

**MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**October 25, 2022**

At 7:24 PM Wayne DeGesualdo, Chairmen, called the meeting to order. Chuck Nelson, Eric Brown, Wayne DeGesualdo, and Randy Zellner were all in attendance. Darrell Charlesworth was absent with an excused absence.

Wayne DeGesualdo opened with a prayer.

**Approval of the Minutes**

Wayne DeGesualdo asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes. Randy Zellner made a motion to accept the September minutes as presented. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Signs:* Chief Cox talked about the quotes we have and that we are waiting on one more quote. This was tabled until we have more information.

*2023 Budget:* Chuck Nelson presented the 2023 budget. Randy Zellner made a motion to adopt and certify 2023 budget as presented with the addition of the total cost of the ambulance and grant for the ambulance. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS**

***FAMILI ACT***

Stacy Cox explained there was a study meeting to watch an SDA conference meeting about the FAMILI Act. The board was presented with three options- 1) adopt the FAMILI Act and participate, 2) Opt out of the FAMILI Act but be willing to payroll expense for members who want to participate and 3) Opt out and not payroll expense for members but make sure they are informed they can participate on their own. Eric Brown made a motion that MCFA Opt out and not payroll expense for members but make sure they are informed they can participate on their own. Randy Zellner seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

### ***Cancer Trust***

Stacy Cox explained that in order to use the Special District Pool Worker Comp Insurance any eligible employees and volunteers must be part of the cancer trust. Linda explained that Pinnacle Workers comp is also going that direction. Randy Zellner made a motion to join the cancer trust in order to stay with Special District Pool Workers Comp. Eric Brown seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

### ***Treasurers Report***

Chuck Nelson presented the treasurers report. Chuck said Shawn and the department are doing great on keeping costs down. His only concern is that the Department may go over on the fuel line item budget due to raising costs of fuel. Randy Zellner made a motion to except the treasurer's report as presented. Wayne DeGesualdo seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion Carried.

### ***Chiefs Report***

**Personal-** One new member- one not on protocol

**Vehicles:** all in service – had to replace batteries in Brush 51

### **Grants:**

FEMA AFG (COM and LEFPD) COM was awarded the tender

LEFPD is wait and see

FFSD 2022 Grant- Linda wrote the grant for new bunker gear. Was awarded to us and member have been measured for new gear.

VFA Grant Opens October 1st – 50% match up to \$10,000 match

**Trainings:** EMS report writing (BBQ), One Canceled, Bunker Gear, EMS tonight

Went to COTC, Leadership in Supervisor and SDA Conference

**Station Clean Station 51:** Several work days, Floor installed, Interior mostly painted, Lower Cabinets installed, working on baseboards and Counter top. (Have COM Board Meeting 10/5 invited come if interested)

### **Calls-**

### **Page 1 & 2**

Calls are sorted by zip code

## **Page 3 & 4**

Group by Type of Calls

## **Page 5**

Assigned and Mutual Aid 4 ALS mutual aids received, one EMS canceled in route

## **Page 6 & 7**

Time of Day & Arrival

### **Other matters Before the Board:**

None

### **Public Comment:**

Linda Weber said she wants to let the board know that Stacy is doing a good job with both departments, soon to be all three. Shawn has done a great job this last year from bringing on Chevelle to the department full time at a cost the department could afford, along with handling inspections and drive ways reviews. She wanted to recognize the fact that he goes on almost every single call regardless of what he is doing. Linda pointed out that he is paid as little as he is for all that he does when there has been over 500 executive orders and 16% inflation rate in Colorado has driven up the cost of living which results in also \$1,000 in extra expenses for the average Colorado family and he has not asked for more money. Linda Weber also said that the board has been great. Rick Weber asked about the kind of fire trainings and Chief Cox went into more detail. Rick also said that when so many people jump ship we need to investigate and see if our standards are to high or what is going on. Linda Weber made the comment that the department has also been a training ground for those who want a career and move on once they have the experience. Linda Weber said that she understands having the executive session at the end of the meeting is best practice to allow people to leave but it also feels wrong as no one will know the outcome of the session if it is held at the end and everyone leaves.

### ***Executive Session Chief Cox***

Chuck Nelson asked Chief Cox if he wanted an executive session and he said he did not at this time. The Board expressed that they were disappointed that Chief Cox did not follow through with the plan to move forward with getting back on protocol. They were disappointed with his lack of communications with Dr. Burket, Chris Rowland and them and they will not sweep this under the rug and feels this must be addressed. Stacy Cox explained that they do not understand all that he does for the department and how bad the timing was for getting back on protocol with the hoops they wanted him to jump through

because of being so short staffed, Chevelle on maternity leave and several grants requiring a lot of time but bring great rewards to the department. Linda and Rick Weber, feel like it is not the Chief's duty to be on protocol but rather it's his duty to run the department and handle day to day operations. The majority of the board feels that with such a small department that it is necessary for the chief to be on protocol. It was brought up that SOPs and when Chief Cox was hired it does not say he has to be on protocol and it is not in his job description. The Board said the new SOPs are not written yet and that will need to be part of the new SOPs. It was discussed what Chief Cox has to do to get back on protocol and that could include going to work for Delta County and running calls there, yet the board and Chief Cox were unclear exactly what Burket was requiring. After over an hour and forty minutes of discussion it was suggested to table this until after the first of the year. Once Burket has had a chance to cool down from his disappointment, Chevelle has had a chance to get back up to speed after maternity leave and Chief Cox has more availability then see what can be done.

***Adjournment of meeting***

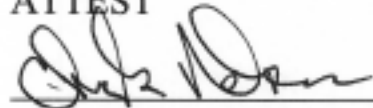
Randy Zellner made a motion to adjourn the board meeting. Chuck Nelson seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 10:06PM.

Next Board Meeting is November 22, 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Stacy Cox, Board/Fire Chief Assistant  
Mesa County Fire Authority



ATTEST



ATTEST