

Grand Junction Rural Fire Protection District & Redlands Subdistrict
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2003 19:00
2512 Oleaster Court, Grand Junction, Colorado

Board members present: Rob Dixon (RD), Tery Dixon (TD), Steve Gsell (SG)

Board members absent: Chris Hollandsworth

Others present: Robert Cole (by telephone), NAG members, GJDS, KKCO-TV

1. Meeting called to order at 19:10 by SG.

2. Executive Session.

A motion was made by RD at 1912 to go into executive session per 24-6-402(4)(b) CRS to confer with fire district attorney Robert Cole regarding legal advice on questions regarding the contract with the City of Grand Junction, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

A motion was made by TD at 1955 to come out of executive session, seconded by RD, approved unanimously.

SG called for a brief recess in the meeting at 1955 to invite members of the public into the meeting.

Recess ended and meeting called to order 19:57.

3. Other Business.

A. Public Comment.

John Borgen spoke on behalf of NAG. Mr. Borgan had several items of input.

1. It was hard to understand why funds are being withheld from the City.
2. Objective of opening fire station 5 by Fall 2003 have been hard for the City to meet and is beyond their control.
3. The City has incurred costs associated with the station including land and equipment acquisition, hiring, training, operational. He indicated there were many operational costs.
4. NAG would like to submit candidates for the open board position.
5. It seemed like the district was putting the cart before the horse.

Jack Campbell also spoke on behalf of NAG. Mr. Campbell had several items of input.

1. The district took the wrong approach in withholding partial payment the City.
2. The district should advertise for the open board position in the newspaper with a display ad.
3. The board should speak with the City.

General discussion ensued between the board and NAG members regarding election rules, past elections, appointments and how the next appointment will be made.

There was also discussion regarding the subdistrict and its purpose as a model.

B. Payment to City.

The Board discussed the remainder of the payment to the City. The members present were concerned about the following:

1. That the fire station promised to the taxpayers to be built by Fall 2003 will not be ready until at least June 2004.
2. No real operations exist so where are the funds going.
3. The Board is not interested in fighting with the City and would like to meet at the earliest possible convenience to work this out.
4. The Board has received very little information about the progress of the station.
5. The information provided by the Fire Chief to CH regarding the bill for service was allegedly purposely withheld from the rest of the Board until the last minute.
6. The Board wants to make the payment so we can move along with the station and work out the problems.
7. After repeated requests for clarification to the Fire Chief and City Attorney regarding \$20,931 which the District and the City disagree on owing, no reply has been received from the City.

Following discussion, a motion was made by RD to pay the City of Grand Junction \$467,999 (an amount \$20,931 less than billed by the City) as soon as possible with a memo from attorney Robert Cole explaining the Board concerns and requests, an amount \$20,931 less than billed by the City, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

The \$20,931 represents General Property Tax not yet collected, Specific Ownership Tax, Delinquent Taxes and fees not owed to the City.

SG called a short recess at 21:05 to allow those attending the first part of the meeting to depart.

Recess ended and meeting called to order at 21:15 by SG.

C. Board President position.

Following discussion of past problems with the office of President, a motion was made by TD to make the Board President position that of a chairperson for Board meetings only, all authority for decisions and communications will rest solely with the Board, all communications regarding the contract will go through attorney Robert Cole, seconded by RD, approved unanimously.

A motion was made by RD to remove CH as President of the Board with the thanks of the Board, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

A motion was made by RD to appoint SG as the President of the Board, seconded by TD, yea votes RD, TD, abstention by SG.

4. Executive Session.

A second executive session was held to limit the time waited for the general public to be heard, all business could not be concluded by the 8:00 PM start time for the general meeting. Attorney Robert Cole was only available by telephone at the beginning of the meeting and not the end.

A motion was made by RD at 2125 to go into executive session per 24-6-402(4)(b)(e) CRS to evaluate information provided by fire district attorney Robert Cole regarding legal advice on questions germane the contract with the City of Grand Junction, and to work on contract negotiation with the City, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

A motion was made by RD at 2150 to come out of executive session, seconded by RD, approved unanimously.

A motion was made by RD to forward information to attorney Robert Cole to be included in the memo accompanying the check to the City, seconded by TD, approved unanimously.

5. Adjourn.

At 21:55, a motion was made by TD to adjourn the meeting, seconded by RD, approved unanimously.

Minutes submitted by Rob Dixon

APPROVED 9-3-03