

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
November 10, 2022**

Commissioner Larry Scarborough called the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 5:39 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 approve the agenda as presented, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Agreement for Medical Director and the Medical Supervision Plan effective November 10, 2022 to December 31, 2023 with Ronald Ellsworth, M.D. were presented and reviewed. Keri Rueth reported no changes to the agreement or plan. Reported the Medical Supervision Plan defines the medical director agreement further with a job description and the services provided by the Medical Director and by Cascade Rural Fire Protection District. Doctor Ellsworth introduced himself and his experience. Mike Arnold made a motion to approve entering into the the Agreement for Medical Director and the Medical Supervision Plan with Ronald Ellsworth, M.D. in the amount of \$400.00 per month, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

LaDawn Saxton made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 19, 2022 special Commissioner's meeting, the October 3, 2022 special Commissioner's meeting, the October 13, 2022 regular Commissioner's meeting, and the October 19, 2022 special Commissioner's meeting, 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 November 10, 2022, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported on selling the 2010 Polaris Ranger at Dealers Auto Auction of Idaho in the amount of \$11,600 less the \$444 fee. Reported on being undecided on purchasing tracks at this time for the 2023 Polaris Ranger.

Keri Rueth reported on Dr. Sturkie ending providing medical director services the end of November 2022 and reported he sent a thank you for his time of service and apologized for not being as active these last couple of years. Mike Arnold requested a thank you card be sent to Dr. Sturkie. Keri Rueth reported on attending the annual Idaho Emergency Medical Services Medical Director meeting with Doctor Ellsworth Thursday,

November 3 by Zoom. Reported on the Emergency Medical Services Sustainability Task Force created to address emergency medical services in Idaho. Reported the main goal of the task force is to present a bill in 2024 to the State to make emergency medical services an essential service in Idaho. Reported on January 23, 2023 the task force will present at the Idaho State Capitol to address emergency medical services and how they are delivered in Idaho and what the differences are in Idaho Counties. Reported the main goal of the task force is to make emergency medical services sustainable in Idaho as most Counties are losing services due to lack of volunteers and lack of funding. Reported six planners will be hired in the amount of \$100,000 per year to complete an assessment of each County and meet with the agencies providing the emergency medical services in the County and County Commissioners of the County. Reported in Idaho the Counties are responsible for providing emergency medical services. Reported on the assessment addressing current funding, the current emergency medical service level of service being provided, and the emergency medical service level of service that should be provided based on what is sustainable in the County and what is the need for community members. Reported on the task force working to provide State funding to bridge the gap for what agencies need and what they are receiving from their Counties. Reported on award and receipt of the Idaho Emergency Medical Services Bureau equipment grant in the amount of \$16,000 to purchase a Lund University Cardiac Assist System (LUCAS) device, an external mechanical device that delivers consistent and uninterrupted automatic chest compressions during cardiopulmonary resuscitation, in the amount of \$21,878.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported thirty-eight (38) incidents for the month of October 2022, and reported the average for October is thirty-three (33) incidents. Reported the election results were 582 against and 509 for a permanent tax levy override in the amount of \$650,000. Reported on the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant offered for recruitment and retention activities by volunteer and combination departments, and for hiring activities by career, combination, and volunteer departments. Reported there is no match requirement, it is for a period of thirty-six (36) months, it is for three (3) years of wages paid for personnel, and personnel does not have to be retained after the thirty-six (36) months. Reported it is the only grant known of for wages. Reported JMCM Consulting will charge \$1,500 to write the SAFER grant and if the grant is awarded will charge a \$5,000 fee and will administer the grant for the first quarter of the grant. Reported the grant will be reapplied for again if it is not awarded. Discussion followed on the election results and obtaining feedback. Discussion followed on providing more and continued information for a permanent tax levy override in the amount of \$650,000. Discussion followed on the avenues to provide more and continued information for a permanent tax levy override in the amount of \$650,000. Discussion followed on publishing the number of incident responses.

Keri Rueth reported the Medicare inflation rate for 2023 is 8.7 percent, the largest increase since inception. Reported Cammack Medical Billing will provide the fee schedule of the other insurance carriers as soon as available. Reported public notice and hearing must be provided prior to adoption of any Cascade Rural Fire Protection District



emergency medical service fee increase of more than five (5) percent or imposition of a new fee. Reported on no applications being received for the open position for Paramedic / Firefighter and on her working the position beginning the end of November.

Larry Scarborough reported on the Valley County Sheriff Office forming an on-call avalanche team.


Steven Hull reported on repairs, failed repairs, and future planned repairs to Rescue 1, and reported on replacing the air flow sensor and exhaust gas recirculation valve.

Keri Rueth presented and requested approval to renew the Contract for Use of Services and Equipment, to provide ambulance and emergency medical services, with the Valley County Emergency Medical Services District, for the term October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$417,754, with no changes to the contract from last year's contract except the amount increasing to \$417,754. Reported on requesting Valley County to review, renew, and update the contract and confirmed the contract states personnel shall be certified to Emergency Medical Service Technician level Intermediate 85 Advanced. Larry Scarborough made a motion to enter into the Contract for Use of Services and Equipment, to provide ambulance and emergency medical services, with the Valley County Emergency Medical Services District for the term October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$417,754, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Steven Hull and Keri Rueth presented the personnel manual holiday schedule of ten (10) paid holidays for full-time regular employees and requested to add an additional holiday, Juneteenth, June 19, which was made a federal holiday and signed into law on June 17, 2021. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the personnel policy change for holiday schedule, 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 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chairperson