

# **Crystal Lakes Fire Protection District**

(970) 881-3521

## **Board of Directors**

**Minutes for August 17, 2023**

**6:00 PM**

**Crystal Lakes Fire Station**

**Call To Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:05 by President Hass

**Board Members In Attendance:** Don Hass, Jody Randol, Anne Dirmeyer Jim Kubicheck and Robin Lauric.

**In Attendance:** Evan Rau, CLVFD representative and Melanie Nelson, Recording Secretary.

**Absent:** None

**District Members in attendance:** Harold Alexander and Steve Dirmeyer.

**Approval of Agenda:** Under unfinished business add mission statement. Under new business add budget and volunteer firefighter appreciation dates. Jim made a motion to accept the amended agenda, Jody seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes of the Board meeting of July 20, 2023:** Jim made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Jody seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**President's Report:** President Hass has been in touch with the new owners of Beaver Meadows and has their information available if needed.

**Secretary's Report:** None.

**Treasurer's Report:** Secretary Dirmeyer reported that she has changed the format of her report and will include financial information from the prior month only rather than including month-to-date figures as well. This includes income and bank balances.

Expenses are still pending on the boat shed and there is not a total yet, but the expenses have not gone over our not to exceed amount. The budgeted amount was \$20K.

Once the shed is finished, we will need to contact the insurance company for coverage. Currently there is no equipment in the shed. The shed has been painted and the solar system is installed and working. The floor will be painted next week. No equipment will be moved to the shed until department members have received training. This will be discussed at the next business meeting.

Per CLFIRES quarterly update: the fire department has a balance of \$58,353 as of June 30, 2023.

Anne is in the process of adding Jody Randol as an additional signer to the bank account. She will drop off paperwork at the bank tomorrow.

Anne suggested proposed credit limits for the new credit cards: \$4K for the officers, Evan Rau, Marian Kelly and Doug Race; \$2K for the treasurer, Anne Dirmeyer; and \$1K for the maintenance supervisor, Harold Alexander. Jim made a motion to accept the proposed credit limits for the new credit cards, Don seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Robin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Fire Department Report:** Chief Evan Rau presented the monthly report. The full report is found at the end of the regular minutes.

Chief Rau reported that there has been a change in the education leadership at UC Health and some of the more restrictive policies have been lifted. All members are now welcome to attend even if you haven't signed up. UC Health is encouraging the mountain departments to become authorized training centers under the Colorado Department of Health. UC Health is willing to share all training materials as long as we provide quality training. Training day has been moved back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month so it will no longer conflict with CLVFD training.

The siren is now functional on Brush 2. There is an open recall on Brush 1. It should not be parked inside as it could catch on fire. There is currently no fix for the recall, and we will keep the vehicle outside in the meantime.

Hidden Park – some work has already been done and a date has been scheduled for additional work later this fall. There is an RFP out for a forester to do prescriptions. The forester will be responsible for supervising work and prescriptions. Josh Roberts has taken the reins at the county.

Robin asked if the department will be doing a siren test on fire and flood as a community member has raised this question. Evan stated that this is normally done when R&R has their annual meeting, but it has not been done this year. Silent tests are done monthly. This information should be communicated to the community to let them know that although they do not hear it, the system is regularly tested.

Community evacuation practices were also discussed. Evacuation training is designed mainly for a dam failure; however, the same principles apply to wildland fire, although it is less structured. Evacuation training has been discussed at the officer's meetings and will be done before the end of the year.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CWPP:** As a way of ensuring that information was being communicated effectively, Anne Dirmeyer and Robin Lauric agreed to be the liaisons between the Fire Board, Fire Department and CWPP. This way any questions would be funneled through them and forwarded to the appropriate person. However, there seems to be a failure of communication and this process is not being utilized in the way it was intended. Evan will see if he can open a dialogue with the leaders of the CWPP to get the communication lines back open and determine whether or not there is a continuing need for liaisons. Robin will step down for now from the liaison position and Anne will continue in the meantime.

**Maps:** Steve Dirmeyer reported that the 3'x 3' maps of Crystal Lakes have been printed and are the fire station.

**Recruiting:** Anne reported that this is a work in progress. Nothing new to report at this time.

Jim stated that he sent an email out to department members regarding an article about the unsustainability of rural EMS services. He said a lot of what was talked about applied to firefighters. Jim will forward a copy of this email to the board.

**SDA:** Robin and Anne will attend the SDA conference in Keystone. Anne noted that virtual attendance to the meetings was included with registration and access to the recordings would be available online for a year.

**Mill Retention:** The board will begin discussion on the mill retention after the first of the year.

**Mission Statement:** Discussion was held regarding finalizing the mission statement. The Board narrowed their preference to version 8. Anne will forward version #8 to the officers for their review, input and approval.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **As the Board Desires:**

FF appreciation dates: The Firefighter and SDR survival kits are ready to be distributed with an invitation to the Volunteer Firefighter Appreciation dinner to be held on August 25<sup>th</sup>.

August 18<sup>th</sup> is Volunteer Firefighter Appreciation Day. Robin will post information regarding the proclamation on Nextdoor.

Anne has talked with the officers about having a place for the SDRs to put things, specifically in cubby holes rather than in a cabinet. There may be a spot to put the cubby holes next to the training cabinet or we could possibly use the space where the recycling is now.

**Budget** – At the last officer’s meeting Anne asked the officers to start thinking about a budget. The proposed budget will be presented to the Board in October, reviewed, and then voted on in November. The officers will have a work day to discuss the budget. Consideration should be given to adding a line item to the budget for recruitment retention and community outreach. Jim stated that it is difficult to get grant funds if recruitment is not a line item on the budget. Anne should receive an estimated amount of funding

shortly for the next budget year. The final number will come in December and some adjustments will need to be made. Anne asked that the board forward any input for the budget to her.

**Comments by Attending Public:**

- Harold Alexander has reprogrammed the code to get into the fire station.
- A suggestion was brought up to have a barn door installed between the east bay and the kitchen. Alex will look into the cost and will return a plan to the Board.
- Jody Randol will be absent from the next two board meetings.
- An ice cream social is planned for September 3<sup>rd</sup> following the rummage sale.
- A barbeque lunch will be held for any members in attendance following the bag sale on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.
- We will ask Marian to put out another request for additional donations for the rummage sale.

**Set or confirm the next Board meeting date and location:** September 21, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the fire station.

**Adjournment:** Jody Randol made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robin Lauric seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melanie Nelson, Recording Secretary