



Loveland Fire & Rescue Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes Combined with Loveland Rural District Board

**Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 5:30 p.m.
Fire Administration Building (FAB)
Emergency Operations Center (EOC), 2nd Floor
410 E. 5th St., Loveland, CO 80537**

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

FRAC Present: Chair Jonathan (Jon) Smela, Fire Chief Randy Mirowski, Mayor Cecil Guterrez, Paul Pfeiffer, William (Willy) Tillman, Eugene (Gene) Culbertson, Leroy (Andy) Anderson, Co-Chair Bob Boggio, Elton Bingham, Division Chief Ned Sparks, Division Chief Greg Ward and Bonnie Wright.

Others in attendance: City of Loveland Human Resources Manager, Karen Rees

FRAC Absent: David (Dave) Adams

Minutes approval: presented by Chair Jon Smela.

Bob Boggio motioned to approve the March 12, 2014 minutes; Gene Culbertson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- ❖ Chair Smela mentioned there are three vacancies on the FRAC board including his position. He would like for the board to start recruiting to find new members for two of those positions.

City Human Resources Seeking Feedback on Recruitment for New Fire Chief –
presented by Karen Rees

- ❖ Karen asked for feedback regarding characteristics or attributes they would want in the new Fire Chief. The items that were added were: *Ability to work with many different organizations and combination dept. that includes volunteers/reserves, Regional training and relationships, Accreditation, Recruitment retention of future firefighters, Technologically Savvy - Microsoft Office, i.e. Word, Power Point, Outlook, etc.*

City Council updates: Presented by Mayor Cecil Guterrez

- ❖ Money was appropriated from the CEFs for the new four acre training site.

- ❖ City Council was in unanimous support of this purchase and it brings the fire department to \$0 on debts paid to fire CEFs.
- ❖ The new training site is located out of the flood way. The asking price of the property was \$795,000, and settled at \$744,000.
- ❖ The property is going through a Phase II Environmental study.
- ❖ Chief Mirowski added that the Mayor has been a huge supporter of the new training site.
- ❖ The department is going to retain the current property and sell part of it to the parks department.
- ❖ The new training site will also give crews access to Railroad Avenue
- ❖ Railroad Avenue is in the process of being re-designed
- ❖ For the first time in 210 days, crews are back in the classroom at the old training site.
- ❖ The Mayor has received positive feedback from different cities (referencing response and recovery) from some presentations he has given.

Chief Updates: presented by Fire Chief Randy Mirowski

- ❖ There were no questions asked about the Chief's report.
- ❖ Huge progress is being made on the new Fire Station 2.
- ❖ There has been only one complaint so far regarding a contractor backing into a tree.
- ❖ The scheduled move in date is October 10th.
- ❖ He had a meeting with Chief Leshar and he will have news regarding the old fire station 2 after the presentation is made to the TVEMS Board on the 3rd or last Thursday of May.

Rural District Board Updates: presented by Rural Board member Andy Anderson

- ❖ Everything that was covered at the Rural Board meeting has been covered already at this meeting.
- ❖ Bob Boggio mentioned that the Rural Board is very excited about the dry hydrants that are going in up/along the Big Thompson Canyon.
- ❖ The county made a second determination that Fire Station 7 which used to be in Cedar Cove may be buildable.
- ❖ In 2017-2018 a new fire station will be going up somewhere near Glade Road and the Big Thompson School.
- ❖ There has been some discussion but nothing substantive regarding the mill levy and perhaps a bond that would be needed for this station.

Residential Fire Sprinklers: presented by Division Chief Ned Sparks

- ❖ The steering committee just had its fourth meeting.
- ❖ FRAC Board Member Paul Pfeiffer gave an excellent presentation on fire sprinkler systems.
- ❖ Talked with Gwen at Habitat for Humanity and they are going to sprinkler all of the houses they build. Costs run anywhere from \$1-\$1.50 per square foot.
- ❖ There will be a side by side fire sprinkler demonstration on June 14th at the Windsor and Severance Open House.
- ❖ Bob Skillman is the Chair of the Residential Sprinkler Steering Committee.

- ❖ Gene Culbertson gave a presentation about the pros and cons of fire sprinkler systems, why we should and should not do it and in closing challenged the city to put this back into the code because it is the right thing to do for safety.
- ❖ This led to some discussion about the presentation and the Chief commented that when you look at risk it is very hard to use data or a spreadsheet to justify public safety. He added that the fire numbers in the City of Loveland are up because the population is growing. As per capita figures increase, so do the number of incidences.
- ❖ There was additional discussion about the types of structures being built versus 40 years ago and the contents inside are burning more rapidly.
- ❖ The County is still operating under the 2006 fire code.
- ❖ Codes are rewritten every three years and the next year is 2015.
- ❖ The possibility of looking at the Poudre Fire Authority model and adopting a similar amendment to the code that they did.
- ❖ Promoting full fire safety/advocacy and education.
- ❖ The steering committee will develop options to give to city council.
- ❖ Ned encouraged Gene to give his presentation at the next steering committee meeting on April 28th at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

The next FRAC meeting will be Wednesday, May 14th, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the EOC.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bonnie Wright, Administrative Technician, LFRA.

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