



**PO Box 370
Laporte, CO 80535**

Purpose: Poudre Fire Protection District Board Meeting Minutes: May 14, 2025

Location: Station 2

Attendees: Dave Bliss, Dan Bond, Laurie Fonken, Bette Blinde, Tonya Read and Boots Jaffee

Call to Order: Called to order by Dave Bliss at 7:00 pm

Reports:

Secretary report was emailed to board members. Bette moved to approve the emailed minutes with the corrections. Dan second the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Bette reviewed the treasurer report. The current amount property tax received is about half of what is anticipated for 2025. Dan moved to accept report, and it was seconded by Bette. It was approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Agenda change moved oath of office into unfinished business: Board Members: Tonya Read and Boots Jaffee and Dan Bond and Dave Bliss took the oath of office to serve as to directors of the Poudre Canyon Fire District Board. Each new/renewed member completed and signed the required paperwork. Thank you to Bob Busch who served as secretary and Laurie Fonken as a member. Both are stepping off the board at this time.

Election of officers proceeded. Bette Blinde was nominated as Treasurer, passed unanimously. Tonya Read was nominated as secretary, passed unanimously. Dan Bond was nominated as Vice President, passed unanimously. Both Dave Bliss and Boots Jaffee were nominate for President. Each made comments to the board. Members voted and Boots received 3 votes to become the president.

National EMS Week is May 18-24. In honor of our EMS 11 team members, thank you cards were signed by the board members for the EMS team and mailed out with \$75 Amazon gift cards.

Forest service lease at station 3 – Dave said he has not heard anything back since contacting the new person at USFS in charge of leases.

Use of the Lower Poudre Canyon Community Association (LPCA) Community Center: Dan reported that there has been no meeting with Marci, yet. The board wants to develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with LPCA based on the 2008 and 1982 leases. Dan is planning to meet and discuss with Marci White. We anticipate having an MOU before the end of the year. Dan suggested we give them some money for use of the building. Dan made the

motion we provide \$2000 as a onetime gift to LPCA. Boots seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The first meeting in Lower Poudre Canyon will be in September.

New Business:

Grants: Bette reported that we received a Larimer County grant for stump grinder for \$6000.00. Hugh and Curtis recommended that the stump grinder be upgraded to a self-propelled unit that would cost about \$10,000.00. Hugh also recommended we get a trailer to haul it. Bette said Cache la Poudre Fire and Emergency Group would match the county's \$6000. The district will have \$12,000 in total to spend on the stump grinder. There was discussion on where to house the grinder and trailer. Hugh added that the wood splitter be moved into a trailer along with the stump grinder. Chief Collins recommended that the district go with a bigger trailer which could be \$3,000 more. Boots moved that the district provide \$3000 in matching funds from the district if needed for the trailer. Bette seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously. Boots may have a lead for a covered trailer that will work to store both the wood splitter and stump grinder and will eliminate the need to store the equipment inside. This may be a donation or sale of this trailer. It is understood that if not all the extra \$3000 is needed, it will not be spent.

Mary Biggers stated that State Farm Insurance has a grant for voluntary fire departments in the amount \$10,000. It is not known to what the funds will be restricted under the grant rules. The district priorities for use of the money are local fire mitigation of trees and forest and secondly, possibly IV warmers. The application process opens June 4 and only stays open for a few days.

Bette has been organizing a fire mitigation tool library for the Lower Canyon. Bryan Maddox and his neighbor, Tyson Powell, have volunteered to serve as librarians for the tool library. Cache la Poudre Fire and Emergency Group (CLPFEG) will provide \$6000 for tools. People may also donate tools. We will purchase the same tools as were purchased for the upper canyon. The recommended location for the library is the old fire house building on 10069 Poudre Canyon Highway owned by the Fonkens. Laurie has given permission for its use. Bette will check on insurance through the Poudre Fire District for the building.

Bette moved that the district approve the setting up a mitigation tool library in the lower canyon at the old fire house and Boots seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Transparency Notice needs to be updated with the new board members and location of meetings. The SDA notifications on the new district members and positions has been posted. The alternated meeting locations has also been updated. Odd months will be held in Lower Canyon (Station 1) and even months will be held at Station 2. Transparency also needs to be updated on DOLA.

The district needs to begin to review its strategic plan to ensure that the district goals and actions align with the plan priorities and provide guidance on budgeted spending with any existing or new revenue resources.

Legislation Report: Tonya tracked bills. Green have passed and signed by the Governor. Yellow have passed both houses and waiting on the Governor's signature. Grey are in postponed indefinitely. See the attachment on the legislation summaries. Several bills containing zero-interest lending for fire departments which could allow the district to refinance building loans to zero-interest loan.

Additional Reports:

Upcoming classes and events include Station 2 – EMS - CPR class June 3. 6 PM, Station 1 - Skills clad on June 5, at 6 PM, Station 2 – Cameron Peak Remembrance in August.

Station 1: Amy restocking ambulance. Water wagon has a clutch issue.

Station 2: All Good; The chipper is repaired.

Station 3: Fire danger sign will be put up when ground thaws.

Station 4: One security camera is out. Century Link is not working consistently. The cost for Century Link is \$90 per month. Starlink is \$120 per month. Dan moved that we remove Century Link and install Starlink at station 4, and Bette seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Cache la Poudre Fire & Emergency Group (CLPFEG) Bette looking for people to serve on board. There were no volunteers at this time.

Station 2 Building: Jake reported storm drains have been cleaned and air filters maintenance was done. There was discussion on testing the water. The water test checks need to be done before the chlorinator. Mice trap baits have been put out. Calendar for station 2 activities - talked about an electronic calendar and a list of projects he will start getting to.

Adjournment:

Tonya moved to adjourn, Dan and Bette seconded, approved unanimously. Adjourned at 8:14 pm.