

Meeting Minutes for  
Rico Fire Protection District  
Regular Meeting: January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Board Chair Tyler Lapp.

**Roll Call:** RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Maria Casanova, Sarah Eckles and Tyler Lapp. Paul Ruud was absent.

**Guests Present:** RFPD Administrator David Kunz.

**Approval of Agenda:** Gregg Anderson moved to approve the agenda; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Approval of Minutes:** Gregg Anderson moved to approve the minutes for the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Approval of Financial Report, Accounts Payable:** Gregg Anderson moved to approve the financial report and pay the bills; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Administrative Report:** The exemption from audit process will be managed by Soronen, Donley, Patterson CPA of Grand Junction. Kunz is working on year-end/new year compliance and the rescue truck project.

**Grants (awarded):**

**Rico Center 2024:** All (4) components closed out. Operations component has money remaining in the training budget. Kunz will request that some of Matt Guertin's EMT class be paid with the remaining funds.

**El Pomar:** \$11,973.00 requested from the El Pomar Fire fund to pay for hand tools for the new tanker and wildland fire boots for RVFD personnel. Funding for \$12,000 has been received. All members have picked up boots, all tools and fittings have been ordered, invoiced, received and paid. Closeout: January 31, 2025. Final report has been submitted.

**SMPA Community Focus Grant:** Request for \$20,000 for the light rescue truck; awarded \$2,000; an additional \$2,000 was received from Basin Electric. Kunz has notified SMPA contact MartyJo Davis that the Light Rescue may not be fulfilled until 2025.

**Colorado Fire Safety and Disease Prevention Grant (CFSDPG) 2024:** Request for \$13,088 for (4) new sets of structural fire bunkers. Firefighters Kunz, Hackett, and Juarez have been sized for bunkers. One pair of bunkers will be a standard size. No match, reimbursement required. Closed out on October 31, 2024. Reimbursement draft has been issued. Bunkers have been delivered.

**CFSDPG Direct Distribution Grant:** Kunz applied for (4) wildland fire packs and (4) fire shelters. This is a 100% funded grant, no match. The fire shelters and packs have been delivered.

**Grants (applied for):**

**Rico Center 2025:** \$75,000 request for light rescue truck. Unofficially awarded.

**Grants (potential):**

**Colorado Fire Safety and Disease Prevention Grant (CFSDPG) 2025:** Grant provides reimbursement for equipment and training designed to increase firefighter safety and prevent occupation-related diseases. Agencies are limited to a single project up to the grant award maximum of \$20,000.00. Deadline for application: February 19, 2025. Eckles would like to apply for better firefighting boots and gloves.

**CDPHE EMTS Grant (FY 2026):** request of approximately \$50,000 toward the light rescue. Due 2/15/25.

**Fire Chief Report:** Fire Chief Todd Jones on a SAR call and unavailable.

**Runs:** (5) calls, (2) snowmobile rescues up Barlow, (2) medical calls, (1) motor vehicle crash without injuries.

**Training:** In-house. RVFD will host the firefighter academy in April. Ice Rescue training in Dolores.

**Equipment:** 928 is functional and will need decals. All AFFF foam will need to be removed from engine 921. The heater pipe on the addition is getting pushed over again by the snow.

**Old Business:**

**2025 Work Plan:** Property transfer to be brought up at TOR February meeting. Kunz is working on bids and grant funding for the light rescue truck.

**New Business:**

**2025 Election:** Anderson's and Casanova's seats are up for 4 year terms. The election date is May 6. If there are fewer candidates than open seats the election would be canceled.

**Resolution 2025-1:** Appointment of Designated Election Officer (DEO): This is part of the election process. Sarah Eckles moved to approve Resolution 2025-1, appointing Kunz as DEO; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

**Other Business:**

**Appointment of Officers for 2025:** Sarah Eckles moved to appoint herself as Secretary and Gregg Anderson as Treasurer for 2025; Maria Casanova seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gregg Anderson at 7:25; seconded by Sarah Eckles. Approval was unanimous.

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Chairman

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Secretary