

Grand Junction Rural Fire Protection District & Redlands Subdistrict  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2003 19:00  
Church on the Rock, 2170 Broadway, Grand Junction, Colorado

Board members present: Rob Dixon (RD), Tery Dixon (TD), Steve Gsell (SG), Jerry Clark (JC), John Heckman (JH) (New Appointment)

Board members absent: None

Others present: Chief Rick Beaty, NAG Members, other members of the public, GJDS, KJCT-TV

**1. Meeting called to order at 19:03 by SG**

**2. Introductions.**

The board members introduced themselves.

**3. JC Redlands Presentation.**

JC provided a presentation of facts surrounding the Redlands and fire station 5. This included a PowerPoint presentation.

Information presented covered: Mill levies, interim service issues, original station opening date of November 2003, taxes collected without service provided, possible alternative service providers (Lower Valley, Clifton, Rural Metro, establish new fire department), contract concerns, ways to solve problems with the City of Grand Junction, possible suspension of payments until the station is operational. The Mayor has indicated that interim service will not occur.

**4. Fire Chief Report.**

Chief Beaty provided an update on fire station 5.

The report included the following information and statements:

Problems have been encountered with the architectural firm, CDOT, utilities.

There is no support from the Mayor or City Council for interim service.

Around the first of the year, crews will be assembled and begin familiarizing themselves with the Redlands area.

It has been very hard to control all of the issues surrounding the station.

Service has been enhanced.

Specific ownership tax is a mystery.

The accounting of funds spent is not as detailed as the board would like to see but the City feels the money has been spent on the right purpose.

The Department must have time to train the new personnel.

## **5. Open comments.**

The following comments were made by members of the public and the Board:

JC indicated that the Board has been received a lot of questions and recommendations.

NAG believes the City has shown good faith.

TD indicated that few if any points requested by the Board to be in the contract were approved by the City. The Board was pressured to approve a contract due to the City having a DOLA grant deadline among other pressures.

The City feels there was adequate negotiation.

New service is of utmost importance. The contract is very unilateral in favor of the City. The people want the station built. Personal issues have become involved that are out of line. Just provide good service.

Why shouldn't the District have an attorney if the City has an entire staff of them.

The public is worried about large tax bills and lack of service.

Should the District exclude more areas of the District.

The Board would like to have more public input on the situation.

SG thanked everyone for their comments.

## **6. Board member resignation / appointment.**

As Chris Hollandsworth has resigned from the Board and the resignation has been accepted, a board position has opened.

Previously the Board accepted applications for open positions. The next candidate for a position was decided to be JH.

Following discussion of candidate JH, a motion was made by RD to appoint JH to the board position vacated by Chris Hollandsworth, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

JH sworn in by Board President SG.

**7. Other Business.**

RD clarified that issues between himself and the City have no bearing on current or future Board / City businesses and challenged the City to start acting like professionally. RD further admonished the GJDS for its tabloid journalism and lack of integrity. RD stated that we should move on and stop living in the past.

**8. Adjourn.**

At 20:32 a motion was made by TD to adjourn the meeting, seconded by JC, approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rob Dixon

**MINUTES APPROVED 12-12-03**