of \$226,430 to include funds received from Valley County and the Valley County EMS District for the contract to provide to provide emergency medical services, and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike Arnold made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024 regular Commissioner's meeting, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pam DeChambeau reported the expense line item was changed from minor equipment to building repair and maintenance for the payment to Amazon Capital Services and the cylinder rental period was corrected to February for the payment to Norco. LaDawn Saxton made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills dated March 14, 2024, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Steven Hull reported on a purchase of a new rescue truck, the chassis type, the suppliers spoken to, the trucks being built in Texas, New York and Florida, Hughes Fire Equipment Service Center located in Meridian, Idaho, a recommended Skeeter built rescue truck, a build time of eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) months, and a purchase price between \$250,000 and \$300,000. Reported on applying for an Idaho EMS Bureau grant for a rescue truck or financing the rescue truck.

Keri Rueth reported on training held on the ventilator and work on bringing in a Respiratory Therapist to do some finalized training with the Medical Director.

NEW BUSINESS:

Steven Hull presented the 2023 Annual Report. Reported on the Idaho Survey and Rating Bureau coming this Tuesday to re-rate the fire district. Reported re-rating is usually done every five years. Reported the Bureau rates the call center for dispatch, the fire department requirements, apparatus, and personnel, the water system, and the municipal water supply. The rating is a point based system that calculates the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) rating and the ISO rating is what insurance for homeowners is based off. Reported nineteen (19) incidents for the month of February 2024 and reported the average for February is twenty-three (23). Reported on plan reviews completed, and the Valley County Road Department maintenance facility on Gold Dust

Road, and the Stinker Station in River District Subdivision. Reported on the Idaho State Fire Commissioners' Association requesting to rent office space at the fire station. Discussion confirmed allowing the Idaho State Fire Commissioners' Association to rent office space at no charge with the agreement that any additional expenses incurred would be paid for by the Association.

Keri Rueth reported receipt of the State of Idaho Emergency Medical Services Agency License #4710 effective through April 30, 2025, and reported the renewal inspection has not been scheduled. Reported on the Valley Countywide EMS District Commissioners approving holding a permanent tax levy increase election Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Reported the tax levy increase is an additional \$24.23 per \$100,000 of property value on top of the current tax levy of \$11.67. Reported on the planned public relations events for the upcoming tax levy increase election. Reported on the Cascade Fire Community Fund, the Donnelly Members Association, and the McCall Fire District's Union being involved in promoting the yes vote. Reported a door to door campaign will be done, there will be banners, flyers, a barbeque the week of voting in Cascade, and Donnelly Members Association is planning a video media campaign.

Keri Rueth presented and reviewed the Valley Countywide EMS District resolution to establish an Ad Hoc Budget and Fees Committee, a short-term committee. Larry Scarborough made a motion to appoint Steven Hull as the primary member and Keri Rueth as the alternate member to the Valley Countywide EMS District Ad Hoc Budget and Fees Committee, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Keri Rueth presented and reviewed the Valley Countywide EMS District resolution to establish the Standing Interagency EMS District Committee. Larry Scarborough made a motion to appoint Keri Rueth as the primary member and Steven Hull as the alternate member to the Valley Countywide EMS District Standing Interagency EMS District Committee, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough
Chairperson