

## 12/11/23 Board of Directors' Report

Communications Manager Chris Carnahan informed that on November 4<sup>th</sup> Park Meadows Mall held a holiday lighting ceremony, a part of which they recognized 10 members of the community which included a mix of teachers, military personnel, and our own Community Services Support Specialist Amelia Retureta for her work supporting Community Services as well as Emergency Communications.

State Demographer Elizabeth Garner provided an overview of her responsibilities as a demographer as well as an overview of the past, current and future demographics of the state and south metro area.

The new contract Lobbyist Camille Driver was introduced to the Board, provided a brief personal biography, and reviewed the plan to assist SMFR with getting ahead of and involved with legislation that affects SMFR & other special districts. Camille was instrumental during the legislative special session ensuring that fire protection districts are fully funded despite reductions in property tax rates. Government Affairs will be working with Camille and a board liaison to coordinate and strategize on legislative issues.

The Board received an overview of the October 2023 Financial Statements Executive Summary. With the recent legislative issues settling down, the Board also continued the discussion regarding the importance of focusing on long-term sustainability, capital investments, and responsible growth of the budget, and concluded that they would not be lowering the mill levy for 2024. The Board will meet on January 8<sup>th</sup> to approve the 2024 budget, before the new January 10<sup>th</sup> deadline.

The SMFR State of the District that was held in October was the culmination of two years of planning at a cost of about \$25,000. The Board thanked Staff for putting on such a great event and recommended it take place every other year, while continuing to evaluate content and the desired audience.

Correspondence items in the Board's packet are summarized below as well as other information items that were communicated:

- Dell'Orfano:
  - IGA Update:
    - MOU Between Douglas County Sheriff's Office and SMFRA for Dive Member Aid Terminated – This agreement was in place since 2012 but the person involved in the dive team is no longer with DCSO so they requested termination.
    - SMFR Radio Systems specialist IGA – 6<sup>th</sup> Amendment – This agreement has been in place since 2018, where DCSO helps to program and maintain our radios and we share the cost of salary and related items. For 2024 the cost comes to about \$81,000.
- Baker:
  - Will be Michigan January 4<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - Selected new Deputy Chief of Internal Services Matt Weller, who will start in the position on January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Great feedback from Mary Cameli from Mesa Fire who spoke highly about the four candidates who she helped interview.
- Curtis:
  - Reviewed a call several weeks ago where Ladder 12, Medic 11 and Dispatch responded to Euclid Middle School where a child was hit by a car. He responded on his way to work and was reminded of how these types of calls take a toll on the crews. We have come a long way in how we take care of our own by providing the tools they need, such as Peer Support. He participated in a Littleton Police Department debriefing where they are dealing with the same issues. Staff is talking about how we get into the schools and work

with our law enforcement agencies to make sure that everyone is taken care of and how we are better assimilated to support our community partners.

- Local 2086 President Dzengelewski:
  - Introduced E-Board Members Brent Chapman and Nick McKibbin.
  - Thanked Chief Curtis and Director Anderson for their comments related to the Line and the board's financial support.
  - Thanked the Board for a great year and looking forward to negotiations in 2024.
- Milan:
  - The original occupancy date for Station 15 was June 28, 2024. Staff is working through some delays and expect to have a productive meeting next week to see what this does to both the time and budget.
- Valdez:
  - Wants to give kudos to the Investigation Unit. There was a two-alarm fire in Downtown Littleton in mid-November and actively worked with the Littleton Police Department and ATF, staying diligent and pushing it through with the partnering agencies to get a warrant issued for the individual who allegedly started the fire. A public information announcement will be released soon. Director Stahlman commended the people who responded to the fire. He went over the next morning and saw the investigators and Chief Valdez combing through the mess. A tremendous job was done containing the fire as there was no damage to the apartments next door. The video was also exceptional.
  - An informational item was in the Board packet regarding the Highlands Ranch fireworks display. Director Anderson stated that the show is on Saturday and has been assured that the Sheriff and Fire Marshal's Office will shut down or pause the event if there is any significant risk. Chair Albee informed that a letter was received addressed to the entire Board expressing concern about the fireworks display, so he asked Chiefs Eckmann and Valdez to provide an update.
- Macklin:
  - Wellness has worked hard to maintain a high profile at the Capital in support of the Colorado Firefighter Heart, Cancer and Behavioral Health Benefits Trust. He accepted the nomination to serve on the Board for the next couple of years.
- Sokol:
  - Former Centennial Mayor Cathy Noon passed away this morning after 5.5 years battling pancreatic cancer.
- Shriver:
  - Was proud to spend the day at the Capital with Camille Driver and Chief Dell'Orfano.
- Albee:
  - Thanked everyone for a great year. The Board does good work because of all the good work done by Line and Staff for the community.
  - A couple of weeks ago caught up with Captain Dave Ullery, whose last shift is next week after 39 years of service. He stated that Captain Ullery started at Castlewood and was the officer on the call where John Hager lost his life, so he watched the video again on YouTube. It reminded him of the resources that need to be provided to keep everyone safe. Congratulations to Captain Ullery & thankful that we have not had a LODD like that since.
- Thank you notes:
  - Received from Aspen Crossing Elementary School to Engine 23, C Shift for participating in their Veterans Day festivities.
  - Received from Colorado Springs Fire Chief for SMFR's support and participation in the memorial service for their Driver/Engineer Bobby Keese.