



SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
May 6, 2024
9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

I. REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 6:00 P.M. – Board Room

A. MEETING CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

D. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

E. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

F. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Conduct at Meetings. Comments by members of the public shall be made only during the “Public Comment” portion of the meeting or a specified “Public Hearing,” and shall be limited to three minutes per individual and five minutes per group spokesperson unless additional opportunity is given at the Board’s discretion. Each member of the public wishing to speak shall identify themselves by name, address, and agenda item, if any, to be addressed. Disorderly conduct, harassment, or obstruction of or interference with meetings by physical action, verbal utterance, nuisance or any other means are prohibited. Such conduct may result in removal of person(s) responsible for such behavior from the meeting, a request for assistance from law enforcement, and criminal charges filed against such person(s).

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda items are provided for study in the Board packets and introduced in the General Session for the Board’s review. They can be adopted by a single motion. All resolutions and proposed actions must be read by title prior to a vote on the motion. Any Consent Agenda items may be removed at the request of a Director and heard separately or tabled.

1. April 1, 2024 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. April 15, 2024 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Lobbyist Professional Services Agreement Extension – Dell’Orfano

I. DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

With a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the board members in attendance, the board has the discretion to amend the Agenda to move any Discussion/Potential Action Item to an Action Item.

1. 2023 Budget Amendment Resolution – Miskimins
2. Chief Selection Process – Albee

J. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Sleep Study Update – Weller

2. Vehicle Policy – Dell’Orfano
3. CFSI Annual Symposium Summary – Dell’Orfano
4. IGA Update – Dell’Orfano
 - a. Arapahoe Community College EMS Clinical Services Agreement District Accepting Students
 - b. Colorado Department of Military Veterans Affairs Code Enforcement MOU
 - c. WMFR First Amendment Auto and Mutual Aid Agreement

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION (upon motion)

N/A

L. NEXT MEETING(S)

Special Board of Directors’ Meeting to be held on May 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO

Regular Board of Directors’ Meeting to be held on June 3, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

M. ADJOURNMENT

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2024

Present:

Jim Albee, Chair	Bob Baker, Fire Chief
Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Govt. Affairs Officer
Rich Sokol, Treasurer (Absent)	John Curtis, Deputy Chief– Emergency Services (Absent)
Sue Roche, Secretary	Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services
Kevin Leung	Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Employee Services
William Shriver	Dillon Miskimins, CFO Business Services
Bruce Stahlman	Camie Chapman, CHRO Employee Services
	Bob Cole, Legal Counsel

Others Present: Lobbyist Camille Driver, SMFR Staff Members and Citizens

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Regular Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

Director Sokol's absence was excused. All of the other Board members were present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Albee suggested moving Information Item J1, Legislative Update after Action Item H1, SMFR Proclamation & remove Action Item H2 Lone Tree URA Financing & K1 Executive Session from the agenda since they are not ready for discussion.

Director Leung motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Director Roche seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Chair Albee asked if there were any changes to conflict of interest affirmation:

- Director Stahlman – no changes
- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Sokol – no changes (absent)
- Director Leung – no changes

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

CONSENT AGENDA

March 4, 2024 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2024 South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Special Board Meeting Minutes

Director Stahlman motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Roche seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS

- 1. SMFR Proclamation No. 2024-01 A Proclamation by South Metro Fire Rescue Board of Directors Recognizing April 14-20, 2024 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week** - Chief Richardson opened with acknowledging Lobbyist Camille Driver for her work at the Capitol. Emergency Communications Director March added that this year is even more special for the Colorado Safety Telecommunicators because Governor Polis signed into law HB24-1016 a couple of weeks ago recognizing Dispatchers as first responders & asked that thanks be given to them for all that they do day in and day out.

Chief Richardson stated that in 1991, House Joint Resolution 284 was approved by congress in order to designate the week beginning April 12, 1992, as 'National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week'. Similar resolutions were passed the following two years until it was permanent with no need for a yearly introduction. These resolutions were intended to designate a time when citizens can thank public safety men and women who dispatch emergency professional and equipment during times of crisis. Today, there are more than 5,700 emergency call centers in the U.S., handling more than 240 million 911 calls every year according to the National Emergency Number Association. Currently there are about 100,000 professionals working throughout the country, with about 10,000 dispatchers being hired every year to perform this critical role for the nation's emergency services and asked the Board to approve the proclamation.

Director Roche read the Proclamation.

Director Shriver motioned to approve SMFR Proclamation No. 2024-01 A Proclamation by South Metro Fire Rescue Board of Directors Recognizing April 14-20, 2024 as National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week as presented. Director Roche seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- 2. Agreement Regarding Lone Tree Urban Renewal Authority Tax Increment Financing** – removed from agenda.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- **Legislative Update** – Lobbyist Camille Driver expressed her gratitude for everyone who testified in favor of the Governor signing into law the bill recognizing Dispatchers as first responders. The Governor gives the pen used to sign the laws to the person most impactful to the signing and it was given to Dispatcher Sara Shover.

Ms. Driver gave a quick overview of the session, highlighting that they have been active on 51 bills. Technically, SMFR testified on three bills, including the dispatch bill. Director Anderson and Chief Dell'Orfano testified against HB-1239, requiring local government to modify a building code to allow five stories of a multi-family residential building to be served by a single exit. Chief Richardson testified on HB-1091, concerning prohibiting covenants and other restrictions that disallow the use of fire-hardened building materials in residential real property, which passed bipartisan as well. Ms. Driver stated that she believes working with the legislators directly really helps getting legislation amended and passed. Director Anderson added that this is not just the work of a few, they are actually consulting with Staff when making recommendations for amendments.

Ms. Driver provided an overview of work on HB 1016, 1103 (excited delirium) as well as legislation of note 1168 (access to public meetings) and 1313 (transit oriented communities). Tomorrow the Title 32 bill proposing changes to provide revenue diversification will be presented by the State Fire Chiefs.

At Director Stahlman's request, Ms. Driver stated that the Title 32 bill impact fee could be implemented by the Board alone; however, the sales tax would need to go before the citizens for approval through an election. The flier provided tonight is what the State Fire Chiefs are distributing as their reasoning for the bill. Chief Dell'Orfano provided an overview of the diversification of revenues. Ms. Driver urged SMFR to support the bill to align with the other fire districts, even if they don't necessarily implement it.

In preparation for the next session, Ms. Driver stated that SMFR's bill to cancel elections that are uncontested, with a few tweaks to the language, will be reintroduced. CPFF and SDA are in support of the bill and, unsurprisingly, state agencies have no legal qualms with it.

At Chair Albee's request, Ms. Driver stated that she thinks the Property Tax Incentive bill will go to the voters and it will pass unless it is challenged in court before it is implemented. Adding that is why she feels it is important for SMFR to endorse the Title 32 bill in case the Property Tax Incentive bill is not challenged, because there is no money for backfilling & if there is any money, it would go to the K12 first.

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

- 1. Engine (3 units)/Tower (2 units) Replacements 2027-2028** – Fleet Services Director Frank reported that currently Pierce Fire apparatus is quoting 45-48 months ETA of Engine and Tower units. Line Support, Fleet Services, and Operations have been working diligently to ensure we continue to replace apparatus during this challenge. Within the current Fleet Capital Replacement Schedule, Staff is anticipating replacing two Engines, one Tower in 2027, one Engine and one Tower in 2028. With extended lead times placing delivery time of units in January of 2028, Staff is proposing to order 2027 & 2028 Engine/Tower replacement units together in 2024. Finalized pricing is still to be determined and is not anticipated until approximately 14 months prior to delivery, with no prepayment option. Currently, staff is requesting \$1.5M/engine x 3 units (\$4.5M total Engine cost) & \$2.3M/Tower x 2 units (\$4.6M total Tower cost) for an all-in cost of \$9.1M, not including upfit or equipment costs, which is estimated as an additional 10-15%. Combined funding for 2027/2028 is \$10.686M, which appears to be sufficient for these purchases, although apparatus pricing has rapidly increased in recent years.

Chief Richardson added that the Board visited Fleet Services last year and saw the older apparatus that does not have replacement parts available. Fleet Services Director Frank stated that they have been dabbling in using a 3-D printer to create parts but that cannot do everything. E-One is still in business, so they are able to get some parts, but not all of them. Chief Richardson stated that Pittsburgh Bureau Fire, along with other departments, are buying up older apparatus because they do not have the proactive fleet replacement program like ours. Fire apparatus is big business, and they don't want to lose customers, so they are still taking orders, but that only adds to the slower turnaround time. Fleet Services Manager Frank stated that we could go with a less standardized unit but not sure if that is the correct solution.

At Director Shriver's request, Chief Richardson informed that the industry is having trouble getting people who want to do the work, so the backlog continues to grow.

Chair Albee reminded that it is not new to approve the purchase of items without the actual price. Approving this request would be committing a future Board's budget. But believes that this is important to the safety of our personnel as well as providing the best service to our citizens.

Director Shriver motioned to amend the agenda by turning this discussion item into an action item. Director Anderson seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Chair Albee motioned to approve the ordering of three Engines and two Towers, that represent the 2027-2028 Engine and Tower replacement units in the Capital Replacement Schedule estimated to be a total of \$9.1M, which is \$1.5M/each for Engines and \$2.3M/each for Towers. Director Leung seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- 2. Fire Chief Selection Process** – Chair Albee reviewed the latest board update & discussion presentation:
 - The competencies have been narrowed to 13 and broken into five key areas: Set & Execute Strategy, Allocate Resources, Building Senior Leadership Team & Set Culture, Communicate & Work Effectively with All Stakeholders, and Emergency Response.

- The Fire Chief Job Description needs to be finalized by April 15th in order to move forward with the FYI tool/process.
 - Added “or in a related field” for education requirements.
 - After further discussion, all agreed the job description is finalized enough to use.
 - Version 5 will be provided to the Board.
 - FYI process timeline was extended and maintaining a 6/30/24 deadline for the compensation package and draft employment agreement.

Information Items Continued:

- **Excise Tax Summary** – Chief Dell’Orfano reviewed the Town of Parker Excise Tax Revenues, highlighting:
 - P3: Partnering for Parker’s Progress (URA)
 - Lawsuit – Improper Division of Tax Revenues
 - Settlement – Excise Tax

At Chair Albee’s request, Chief Dell’Orfano informed that the excise taxes are included in the building permit process; these fees are only within the Town of Parker limits and unrelated to the URA; and it is the ordinance that assigns the public safety portion and it would take quite a bit to undo.

- Revenue
- Excise Tax Use
- Impact

At Director Shriver’s request, Chief Dell’Orfano stated that with the planned growth, land is dedicated for new fire stations.

- **IGA Update** – Chief Dell’Orfano provided an update on the following IGA changes:
 - a. Nothing new to report

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

- Chief Baker:
 - His term on the Colorado Fire Commission Board is up and Denver Fire Chief Desmond Fulton took his place.
 - April 23rd and 24th have been reserved for Local 2086 contract negotiations.
 - A meeting will be hosted for staff and line personnel who are not members of Local 2086 on Wednesday, April 3rd to review the results of the recent Workplace Culture Survey. The next step will be to come up with an integrated plan to address the issues brought up in the survey.
 - Will be speaking at the Denver Southeast Rotary Club on April 11th.
 - Will also be speaking at the Littleton Leadership Academy on April 12th along with Littleton Police Chief Doug Stephens.
 - Local 2086’s Hockey Team lost the first game in a final shootout but ended up winning the entire tournament.
- Chief Dell’Orfano:
 - With all of the organizational changes since the merger, upcoming changes with a new fire chief, the desire to improve our strategic planning, and the board’s desire to be updated on culture initiatives, it was recommended that the Board and ETeam spend some time off-site to talk about culture, strategy, and build relationships. The Board agreed it is a good idea.
- CHRO Chapman:
 - The next promotion ceremony will take place on Wednesday, April 10th at Arapahoe Community College and starts at 5:00 p.m. The ceremony will include recognizing the Staff and Firefighter of the year.
 - A recruitment notice was just posted for Paramedics.
- Chief Weller:

- The incumbent physical testing process began on March 1st and includes the cardiac screens, thanks to the Board's approval to purchase the tests. Potentially 300 screens will be done by September.
- Local President Dzengelewski:
 - Tomorrow night is the 2nd Rock Bottom Fire Chief Ale event at the Park Meadows location from 5-8 p.m. 15% of the total sales goes to the foundation as well as 100% of the Fire Chief Ale sales.
 - Scheduling meetings with Chief Baker to work through the integrated plan to address culture initiatives and other topics.
- Chief Powell:
 - Hit the halfway mark in the Academy and still 20 recruits in the program.
 - HR is getting close to dialing in the next academy of 20 that is anticipated to start around August 2nd.
- EMS Captain Piche on behalf of Chief Pietrzyk:
 - Received the Zoll monitors last week and everything went well for a June deployment.
 - SMFR's notoriety encouraged two Paramedic students from Finland to spend a month with our paramedics. They were very impressed with our paramedic program.
- Director Stahlman:
 - Working with Chiefs Burke and Dell'Orfano on some rotary speaking engagements. Appreciates their efforts to engage.
- Director Anderson:
 - The Senior Center in Highlands Ranch has been under construction for a very long time, so when Chief Dell'Orfano provided an update to the Highlands Ranch Metro District recently stating when Station 15 would be finished, it has now turned into a competition to see which project will be finished first.
- Director Leung:
 - The Castle Pines URA has met twice but the April meeting has been cancelled.
- Chair Albee:
 - Noted that there was a lot of positive and encouraging feedback in the survey that did not go unnoticed.
 - Appreciates the update on the website, making public facing items much easier to search and find. Chief Eckmann gave credit to Executive Communications Manager Christian.
 - At the last meeting, Director Sokol asked to see the take home vehicle policy and further discussion is planned on this item for the May 6th meeting.
 - He and Chief Dell'Orfano have been talking to people about strategic planning and a way for the Board to express their strategic thoughts and determine priorities. Just wanted to inform that this is percolating in the background and something that will be added to the list of things that are being done, likely with the assistance of outside resources.
- Thank you notes:
 - A thank you letter was received from West Metro FPD to Captains DeWolfe, Hendee, Lingle, Petau, Peterson, Sims and Urban for participating as assessors in their recent captain promotional process.
 - A thank you note was received for Community Clinician Mary Friedman, Paramedic Tyson Hungerford and CRRS Selena Silva for the assistance during a home visit to one of our citizens.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION) – Removed from agenda.

NEXT MEETING

Special Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on April 15, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on May 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

Regular South Metro Fire Rescue Volunteer Pension Board of Trustees Meeting to be held on May 6, 2024, 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Attested by: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Special Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2024

Present:

Jim Albee, Chair	Bob Baker, Fire Chief
Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Govt. Affairs Officer
Rich Sokol, Treasurer	John Curtis, Deputy Chief – Emergency Services
Sue Roche, Secretary	Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services
Kevin Leung	Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Internal Services
William Shriver	Dillon Miskimins, CFO Business Services
Bruce Stahlman	Camie Chapman, CHRO Employee Services
	Legal Counsel (absent)

Others Present: SMFR Staff Members & Guests

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Special Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:09 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

All of the Board members were present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Albee recommended moving the Information Items before the Discussion/Potential Action Items.

Director Anderson motioned to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Director Shriver. All were in favor and the motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Chair Albee asked if there were any changes to conflict of interest affirmation:

- Director Stahlman – no changes
- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Leung – no changes
- Director Sokol – no changes

PUBLIC COMMENT

N/A

PARTNER UPDATE

1. **City of Centennial-** Councilmember Robyn Carnes provided the following updates:
 - a. Centennial State of the City will take place at Wings Over the Rockies on May 13th.
 - b. Each district will be holding summer socials during June and July.
 - c. City sponsored events will take place in the city park over the summer. The park is also being made available to rent for different party functions.

d. City Council Focus:

- i. Numerous Councilmembers attended the Congressional Municipal League of National Cities, a conference where they are aligning with other cities as they learn about the biggest issues affecting them.
- ii. Council has been very active at the State Capitol regarding upcoming legislation that affects the city.
- iii. Street cleaning began today and will continue for the next week or two.
- iv. E-cycling Event will take place for residents on April 20th from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Centennial Civic Center.
- v. SPARK Program, a program that brings business together to brainstorm and build meaningful connects, launches April 23rd.
- vi. Along with other south metro cities, will be participating in a Waste Reduction Study to determine what can be done more efficiently, be impactful, and under budget.
- vii. Centennials Homeless Outreach Coordinator is doing a marvelous job and they are now seeing some of data come to fruition regarding hot spots and focus on building the business relationships.
- viii. A number of smart community initiatives are being implemented.

At Chair Albee's request, Councilmember Carnes stated that she had not heard any feedback about the rebuild of Station 15. There is a district meeting coming up next month and will report back if anything is received.

At Chair Albee's request, Councilmember Carnes stated that they are looking at all major retail centers in the city and how to redevelop them.

At Director Sokol's request, Councilmember Carnes stated that she will follow up to see how many new housing developments are planned in the city and bring the information back to the Board.

At Director Leung's request, Councilmember Carnes reported that right now lots of unhoused individuals are coming from Denver and the city was unable to prep or be prepared for the influx. The Homeless Outreach Coordinator has been working with her team to assess the status of the unhoused to bring back information on how best to allocate resources to provide the proper solutions. At Director Shriver's request, no policies have been drafted yet, but it is on their radar.

ACTION ITEM

N/A

INFORMATION ITEMS

Station 15 Update – CFO Miskimins reported that last week a deficiency notice was received stated that some of the masonry work was not in compliance with the construction documents so a stop work order was delivered to the general contractor so that a corrective action plan could be developed. SMFR is not liable for any of the cost for the fixes since the work was done incorrectly and a revised schedule has been requested that does not extend the construction completion date. Everyone is motivated to act quickly to get back to work so Staff will provide another progress update at the next meeting.

At Director Sokol's request, CFO Miskimins stated that he is unsure the procedure if the subcontractor disputes the claim but ultimately the general contract decides the fate of the subcontractor as he is directed contracted through him.

At Director Anderson's request, CFO Miskimins stated that the architect is the one that noticed, and it is their office that originated the deficiency notice.

At Director Stahlman's request, CFO Miskimins stated that similar questions have arisen as to whether or not the subcontractor is going to be permitted to continue to do the work or be replaced. They are the masons that will be providing the exterior brick work so most of the CMU will be covered but it is alarming that the same subcontractor would be responsible for the exterior of the station. Staff will ensure that questions are asked at the proper time and place.

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

- Chief Curtis:
 - Reminded this week is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week so be sure to acknowledge their work if you see them.
 - On April 23rd the IT Staff will be doing a complete overhaul of the CAD system, which is 20+ years old. The entire system will be taken down for a big chunk of the day and will require us to go back to the old school ways. Fortunately, IT has it down to a science as to how it will be done. An update will be provided to the Board on who it went and the advantages of the new and improved software & technology.
 - Today there was a medical call at the same time as a water flow alarm and one of the BCs was going across the district with lights and sirens when he was involved in a pretty significant motor vehicle accident. The incident is being investigated and he was transported for precautionary reasons & has already been released to go home.
 - Publicly recognized Division Chief Tasker for 30 years of service, coming up through the ranks, serving on many of the special teams, responding on some of the most significant calls in the District and worked on the combining of the organizations, working as the Division Chief of Operations since the merge. His last shift ceremony will take place on Thursday, April 25th at 1600 hours here at Mineral HQ and the Board is invited to attend.
- Director Leung:
 - He and Chief Dell'Orfano will be attending the upcoming CFSI Annual Symposium and is happy to pass along any information from the Board to make sure that they make the best of the trip.
- Director Shriver:
 - Attended his first Lone Tree URA meeting. They are dealing with a lot of personnel changes so it going to be an extended process.
- Chair Albee:
 - Reminded the Board Members to fill out the Board/ETeam Retreat availability spreadsheet.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

Chair Albee made a motion to convene to Executive Session, pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., at 6:46 p.m. to discuss personnel matters related to the transition of the operations chief. All were in favor and the motion carried.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:26 p.m. with no action taken.

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. **Fire Chief Selection Process** –
 - a. **For Your Improvement (FYI) Process with Board** – Facilitator Dan Petersen coached the Board through the process.

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on May 6, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

The next South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Volunteer Pension Board of Trustees' meeting will take place on May 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

The next Special South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on May 20, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Attested by: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM

STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date: 5/6/2024

Agenda Item Type: Action Item

Agenda Item: Lobbyist Professional Services Agreement Extension

Submitted By: Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Government Affairs Officer

Approved: Bob Baker, Fire Chief

SUMMARY:

In 2023, SMFR entered into a professional services agreement with 3015 Policy Center, Ltd. for lobbying services. That agreement expires on May 31, 2024 and staff recommends an extension through the next legislative session.

BACKGROUND:

On September 26, 2023, SMFR entered into a Professional Services Agreement with 3015 Policy Center, Ltd. to provide lobbying services. Our lobbyist is Camille Driver. The purpose of the lobbying services is to assist the organization in navigating, tracking, and crafting legislation, providing updates to the board, and building relationships with state legislators. Since then, Director Anderson and Chief Dell'Orfano have worked with Camille to draft and navigate the process for SMFR's election bill, track proposed bills of interest, strategize with other stakeholders, coordinate SMFR subject matter experts, testify before legislative committees, and provide updates to the board. After 7 months working with Camille, it has become very apparent that her services are beneficial to SMFR and it is recommended that we renew the agreement through the next legislative session (May 31, 2025). During the off-season, she will help us track interim committees, participate in bill drafting/reviewing/stakeholder discussions, strategically build relationships with new and returning legislators, begin lobbying, and prepare SMFR's election bill.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The costs during the legislative session (October 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025) will remain unchanged at \$3,500 per month. During the off-season (June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024), the cost will be \$1,750 per month.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

The ability to influence legislation that impacts our employees, infrastructure, funding, services, partnerships, and other aspects of the fire service is in alignment with our legislative philosophy and a key strategy to support our mission. The incorporation of a lobbyist has proven instrumental in our ability to be successful implementing that strategy.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Recommended motion:

MOTION: I move to extend the professional services agreement with 3015 Policy Center, Ltd. for lobbying services through May 31, 2025 with a compensation of \$1,750 per month from June 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 and \$3,500 per month from October 1, 2024 through May 31, 2025. I direct the Fire Chief or his designee to execute the necessary documents to implement this board action.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

The board could choose not to extend the agreement, direct staff to search for an alternative lobbyist, or pursue different terms of the agreement.

ATTACHMENTS:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date: 5/6/2024
Agenda Item Type: Discussion Item
Agenda Item: 2023 Budget Amendment Resolution
Submitted By: Dillon Miskimins
Approved: Mike Dell'Orfano

SUMMARY:

The Self-Insured and Building Rental Funds exceeded their appropriated budget amounts in 2023 causing the need to amend the 2023 budget.

BACKGROUND:

Two main factors caused the Self-Insurance fund to exceed its original budgeted amount:

1. The District's contributions to employees' health savings accounts (HSA) were incorrectly budgeted in the General Fund rather than the Self-Insured fund.
2. Dental claims exceeded the original budget amount. This was the first year being self-insured for dental claims and under budgeted the amount of dental claims.

Two main factors caused the Building Rental Fund to exceed its original budgeted amount:

1. Higher than anticipated utility costs.
2. Unanticipated expenses related to repairing a flood in the basement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The Self-Insured fund exceeded the original budget by \$527,000. The Building Rental Fund exceeded the original budget by \$3,309.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

Click or tap here to enter text.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Staff recommends it hold a public hearing at the May 20th Board meeting and subsequently pass the attached resolution to amend the 2023 budget.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-06

RESOLUTION TO AMEND 2023 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATE SUMS

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District adopted the budget and appropriated funds for the 2023 fiscal year as follows:

Self-Insured Medical Fund	\$ 16,358,362
Building Rental Fund	\$ 654,468

WHEREAS, additional transfers totaling \$530,785 are necessary resulting in expenditures in excess of appropriations for the 2023 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, funds are available for such expenditures from funds of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District hereby adopts a supplemental budget and appropriation for the 2023 fiscal year as follows:

Self-Insured Medical Fund	\$ 16,885,838
Building Rental Fund	\$ 657,777

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such sums are hereby appropriated for expenditure from any available funds in accordance with the provisions of §29-1-109, C.R.S.

Dated this 6th day of May, 2024.

**SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

By: _____
Jim Albee, President
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

Rich Sokol, Treasurer
Board of Directors

South Metro Fire Rescue
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget to Actual
Building Rental Fund
For the period ending December 31, 2023



	Current Period Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget	Annual Variance		PY Actual YTD	Variance CY to PY
Revenues					% Received		
Rental income	\$ 36,246	\$ 631,582	\$ 651,542	\$ (19,960)	96.94%	\$ 756,015	\$ (124,433)
Lease interest income	7,529	7,529	-	7,529	0.00%	9,302	(1,773)
Total Revenues	<u>43,775</u>	<u>639,111</u>	<u>651,542</u>	<u>(12,431)</u>	<u>98.09%</u>	<u>765,317</u>	<u>(126,206)</u>
Expenditures					% Used		
Supplies	2,465	8,750	14,021	5,271	62.41%	35,653	26,903
Utilities	24,516	308,730	280,708	(28,022)	109.98%	286,728	(22,002)
Professional services	-	108	5,000	4,892	2.16%	2,200	2,092
Outside services	9,402	110,696	110,000	(696)	100.63%	108,714	(1,982)
Routine maintenance/Outside repairs	4,371	181,254	169,264	(11,990)	107.08%	191,251	9,997
Equipment	821	4,255	10,100	5,845	42.13%	8,492	4,237
Building and grounds	6,344	43,984	65,375	21,391	67.28%	51,606	7,622
Total Expenditures	<u>47,919</u>	<u>657,777</u>	<u>654,468</u>	<u>(3,309)</u>	<u>100.51%</u>	<u>684,644</u>	<u>26,867</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>(4,144)</u>	<u>(18,666)</u>	<u>(2,926)</u>	<u>(15,740)</u>		<u>80,673</u>	<u>(99,339)</u>
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year		<u>483,206</u>	<u>517,643</u>	<u>(34,437)</u>			
Fund Balances - End of Year		<u>\$ 464,540</u>	<u>\$ 514,717</u>	<u>\$ (50,177)</u>			

South Metro Fire Rescue FPD
Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Budget to Actual
Self-Insured Medical Fund
For the period ending December 31, 2023



	Current Period Actuals	YTD Actuals	Annual Budget	Annual Variance		PY Actual YTD	Variance CY to PY
Revenues					% Received		
Medical premiums	\$ 707,438	\$ 16,780,283	\$ 15,192,815	\$ 1,587,468	110.45%	\$ 14,308,641	\$ 2,471,642
Dental premiums	33,643	796,263	811,785.00	(15,522)	98.09%	-	796,263
Miscellaneous revenue	158,423	1,055,168	600,000	455,168	175.86%	539,046	516,122
Stop loss refunds	-	11,386	50,000	(38,614)	22.77%	650,274	(638,888)
Net investment earnings	23,410	168,708	12,500	156,208	1349.66%	32,171	136,537
Total Revenues	<u>922,914</u>	<u>18,811,808</u>	<u>16,667,100</u>	<u>2,144,708</u>	<u>112.87%</u>	<u>15,530,132</u>	<u>3,281,676</u>
Expenditures					% Used		
Medical payments	2,209,405	14,426,134	14,708,785	282,651	98.08%	14,816,645	390,511
Dental payments	73,206	721,418	495,585	(225,833)	145.57%	-	(721,418)
HSA contributions	375	509,000	-	(509,000)	0.00%	-	(509,000)
Stop loss insurance / admin fees	215,657	1,229,286	1,153,992	(75,294)	106.52%	1,246,242	16,956
Total Expenditures	<u>2,498,643</u>	<u>16,885,838</u>	<u>16,358,362</u>	<u>(527,476)</u>	<u>103.22%</u>	<u>16,062,887</u>	<u>(822,951)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	<u>(1,575,729)</u>	<u>1,925,970</u>	<u>308,738</u>	<u>1,617,232</u>		<u>(532,755)</u>	<u>2,458,725</u>
Fund Balances - Beginning of Year		<u>121,937</u>	<u>1,389,326</u>	<u>(1,267,389)</u>			
Fund Balances - End of Year		<u>\$ 2,047,907</u>	<u>\$ 1,698,064</u>	<u>\$ 349,843</u>			

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date: 5/6/2024
Agenda Item Type: Discussion Item
Agenda Item: Fire Chief FYI Competencies
Submitted By: Camie Chapman
Approved:

SUMMARY:

As part of the process of identifying the competencies necessary for the next SMFR Fire Chief, the Board of Directors and other groups have participated in the FYI process facilitated by Chief Dan Peterson. Included for this discussion are the results of those processes to help the Directors understand how the organization views the position and to review how the top-rated competencies fit into the factors and clusters. The goal will be to identify the top ten for integration into the job description. Attached are the final results of the FYI Leadership Card sort. There were a total of 40 respondents from five separate groups; Board of Directors, Executive Team, Chief Officers, Staff Managers, and IAFF Leadership. One PDF displays the results by overall ranking (average ranking by each group, not by individuals) and the other displays how the rankings fit into the factors and clusters. The factors and clusters will help make sure the selected competencies are well rounded for the position, not focused too narrowly in one specific theme.

BACKGROUND:

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FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Click or tap here to enter text.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

Click or tap here to enter text.

RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

SMFR Fire Chief Competencies – Sorted by Ranking

SMFR Fire Chief Competencies – Sorted by Factor and Cluster.

So Metro Fire Chief Leadership Competency Assessment - Sorted by Ranking

Leadership Competency		Board		Exec		Chief Officers		Staff Mgr		IAFF	
40 Total Respondents - April/May 2024	Ave of Groups	7		7		8		11		7	
36. Instills Trust: Gaining the confidence and trust of others through honesty, integrity, and authenticity	93.2%	7	100.0%	7	100.0%	6	75.0%	10	90.9%	7	100.0%
7. Communicates Effectively: Developing delivering multi-mode communications that convey a clear understanding of the unique needs of different audiences	73.4%	5	71.4%	7	100.0%	6	75.0%	7	63.6%	4	57.1%
37. Drives Vision and Purpose: Painting a compelling picture of the vision and strategy that motivates others to action	72.4%	5	71.4%	6	85.7%	6	75.0%	8	72.7%	4	57.1%
33. Strategic Mindset: Seeing ahead to future possibilities and translating them into breakthrough strategies	68.5%	3	42.9%	6	85.7%	6	75.0%	9	81.8%	4	57.1%
1. Ensures Accountability: Holding self and others accountable to meet commitments	64.5%	5	71.4%	4	57.1%	4	50.0%	8	72.7%	5	71.4%
6. Collaborates: Building partnerships and working collaboratively with others to meet shared objectives	51.6%	3	42.9%	4	57.1%	4	50.0%	4	36.4%	5	71.4%
10. Courage: Stepping up to address difficult issues, saying what needs to be said.	42.7%	2	28.6%	4	57.1%	4	50.0%	7	63.6%	1	14.3%
34. Builds Effective Teams: Building strong-identity teams that apply their diverse skills and perspectives to achieve common goals	41.2%	5	71.4%	3	42.9%	4	50.0%	3	27.3%	1	14.3%
29. Demonstrates Self-Awareness: Using a combination of feedback and reflection to gain productive insight into personal strengths and weaknesses	37.2%	5	71.4%	1	14.3%	2	25.0%	2	18.2%	4	57.1%
11. Customer Focus: Building strong customer relationships and delivering customer-centric solutions	36.5%	4	57.1%	4	57.1%	1	12.5%	3	27.3%	2	28.6%
12. Decision Quality: Making good and timely decisions that keep the organization moving forward	36.3%	1	14.3%	2	28.6%	3	37.5%	8	72.7%	2	28.6%
8. Manages Complexity: Making sense of complex, high quantity, and sometimes contradictory information to effectively solve problems	29.7%	3	42.9%	0	0.0%	4	50.0%	3	27.3%	2	28.6%
26. Being Resilient: Rebounding from setbacks and adversity when facing difficult situations	27.2%	0	0.0%	3	42.9%	3	37.5%	3	27.3%	2	28.6%
13. Develops Talent: Developing people to meet both their career goals and the organization's goals	27.2%	4	57.1%	2	28.6%	1	12.5%	1	9.1%	2	28.6%
16. Drives Engagement: Creating a climate where people are motivated to do their best to help the organization achieve its objectives	25.4%	1	14.3%	1	14.3%	3	37.5%	2	18.2%	3	42.9%
23. Organizational Savvy: Maneuvering comfortably through complex policy, process, and people- related organization dynamics	25.2%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	3	37.5%	5	45.5%	2	28.6%
20. Interpersonal Savvy: Relating openly and comfortably with diverse groups of people	24.4%	1	14.3%	1	14.3%	3	37.5%	3	27.3%	2	28.6%
4. Attracts Top Talent: Attracting and selecting the best talent to meet current and future business needs.	24.1%	2	28.6%	1	14.3%	1	12.5%	4	36.4%	2	28.6%
9. Manages Conflict: Handling conflict situations effectively, with a minimum of noise	23.3%	1	14.3%	2	28.6%	1	12.5%	2	18.2%	3	42.9%

So Metro Fire Chief Leadership Competency Assessment - Sorted by Factor and Cluster

Leadership Competency		Board		Exec		Chief Officers		Staff Mgr		IAFF			
40 Total Respondents - April/May 2024		Ave of Groups		7		7		8		11		7	
FACTOR: Thought CLUSTER: Understanding the Business													
5. Business Insight: Applying knowledge of business and the marketplace to advance the organization's goals		13.2%		1 14.3%		2 28.6%		0 0.0%		1 9.1%		1 14.3%	
11. Customer Focus: Building strong customer relationships and delivering customer-centric solutions		36.5%		4 57.1%		4 57.1%		1 12.5%		3 27.3%		2 28.6%	
17. Financial Acumen: Interpreting and applying understanding of key financial indicators to make better business decisions		7.2%		1 14.3%		0 0.0%		1 12.5%		1 9.1%		0 0.0%	
35. Tech Savvy: Anticipating and adopting innovations in business-building digital and technology applications		0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
FACTOR: Thought CLUSTER: Making Complex Decisions													
8. Manages Complexity: Making sense of complex, high quantity, and sometimes contradictory information to effectively solve problems		29.7%		3 42.9%		0 0.0%		4 50.0%		3 27.3%		2 28.6%	
12. Decision Quality: Making good and timely decisions that keep the organization moving forward		36.3%		1 14.3%		2 28.6%		3 37.5%		8 72.7%		2 28.6%	
32. Balances Stakeholders: Anticipating and balancing the needs of multiple stakeholders		22.2%		0 0.0%		2 28.6%		4 50.0%		2 18.2%		1 14.3%	
FACTOR: Thought CLUSTER: Creating the New and Different													
18. Global Perspective: Taking a broad view when approaching issues, using a global lens		16.1%		0 0.0%		3 42.9%		3 37.5%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
19. Cultivates Innovation: Creating new and better ways for the organization to be successful		9.0%		1 14.3%		0 0.0%		1 12.5%		2 18.2%		0 0.0%	
33. Strategic Mindset: Seeing ahead to future possibilities and translating them into breakthrough strategies		68.5%		3 42.9%		6 85.7%		6 75.0%		9 81.8%		4 57.1%	

So Metro Fire Chief Leadership Competency Assessment - Sorted by Factor and Cluster

Leadership Competency		Board		Exec		Chief Officers		Staff Mgr		IAFF	
40 Total Respondents - April/May 2024		Ave of Groups	7	7	8	11	7				
FACTOR: Results CLUSTER: Taking Initiative											
2. Action Oriented: Taking on new opportunities and tough challenges with a sense of urgency, high energy, and enthusiasm	6.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	2	18.2%	0	0.0%
27. Resourcefulness: Securing and deploying resources effectively and efficiently	5.7%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%
FACTOR: Results CLUSTER: Managing Execution											
15. Directs Work: Providing direction, delegation, and removing obstacles to get work done	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
25. Plans and Aligns: Planning and prioritizing work to meet commitments aligned with organizational goals	13.9%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	1	12.5%	0	0.0%	3	42.9%
38. Optimizes Work Processes: Knowing the most effective and efficient processes to get things done, with a focus on continuous improvement.	2.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	14.3%
FACTOR: Results CLUSTER: Focusing on Performance											
1. Ensures Accountability: Holding self and others accountable to meet commitments	64.5%	5	71.4%	4	57.1%	4	50.0%	8	72.7%	5	71.4%
28. Drives Results: Consistently achieving results, even under tough circumstances	17.9%	3	42.9%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	2	18.2%	1	14.3%

So Metro Fire Chief Leadership Competency Assessment - Sorted by Factor and Cluster

Leadership Competency		Board		Exec		Chief Officers		Staff Mgr		IAFF	
40 Total Respondents - April/May 2024	Ave of Groups	7		7		8		11		7	
FACTOR: People CLUSTER: Building Collaborative Relationships											
6. Collaborates: Building partnerships and working collaboratively with others to meet shared objectives	51.6%	3	42.9%	4	57.1%	4	50.0%	4	36.4%	5	71.4%
9. Manages Conflict: Handling conflict situations effectively, with a minimum of noise	23.3%	1	14.3%	2	28.6%	1	12.5%	2	18.2%	3	42.9%
20. Interpersonal Savvy: Relating openly and comfortably with diverse groups of people	24.4%	1	14.3%	1	14.3%	3	37.5%	3	27.3%	2	28.6%
21. Builds Networks: Effectively building formal and informal relationship networks inside and outside the organization	20.1%	0	0.0%	3	42.9%	2	25.0%	2	18.2%	1	14.3%
FACTOR: People CLUSTER: Optimizing Diverse Talent											
4. Attracts Top Talent: Attracting and selecting the best talent to meet current and future business needs.	24.1%	2	28.6%	1	14.3%	1	12.5%	4	36.4%	2	28.6%
13. Develops Talent: Developing people to meet both their career goals and the organization's goals	27.2%	4	57.1%	2	28.6%	1	12.5%	1	9.1%	2	28.6%
14. Values Differences: Recognizing the value that different perspectives and cultures bring to an organization	20.4%	1	14.3%	1	14.3%	1	12.5%	2	18.2%	3	42.9%
34. Builds Effective Teams: Building strong-identity teams that apply their diverse skills and perspectives to achieve common goals	41.2%	5	71.4%	3	42.9%	4	50.0%	3	27.3%	1	14.3%
FACTOR: People CLUSTER: Influencing People											
7. Communicates Effectively: Developing delivering multi-mode communications that convey a clear understanding of the unique needs of different audiences	73.4%	5	71.4%	7	100.0%	6	75.0%	7	63.6%	4	57.1%
16. Drives Engagement: Creating a climate where people are motivated to do their best to help the organization achieve its objectives	25.4%	1	14.3%	1	14.3%	3	37.5%	2	18.2%	3	42.9%
23. Organizational Savvy: Maneuvering comfortably through complex policy, process, and people- related organization dynamics	25.2%	1	14.3%	0	0.0%	3	37.5%	5	45.5%	2	28.6%
24. Persuades: Using compelling arguments to gain the support and commitment of others	7.5%	2	28.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	1	9.1%	0	0.0%
37. Drives Vision and Purpose: Painting a compelling picture of the vision and strategy that motivates others to action	72.4%	5	71.4%	6	85.7%	6	75.0%	8	72.7%	4	57.1%

So Metro Fire Chief Leadership Competency Assessment - Sorted by Factor and Cluster

Leadership Competency		Board		Exec		Chief Officers		Staff Mgr		IAFF			
40 Total Respondents - April/May 2024		Ave of Groups		7		7		8		11		7	
FACTOR: Self CLUSTER: Being Authentic													
10. Courage: Stepping up to address difficult issues, saying what needs to be said.		42.7%		2 28.6%		4 57.1%		4 50.0%		7 63.6%		1 14.3%	
36. Instills Trust: Gaining the confidence and trust of others through honesty, integrity, and authenticity		93.2%		7 100.0%		7 100.0%		6 75.0%		10 90.9%		7 100.0%	
FACTOR: Self CLUSTER: Being Open													
29. Demonstrates Self-Awareness: Using a combination of feedback and reflection to gain productive insight into personal strengths and weaknesses		37.2%		5 71.4%		1 14.3%		2 25.0%		2 18.2%		4 57.1%	
30. Self-Development: Actively seeking new ways to grow and be challenged using both formal and informal development channels		0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
FACTOR: Self CLUSTER: Being Flexible and Adaptable													
3. Manages Ambiguity: Operating effectively, even when things are not certain or the way forward is not clear.		12.6%		1 14.3%		0 0.0%		1 12.5%		4 36.4%		0 0.0%	
22. Nimble Learning: Actively learning through experimentation when tackling new problems, using both successes and failures as learning fodder		0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%	
26. Being Resilient: Rebounding from setbacks and adversity when facing difficult situations		27.2%		0 0.0%		3 42.9%		3 37.5%		3 27.3%		2 28.6%	
31. Situational Adaptability: Adapting approach and demeanor in real time to match the shifting demands of different situations		6.5%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		0 0.0%		2 18.2%		1 14.3%	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA ITEM STAFF REPORT



Meeting Date: 5/6/2024
Agenda Item Type: Information Item
Agenda Item: Sleep Study Update
Submitted By: Kevin Milan, Assistant Chief
Approved: Dillon Miskimins, CFO

SUMMARY:

Improvements made to SMFR fire stations to improve sleep hygiene are nearing conclusion. Staff desires to update the Board on the actions completed and those that remain related to this initiative.

BACKGROUND:

In 2022, the SMFR Board of Directors approved \$1.5 million to be used to improve the sleep environments in our stations. A plan was developed and executed collaboratively with Operations, Human Performance & Optimization (HPO), Facilities, Construction Management, and various design professionals. We have expended \$1.4 million improving the stations and anticipate completing the remaining few items this summer with the remaining budgeted amount of \$100,000. We are tracking to complete the project at the end of summer and not to exceed approved budgeted amount.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

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STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:

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RECOMMENDED ACTION/MOTION:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Click or tap here to enter text.

ATTACHMENTS:

COLORADO FIRE

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE



THE BILL	THE TITLE	POSITION	SUMMARY
H.R. 3671, 4274; S. 1925 118	Helping Emergency Responders Overcome (HERO) Act	Support	Establishes a series of programs relating to the behavioral health of first responders and 9-1-1 operators
H.R. 6319 118	911 SAVES Act	Support	Reclassifies public safety telecommunicators as 'protective service occupations', similar to other first responders
S. 3556 118	Enhancing First Response Act	Support	Reclassifies public safety telecommunicators as 'protective service occupations', similar to other first responders
H.R. 5212 118	FIRE Cancer Act	Support	Supports the establishment of early cancer detection screening for firefighters
H.R. 3821; S. 2119 118	Firefighter Cancer Registry Reauthorization Act of 2023	Support	voluntary registry that collects relevant health and occupational information to better understand and reduce cancers among firefighters
H.R. 1719; S. 930 118	Honoring Our Fallen Heroes Act of 2023	Support	Grants eligibility for the PSOB program to the families of public safety officers that die or are disabled from cancer due to job-related exposures
H.R. 1294; S. 569 118	9/11 Responder and Survivor Health Funding Correction Act of 2023	Support	Provides additional funding for the World Trade Center Health Program through FY90.
H.R. 1814; S. 977 118	Fire Station Act	Support	Establishes grant funding for the construction and modification of fire stations to improve firefighter safety
H.R. 4769 118	PFAS Alternatives Act	Support	Prohibits manufacturing and use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting foam at airports

COLORADO FIRE

SOUTH METRO FIRE RESCUE



THE BILL	THE TITLE	POSITION	SUMMARY
H.R. 3366 118	First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization	Support	Amends the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of '12 to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)
H.R. 1586; S. 796 118	Forest Protection and Wildland Firefighter Safety Act of 2023	Support	To exempt discharges of fire retardant from the permitting requirements of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
H.R. 5064; S. 2600 118	Public Housing Fire Safety Act	Support	Creates a grant program for public housing agencies to install fire sprinkler systems in public housing projects
H.R. 6192; S. 3346 117	High Rise Fire Sprinkler Incentive Act	Support	Amends the tax code to incentivize building owners to retrofit high-rise residential buildings with fire sprinkler systems
H.R. 1784 118	Next Generation 9-1-1 Act of 2023	Support	Supports further deployment of Next Generation 9-1-1
H.R. 1797; S. 1008 118	Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act	Support	Requires a consumer product safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries in certain devices to prevent fires
H.R. 4090; S. 870 118	Fire Grants and Safety Act	Support	Reauthorizes the USFA, AFG, SAFER through FY32
H.R. 7525 118	Special District Grant Accessibility Act	Support	Requires special districts to be recognized as local government for the purpose of Federal financial assistance determinations



Legacy History: 50 years since Littleton Fire Rescue Began the First Fire Service Paramedic System in Colorado



Pete Cernich spent more than 30 years working for Littleton Fire Rescue. He started his fire career in 1967 following his father's footsteps, John Cernich, who suffered a line of duty death in 1969. Pete quickly climbed the ranks, eventually becoming a Deputy Chief and serving as the Acting Fire Chief twice, once from 1989-1990 and again in 1997-1998. Over the years he played a crucial role in helping to start the first dive rescue team, becoming one of the first paramedics, and later, the Paramedic Coordinator. Cernich retired in 1998 and since then, spearheaded a committee that writes about the history of Littleton Fire Rescue.

A Letter From Pete Cernich:

"This year marks 50 years since Littleton Fire Department began the first fire service paramedic system in Colorado. On July 7, 1974, paramedic units were placed at Stations 1, 2, & 3 following an effort that began in late 1969. That's when a couple firefighters began advocating for improvements in the emergency care provided by the Department. Their campaign reached fulfillment in January 1974, when a group of 23 firefighters began formal advanced life support training, provided by the staff at Swedish Hospital. They attended class while off-duty without any financial compensation.

At the conclusion of the paramedic training program, written exams and an extensive oral evaluation was conducted by a team of three physicians and three nurses. Fifteen firefighters passed and the others were referred for further training.

The fifteen who passed became the first fire department paramedics in Colorado: Chuck Burdick, Pete Cernich, Ken Chambers, Mike Doyle, Tim Floyd, Jim Hofstra, Ken Holder, Tim Houseweart, Terry Laes, Tom Lewis, Jim Martin, Ray Rahne, Fred Schum, Joe Smith, and Larry Turner.

In the interim, two Dodge Maxivans were purchased to use at Station 3 and Station 4, and were being modified to serve as paramedic units. All items needed for ALS, including cardiac monitor/defibrillators and biomedical telemetry units, arrived shortly thereafter and the paramedic system was placed in service.

On August 24, our paramedic service reaped its first dividend. A 52-year-old male had a cardiac arrest and was successfully resuscitated by Paramedic Lieutenant Terry Laes and Paramedic II Mike Doyle. The patient was released from the hospital eight days later with no impairment. His physician, who was past president of the Colorado Heart Association, was so impressed that he sent the department a letter expressing his congratulations at this accomplishment for a "most rewarding and effective effort" by our personnel. This was just one of many patient encounters in

which the knowledge and skills of our paramedics resulted in positive outcomes for citizens who had serious medical problems. Soon after going into service and as citizens became aware of our capabilities, EMS-related calls accounted for 75% of all department responses.



The following spring, based on the success of the LFD Paramedic Program, as well as a commitment to Emergency Medical Services, Swedish Hospital began the first official paramedic training program. This was through the mentorship of Dr. Robert Brittain of the Interhospital Education Association. The initial classes were small, usually six to eight students who were from area fire departments and ambulance services.

Classroom instruction and clinicals were held at Swedish Hospital, while field internships were provided by LFD paramedics who taught some of the classes. After the first year, Swedish began training other area personnel and ultimately achieved national recognition. As a result they began including students from across the country. It was only the fifth training program in the nation to earn national accreditation and in 2013, celebrated the beginning of its 100th class. Many paramedics throughout the metro area received their training through the Swedish program.

For several years after the beginning of Paramedic Services, we made formal presentations about our program to fire departments, physician groups and EMS councils throughout the state, and provided the stimulus and incentive for some of those groups to initiate or improve Emergency Medical Services.

One can only imagine the thousands of patients we treated and the many

lives that we saved during the 44 years of LFR medical responses. Certainly one of the best services we provided our community."

-Pete Cernich



To the personnel of South Metro Fire Rescue,

On Thursday, March 14th, 2024, the members of the Arapahoe Rescue Patrol were made aware of the possible need for our help within your fire district. Within the following 48 hours, we responded to 11 calls for assistance. These included stuck vehicles, ambulances, and the need for general aid.

We are very grateful for not only your utilization of our organization but also for the exceptional people we worked with. Our team has found that not only has South Metro pushed to bring us into service this past winter event, but they have also given us numerous opportunities to help them when needed.

The winter event shed light on many persons of SMFR who were essential in helping our organization. For instance, Tommy Brown who was working as a plow driver during the storm was staying in the extra room of Station 12 which happened to be where we were staging. Tommy treated our team with respect and called on us to help him throughout the evening of the 14th. His guidance was preeminent to the function of our team. The South Metro Fleet played a necessary role in the request of our team as well.

We would also like to thank South Metro for their vital role in our team's exposure over the past week. Through social media, news, and word of mouth our team has been beyond thankful to your information officers and all those who recommend us.

We are so appreciative of the way South Metro has advocated for ARP and we would like you to know that our team is proud to work with these esteemed people.

Sincerely,
The Arapahoe Rescue Patrol

April 5, 2024

Dear South Metro Fire Department-Fire Inspector Team,

During National Public Health Week, April 1-7, 2024, Arapahoe County Public Health is reminded of the profound impact of our collective efforts in fostering health, connection, and prosperity within our communities. This year's theme, "Protecting, Connecting and Thriving: We Are All Public Health," encapsulates the essence of our shared commitment to building healthier, more resilient societies.

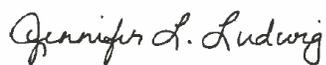
Arapahoe County Public Health wants to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to you and your team for your invaluable contributions to public health. As we moved into Year Two as Arapahoe County's health department, we were struck by how profound the impact, support and unwavering commitment and grace of our partners has been. Your dedication to fostering meaningful connections within our communities is truly commendable.

Your collaborative efforts extend far beyond traditional healthcare settings, encompassing the holistic well-being of individuals, families, and entire communities. Through your diligence to fire code enforcement and fire prevention strategies, you are not only protecting public health but also empowering individuals to thrive in all aspects of their lives.

As we celebrate National Public Health Week, let us renew our commitment to working together to address the multifaceted challenges facing our communities. By fostering collaboration, empathy, and resilience, we can create a future where all individuals can lead healthy, fulfilling lives.

Thank you once again for your unwavering dedication, passion and service to our community. Your contributions are invaluable, and they inspire us all to strive for a healthier, more equitable world. You truly are a public health hero, and Arapahoe County is a better place because of all you do.

With heartfelt appreciation—this week and always,



Jennifer Ludwig
Public Health Director



Danielle Henderson
Early Childhood Program Supervisor

6721 S Kit Carson Cir W
Centennial, CO 80122
April 10th, 2024

Mr. Bob Baker, Fire Chief
South Metro Fire Department
9195 E Mineral Avenue
Centennial, CO 80112

Dear Chief Baker:

My family and I moved to Colorado in 1981 (at that time our house was in unincorporated Arapahoe County) and have lived in the same house since then. Our fire department at that time was Littleton Fire Department, when my son was diagnosed as a type-1 diabetic in 1986 that changed our lives and we had to call 911 several times for him over the years for low blood sugar emergencies.

My wife has some serious health issues and we have had to call 911 for her many times over the years. Until the merger it was Littleton Fire Department and after the merger it was South Metro.

I want to thank all the people from these two fire departments that have helped us over the years when there were emergencies. The employees of these two departments have always been very professional and have served us well.

Please post this where your employees can read this letter.

You may reach me at the above address or at tpf99@yahoo.com.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard J. Stuchell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "R".

Richard J. Stuchell

From: Laura&Jared PateWageman <patewageman@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 1, 2024 2:47 AM

To: Mary Lema <mary.leva@southmetro.org>

Subject: Re: SMFR Station Tour

Hey Mary -

I just wanted to follow up and let you know that this tour was fantastic. The crew working at Station 14 on Thursday did an amazing job engaging the little kids, medium kids, and grown-ups. They did have to all leave the station for a call about 5 minutes after the tour started, but then came back shortly and then went above and beyond with the tour and demonstrations. We will be having our girls write a thank you note to the crew, but I'd appreciate you passing on our praise to any of the appropriate management types that might track this type of feedback.

Also Mary - Many thanks to you for helping us coordinate the tour and then rescheduling it just a few days ahead of time to accommodate for the bad weather.

Regards,
Laura Pate