



CEDAR MOUNTAIN SERVICE DISTRICT

3620 Mammoth Creek Rd
HC 82 Box 1084, Duck Creek Village, UT 84762
T: 435-682-3225 F: 435-682-3206
www.cmfpd.org

Cedar Mountain Service District Public Hearing Minutes 2024 Fire Budget

Dec 10, 2024

This meeting was held in person.

Board members present:

Chairperson Suzy Polnisch - remote
Vice Chairman Brent Carter - present
Treasurer Sheryl Snow - remote
District Clerk Zach Hascall - present
Member Paula Bell- Saxton - present

Agenda:

Open and amend the 2024 Fire Budget.

Members of the Public who were present included Lucas Jorgensen of Swains Creek, CPA Robert Cox, Rob Johnson and Nate Hoyt of the KC Sheriff's Dept, Edward Siemen of Navajo Lake Estates, Steven Kuehn of Navajo Lake Estates, County Fire Warden Spencer Rollo and Assistant Fire Warden Willow Crandall.

Clerk Zach Hascall opened the Public Hearing at 6:17 pm. He commented that technically the Fire budget did not require opening as the total was within budget, however anytime individual categories are over budget he preferred that it be on the record and how they were adjusted.

As of November 30th, 2024 the Fire Budget was at 85% of budget and not anticipated to go over 100% total budget by end of the year and Zach then listed each category and gave explanations.

Administration, which included Public Relations and events, which were increased in 2024 and budgeted at \$36k, was currently over at \$52k.

CHAIRMAN | SUZY POLNISCH **VICE CHAIRMAN** | BRENT CARTER **TREASURER** | SHERYL SNOW
CLERK | ZACH HASCALL **MEMBER** | PAUL BELL-SAXTON **DISTRICT MANAGER** | KENDALEE COX

Category for staff physicals titled Employee Wellness was budgeted at \$5k and was currently at \$19k. This was largely due to a new state law and requirement to provide first responders with mental health support. The District received a grant for the initial funding, and spent money to continue to support the program, which was not originally budgeted in 2024.

Professional Services for accounting and legal services was budgeted \$35k and was currently at \$39k. A new District accounting service was implemented and the overall costs associated were not available when the 2024 budget was created.

Mr. Siemen of North Fork asked if anything could be done to provide a fairer fee for those with remote properties and only present a few months of the year. He told of previous explanations he had been given regarding the increases in Fire fees over the past years and asked what happened and felt he had been lied to regarding the plans of the District regarding the Fire Department.

Zach Hascall explained that much of what Mr. Sieman had experienced was with the District's past Boards and not this Board's actions. He explained that the reason the fees have increased over time is that the services have increased.

Mr. Siemen said that his services had not changed and Zach disagreed and said that they could speak about it after the meeting and he could explain how all levels of service had increased and that the Board had investigated and tried to rectify the issue of those who can only access their property a percentage of the year; there was currently no clear solution but it was still being discussed.

Mr. Siemen said he appreciated the explanation and talked of how property owners were joining lots. He mentioned that he was previously told that the Fire fee would be reduced once the new Fire Station had been constructed.

Zach Hascall replied that it was the Board's responsibility to provide the best level of service to the majority at the fairest rate.

Steven Kuehn of North Fork commented to say that people of North Fork are not able to receive the same service as the rest of the District and asked how is that fair? He asked how big was a tanker that would go down to North Fork in Winter.

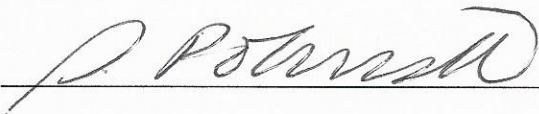
Zach Hascall replied that he wasn't prepared or informed enough to get into the details of operations and the Fire Chief and the Fire Warden would be able to answer questions.

Mr. Kuehn said that if they couldn't receive the same level of service that there needed to be value adjusted for that. He also explained how he attempts to help protect the area as a citizen by carrying shovels, sand and fire extinguishers and putting out unattended campfires himself.

Zach said he understands and the Board is considering options regarding fees as relates to accessibility of various areas in the District.

Payroll expenses were over budget. To help control expenses there were two deputy chief positions eliminated in 2024 and staffing has been adjusted.

Public Hearing for the 2024 Fire Budget concluded at 6:35 pm.

Minutes approved by  Jan 9, 2025
Name SUZY POLNISCA title CHAIRMAN

Signed copy on file at 3620 Mammoth Creek Rd, Duck Creek Village, UT 84762