

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
April 8, 2021**

The commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District was called to order by Commissioner Larry Scarborough at 5:02 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.

Amy Manning, Executive Director of the Idaho Intergovernmental Insurance Authority, the self-funded health insurance pool offered to Idaho Local Governments, reviewed the Annual Report for the 2019-2020 Plan Year. Reported individual membership increased 41.9 percent. Reported a 27 percent premium decrease in the required catastrophic insurance. Reported on being granted a waiver of the requirement to purchase a second catastrophic insurance. Reported on contracting with pharmaceutical companies and receiving rebates quarterly and on rebates increasing. Reported the monetary surplus in excess of the required reserves has increased. Reported surplus funds may be used to offset future rate increases at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. Reported to budget for an eight to ten percent increase in rates and that the actual rate increase will be known the third week in June. Reported on implementing Telehealth. Reported on current mental health resources, increasing mental health resources and an increase in mental health claims.

A motion was made by LaDawn Saxton to approve the agenda and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mike Arnold to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2021 regular Commissioner's meeting as presented, and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Larry Scarborough to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills dated April 8, 2021, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported on beginning a capital improvement plan and distributed a worksheet of facilities and apparatus/vehicles with replacement values. Reported on what will be needed in a ten-year timeframe to maintain the level of service that is currently provided. Reported on the in-service years left on the current facilities and apparatus/vehicles. Reported impact fees cannot be used for replacement of current facilities and apparatus/vehicles. Reported impact fees are to maintain the current level

of service. Reported what is needed in the next ten years is a new fire truck which is 100 percent related to growth, an addition to the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station in the amount of one million dollars, after confirming construction costs, which is 100 percent related to growth, a generator which is not related to growth, and a self-contained breathing apparatus compressor which is 50 percent related to growth. Reported being short on space to house more employees is the biggest expense as the department grows. Discussed difficulty in determining the amount of growth in the next ten years. Discussion followed on the 2004 snowmobile needing replaced and applying for an Idaho Parks and Recreation grant to replace it that requires a fifty percent match. Discussion followed on Tender 4, the 1986 Volvo, Engine 3, the 1992 fire truck, Engine 2, the 1996 fire truck needing a plan for replacement. Discussion followed on the number of snowmobile rescues. Discussion followed on the lack of housing for new employees. Reported on working with Donnelly and McCall fire districts and completing an addendum to the Valley County Subdivision Ordinance for water supply requirements for subdivisions outside of a water hydrant area. Reported the addendum will be submitted for approval to the Valley County Fire Working Group Legislative Committee and then to Valley County Planning and Zoning. Reported on Highway 55 opening after being closed for a slide, the road construction resuming, and the road closing from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. Monday thru Thursday between Smith's Ferry and Rainbow Bridge.

Keri Rueth presented and reviewed the amounts charged for emergency medical services by Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall Emergency Medical Services District. Reported on McCall having a fifty percent recovery rate and on Donnelly recently increasing the amounts charged and having an eighty percent recovery rate. Reported on the Valley County Commissioners requesting Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall Emergency Medical Services District to charge the same amounts for emergency medical services. Reported the last increase in the amounts charged for Cascade emergency medical services was September 2017.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Steven Hull reported 29 incidents for the month of March 2021 and reported the average is 26 for March. Reported the Valley County Fire Working Group developed ten Firewise Grants in the amount of \$500.00 each for individual landowners to remove fuels around their property that can create increased heat and exposure to their home in the event of a grass, brush, or forest fire. Reported applications are due the first of May and the project must be completed by the end of August. Reported the woody debris container will be at the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station Saturday, May 1 for Wildfire Preparedness Day. Reported the woody debris container will be at the fire station the end of May for ten days. Reported on updating the department's application for employment and recruiting volunteer employees. Discussed scheduling training after stopping training because of the coronavirus pandemic and the need for training on the two new fire trucks and for wildland fire training.

Keri Rueth reported on the Valley County Emergency Medical Services Administrative Council reviewing a Memorandum of Understanding between St. Luke's and Valley



County Emergency Medical Services District for a Community Health Emergency Medical Services Program and for St. Luke's to be a resource in case of a Mass Casualty Incident. Reported on the need for community health emergency medical services in Cascade, the lack of personnel at Cascade, Donnelly, and McCall Emergency Medical Services District to commit to a Community Health Emergency Medical Services Program, that the current community health emergency medical services being done by St. Luke's is based out of St. Luke's McCall, and on requesting St. Luke's to reach out to Cascade Medical Center for needed community health emergency medical services. Reported on the plan to submit an Idaho Emergency Medical Services grant for a new ambulance. Reported on receiving a quote in the amount of \$216,000.00 for a new North Star ambulance. Reporting on submitting an Idaho Emergency Medical Services grant in the amount of \$140,000.00, requesting \$25,000.00 from Valley County Emergency Medical Services District, and spending \$51,000.000 for a new ambulance. Reported on an Assistance to Firefighters grant already submitted for a new ambulance. Requested and received approval to have past due emergency medical services billings on the March, June, September, and December regular Commissioner's meeting agendas. Reported on our part-time Paramedic / Firefighter being unable to work for an undetermined amount of time due to a back injury not related to work that required emergency back surgery.

The Commissioners discussed and decided to change the Commissioner's meeting time from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., and requested the notice of regular meetings be on the next regular Commissioner's meeting agenda May 13, 2021.

Resolution 21-02 declaring the 1992 Kovatch fire truck surplus property was reviewed. Steven Hull reported the fire truck has been located at the 671 West Mountain Road Fire Sub-Station and may be purchased by Cambridge Fire Department. A motion was made by Mike Arnold to approve Resolution 21-02, and declare the 1992 Kovatch fire truck, vehicle identification number 1K9AF4285NN058541, surplus property, and Larry Scarborough seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 21-03 declaring the 1993 American General fire truck surplus property was reviewed. Steven Hull reported the fire truck has been located at the 671 West Mountain Road Fire Sub-Station. A motion was made by Mike Arnold to approve Resolution 21-03, and declare the 1993 American General fire truck, vehicle identification number 505319, surplus property, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The date to hold the budget public hearing for the year October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 was discussed. A motion was made by Larry Scarborough to hold the budget public hearing on Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the regular commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chairman