# **Glacier View Fire Protection District**

# **MINUTES**

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# **September 16, 2024**

Meeting was called to order by President Burk at 7:00pm

Board of Directors present: President Burk, Vice President Jones, Treasurer Thompson, Secretary Lamb Director Groeteke.

Fire Department Members present: Tom Hausfeld (CWPPIT Coordinator), Amari Victoria (Recording Secretary), Henry Hudson (CWPPIT) and Jim Perry (Assistant Chief).

Public Members present: Elisabeth Menning, Linda Petrie, Jim Petrie, Les Thurman, and Fred DeLano.

**Action** Vice President Jones requested that the Agenda be accepted as amended by adding Treasurer reporting procedures and accessibility to the Treasurer's Report. Agreed without dissent.

## Secretary's Report

Secretary Lamb introduced the volunteer Recording Secretary, Amari Victoria.

**Action** Secretary Lamb moved to approve the minutes of August 12, 2024. Vice President Jones seconded.

Motion carried 5-0

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Thompson Summarized the Treasurer's Report focusing on checks over \$1,000 with an explanation of the purpose of the checks. Discussion included accessibility of the Treasurer's Report and related cost to support accessibility, and it was described that other FPD's use only a summary when published online.

**Action** Vice President moved to accept the Treasurer's Report and that the summaries of the reports should be posted on the GVFPD website with full copies of the monthly report available from the Office Administrator upon request. President Burk seconded.

Discussion focused on how the Treasurer's Report would be made accessible. There was further discussion as to how accessible details of the report would be provided to public. The Treasurer indicated that the spreadsheet portion of the report would be provided to those who make a request. Further discussion focused on CORA and Colorado state requirements for provision of requested documents to the requestor. Accessible documents must provided within three business days the request. Further discussion involved the service being used to check accessibility of documents. That contractor is called Streamline.

Motion carried 5-0.

**Action** The Treasurer noted the need for an individual member of the Board to serve as signatory for the District's U.S. Bank account. Director Groeteke volunteered.

President Burk moved to appoint Director Groeteke for this position. Secretary Lamb seconded.

#### Motion carried 5-0

#### Chief's Report

Chief's Report as included in the Board Packet. But the report itself would be available for presentation at the October meeting, along with the September report.

## **CWPPIT**

Tom Hausfeld summarized the CWPPIT activities as presented in the Board Packet. He noted that the slash trailer is on-site and has been painted with the District's decals, mitigation efforts are moving forward, 27 homeowner wildfire mitigation assessments have been completed, and nine "ambassadors" have been trained.. He also reported on the application for a grant to acquire a tractor and trailer to haul the tractor. This would be a matching grant but volunteer hours are more than enough to meet the matching requirement. He praised the Ambassadors for good work and said that they hope to achieve 50 assessments in 2025.

**Vice** President Jones moved to accept the \$500 micro grant from Larimer County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) for Firewise. President Burk seconded. Motion carried 5-0

#### Committee Reports

There was discussion about the importance of using the full name of agencies and organizations. For example, Special District Association is SDA and Colorado Department of Local Affairs is DOLA.

Special District Association Report was presented by Director Groeteke and Vice President Jones because they attended the SDA conference. The focus of this presentation was on the status and future of property tax revenue. Although it is unknown what will happen in the long-term, the current residential assessment rate is not expected to change this year and there might be a slight decrease in 2025. We need to wait to see how recent legislation affects the District's income.

The Budget Committee Report was presented by Fred DeLano, Chair. He summarized the information provided at the September 16, 2025 Work Session of the Board and expressed optimism that the draft budget will be satisfactory.

#### **Unfinished Business**

Designated Election Official Report Vice President Jones updated the Board on the status of the search for a Designated Election Official (DEO). This position has been advertised. It is anticipated in the 2025 that there will be up to three open positions on the Board. He discussed the opportunity to waive the term limit requirement for Board members. The history of term limit elections for Board members was discussed. He also commented that the work of the DEO seems "doable" unless there is a contested or general election. The procedure for filling an open seat on the Board was discussed Such an opening would occur in the event that no-one stands

for election or someone resigns. In some cases the County Commissioners could fill a Special District Board position.

#### **New Business**

SDA Annual Conference and Briefing Report Dir. Groeteke described the SDA Co-op Insurance Pool, where SDA insurance of all types could be purchased at better rates than commercially available. The co-op is for all SDAs, not only fire special districts. Pres. Burk suggested that a committee would be needed to look into the pool. Director Groeteke described the Colorado Trust (a liquid asset trust), where SDA investment rates are greater than 5% for money market accounts. Director Groeteke described a breakout session on CORA, addressing transparency for incoming board members. Also described was a Morgan-Stanley breakout session on how Artificial Intelligence (AI) impacts the business world. An estimate of 800,000 more intelligent robotics might be in place in 20 years. Vice President Jones mentioned the importance of being part of networks, SDA, etc. He mentioned that GVFPD participation in SDA networks was 'ok', but not with DOLA, which can provide grants and free legal help. Vice President Jones described the Communication breakout session, where Streamline was mentioned. Key points of the session included Crisis and Reputation Management, the importance of Cooperation Across "Resources", Unstable Revenue and Staying Current. A comment was made concerning how keeping up with all this change may become too much for volunteers to handle. A paid fire chief might be required.

Pearl Fire Jim Perry (Assistant Fire Chief) arrived, having come directly from the Pearl Fire, and provided some details about the fire:

Estimated at 160 acres.

Resources include 2 VLATS, helicopters, a FireHawk, and many personnel.

Assistant Chief Henderson is at the fire.

Looks to be a long fire.

Evacuations include all of Crystal Lake, but not all of Red Feather Lakes.

Pearl Fire is NOT a threat to GVM.

Fire direction is Northeast.

A lot of resources are currently being provided.

Pres. Burk mentioned that the level of service and timing by the county and state were much improved.

#### Public Comments:

The Board was thanked for the trailer for CWPPIT. A question was raised about how AI is expected to affect security. It was mentioned that AI is at the door of the fire protection industry. It was noted that cyber security training is available. In response to a request District volunteers were requested to ask the Fire Chief for copies of the Board Packet in advance of the meetings. The Board Packet availability and posting on the District's website was explained.

#### **Directors Comments:**

Director Groeteke praised the budget committee, fire chief, and CWPPIT.

Vice president Jones complemented the CWPPIT's assessment report and procedures.

Secretary Lamb acknowledged to good work o the CWPPIT and Especially noted the excellent work of the budget committee.

**Treasurer Thompson** 

President Burk remarked that the Board needs to think about strategic planning.

## Adjournment

Action President Burk moved to adjourn the September 16, 2024 meeting of the Board Dir. Groeteke seconded Motion carried 5-0.

President Burk Adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Berton Lee Lamb Secretary and Amari Victoria Recording Secretary

#### **Board Actions**

Summaries of Treasurer's Report to be posted to the GVFPD website with process for citizen access to the full report.

Director Groeteke appointed as signatory to the U.S. Bank accounts Accepted \$500 grant from Larimer County OEM