

MINUTES OF WORK MEETING  
DAMMERON VALLEY FIRE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD  
7:00 p.m. April 14th, 2021

Board Members:  
Chair: Mack Sorensen  
Vice-Chair: Larry Carlon  
Treasurer: Curt Shelley  
Clerk: Ryan Andersen  
Member at Large: Rick Johnson

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE** conducted by Mack Sorensen. Other Board Members present were Larry Carlon, Ryan Anderson, Rick Johnson, and Curt Shelley.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** - A motion was made by Rick Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Curt Shelley and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF PAST MEETING NOTES** - A motion was made by Ryan Anderson to approve the past meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Rick Johnson and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT EXPENDITURE AGENDA** was presented by Ryan Anderson.

Name	Vendor	Date	Description	Code	Amount	Paid
<b>Visa Card Statements</b>						
	Interest & Fees					
	Chief Chet Barnes					
	Amazon	2/19/2021	PPE for EMT Students	4410	\$ 238.71	3/10/2021
	Costco	3/11/2021	Station Supplies	4156	\$ 53.83	4/25/2021
	Amazon	3/19/2021	AC Compressor	4920	\$ 174.17	4/25/2021
	Amazon	3/30/2021	Station Supplies	4156	\$ 167.47	4/25/2021
	WPSG INC.	3/31/2021	Badge	4158	\$ 100.61	4/25/2021
<b>Management &amp; Utilities</b>						
	Community Assn Mngmt	4/13/2021	Monthly Management	4104	\$ 742.00	4/13/2021
	Community Assn Mngmt		Printing & Reproduction	4310	\$ -	
	Community Assn Mngmt		Postage & Delivery	4310	\$ -	
	Wex Diesel	4/25/2021	Vehicle Fuel	4302	\$ 448.65	4/25/2021
	Verizon Cellular Phones	4/5/2021	5 lines: 3 people, 2 devices	4402	\$ 122.90	3/25/2021
	Dominion Energy	4/11/2021	Natural Gas	4410	\$ 134.05	4/25/2021
	Republic Waste	3/31/2021	Trash cans	4410	\$ 116.01	4/12/2021
	Rocky Mountain Power	4/1/2021	Electricity	4410	\$ 139.87	4/12/2021
	Fire Chief - Chet Barnes	4/2021	Monthly Compensation	4401	\$ 4,000.00	4/15/2021
	John Hennessy	4/2021	Monthly Stipend	4205	\$ 500.00	4/1/2021
	Medical Director- Dr. Brad Crosby	4/2021	Monthly Compensation	4405	\$ 500.00	4/10/2021
	EMS Trainer - Colleen Homer	4/2021	Monthly Compensation	4406	\$ 200.00	4/1/2021

	Mariah Matthews	4/10/2021	Fire Station Cleaning	4312	\$ 50.00	4/12/2021
Other Invoices						
	Chester Barnes	3/24/2021	Reimb. Capital Expense: Gurney	4920	\$ 2,131.79	3/25/2021
	20 Department Members	2/28/2021	1st QTR Personnel Stipends	4408	\$ 2,420.00	3/10/2021
	Ryan D'Ambrosio	3/23/2021	Shift Work	4205	\$ 495.00	3/25/2021
	Weidner Fire	3/22/2021	PPE	4203	\$ 465.49	3/25/2021
	Lattitude Marketing	3/17/2021	Business Cards	4306	\$ 59.98	3/25/2021
	5 Department Members	3/17/2021	Twin Peaks MOU Payout	4205	\$ 970.00	3/25/2021
	Henry Schein	3/17/2021		4156	\$ 150.17	3/25/2021
	Utah Local Gov. Trust	3/15/2021	Insurance	4135	\$ 104.88	3/25/2021
	Hafen, Buckner, Everett	3/31/2021	CPA Services - State Auditor Reporting	4309	\$ 500.00	4/12/2021
	Hunter Wolfe	4/7/2021	Reimb./Website Expenses	4310	\$ 142.42	4/12/2021
	Henry Schein	3/26/2021	Supplies	4156	\$ 87.18	4/12/2021
	Weidner Fire	4/7/2021	Wildland Boots	4203	\$ 1,055.43	4/25/2021
	Mack Sorensen	4/12/2021	Reimb/Rescue- Parts/Capital Expense	4920	\$ 248.41	4/25/2021
	Mack Sorensen	4/12/2021	Reimb/Weed Abatement	4312	\$ 131.41	4/25/2021
TOTAL	Reference only. Not meant to match any other Statement.				\$ 16,650.43	

**A motion was made by Rick Johnson to approve the expenditures as presented. The motion was seconded by Larry Carlon and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.**

**TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT** presented by Curt Shelley.

General Fund: \$242,775.83

Reserve Money Market: \$10,000.00

Assigned Funds: \$2,852.49

Capital Project Fund: \$55,765.87

Income YTD: \$210,215.40

Expenses YTD: \$56,792.96

Capital Expenses YTD: \$43,103.22

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT** presented by Chief Chet Barnes. Chief Barnes officially swore in Chief Hennessy as Assistant Fire Chief. The Board and Chief Barnes thanked Chief Hennessy for his dedication and service to the Department. Chief Barnes explained that calls for the year have slowed down for a total of 33 to date. The current average response time is 7 minutes, which includes a call in Brookside 19 minutes away. Average time on a call is 36 minutes. The volunteer roster currently includes 14 members that are certified for wildland. This time last year there were only three, which is a big accomplishment. EMTs have completed their course and have begun national registry testing, with a total of 9 to be done in the coming weeks. The Department is currently coming into the end of a huge certification push, in which every member is certified with 35 members total. Chief Barnes commended the entire department for their hard work and commitment and thanked the Board and community for their support. He announced that the ambulance/rescue is almost ready for service and will serve the Department for many years. UFRA will be coming back next month for two live fire events. There is ongoing fire training on Monday nights and EMS training the first and third Wednesday of the month. Everything being done over the last few months is being properly documented and displayed in the station in addition to being tracked in the software which is a huge tool against liability issues. Grant funding has come in at about \$3,000.00. A substantial grant was

submitted this month for PPE and airpicks. Also, a grant for EMS training for this year has been submitted. Chief Barnes shared information pertaining to all grants in progress currently. He expressed that no stone is being left unturned for additional resources. Chief Barnes acknowledged Joyce Gaufin, Carla Saunders, Brenda Vigilenzoni,, Barbara Hjelle, Hunter Wolfe, and John Hennessy on the grant committee as they have put a lot of hours into solid grants in which he would like to recognize and thank them for.

Chief Barnes also recognized the community support that has been received. The most immediate needs for PPE, etc. has been purchased. Box Elder donated 30 sets of structure turnouts. May 1st is Community Preparation Day. A dumpster has been brought in to prepare for fire season as it is very dry and vegetation should be hauled away. The Dumpster will be in place about a month. The Department will be distributing information on door hangers, the website and the Facebook page, and the Chief encouraged the community to take that information seriously. Rick Johnson inquired about possible preparticipation physicals or health exams for the Department Members. Chief Barnes explained that they are currently working on the best way to conduct physicals. Additionally, for the community, the monthly event being proposed will provide vitals, EKG's, pre-screening, etc. Mack Sorensen thanked Chet Barnes and his family for their sacrifices. Larry Carlon requested further information pertaining to how the turnouts from Box Elder were obtained. Chief Barnes explained that the UFRA instructors include fire chiefs and fire fighters from all over the state. One of the instructors, the Box Elder County Fire Marshal, pulled them and offered them to Dammeron Valley. Those contacts see what the DVFR is doing and they support the Department. Larry Carlon thanked Chief Barnes for his efforts. Chief Barnes added that the fire service in general do what they can to help each other out and the DVFR has been able to get a couple sets of turnout out to other departments as well. Rick Johnson offered his personal commercial ozonator that would virtually guarantee any microbial without damaging the turnouts.

**ONGOING INSPECTIONS IN THE VALLEY** presented by John Hennessy, Deputy Chief. Mack Sorensen shared that John Hennessy spent 24 years in the Airforce and ultimately went into the mountains of Colorado and built a fire department from scratch. Chief Hennessy explained that the DVFR did their first FireWise assessment on a home in the Valley and discovered there are going to be some challenges in that regard. The West side of the Valley is the most at risk. FireWise is a national non-profit organization that is educating everyone in the wildland urban interface. A community can get classified as a FireWise community. That classification is a huge recognition which can be obtained by going through certain steps to mitigate fires as much as reasonable. Many communities out West have gone through the rigor of eliminating fuels around structures. Fire Wise developed the standards of the assessment which takes into account the types of fuel, weather, topography, etc. of the area being assessed. There are different zones that are assessed. The first zone is from the structure 30 feet out. In that zone, you don't want anything that will burn in that 30 feet. The next Zone, you go out 70 feet and mitigate fuels in that area. 20 feet is needed between each crown of the trees. Zone 3 is beyond 100 feet. The slope around a house, the structure, the roof, the siding, the length of the driveway, trees, wood stacks, etc. are all being assessed. The assessment is tallied up to determine the risk to be high, extreme, moderate, or low. The results of the assessment are given to the residents for them to take the actions they would like to take.

Chief Hennessy explained the challenge with the local CC&R's which state homeowners can't remove vegetation in common ground. Such covenants will have an impact on one's ability to take the proper action. It was explained that a common issue is many homeowners tend to not want to remove trees. Due to the challenges faced, Chief Hennessy expressed the need for obtaining alternative solutions and introduced a barricade gel. It was explained that this product allows residents to put gel on high-risk areas before they evacuate. There are insurance companies that are hiring firms to come into a community, and put gel all over the homes. It was discussed that there are several products on the market. Chief Hennessy explained the difference between foams and gels which are used for different purposes. Foams do not stick, while gels do. You can remist the gel and it will reabsorb water. They can be used in fire apparatus, however, the DVFR is not going to have time during a fire to do that for all of the homes. Curt Shelley inquired if there is an application to establish a program for residents to understand how to apply it. Chief Barnes stated that the DVFR is not going to train the community on how to use it, but want them to be aware of the product. Rick Johnson inquired if there is a landscape architecture recommended to reduce fuels. Chief Hennessy stated a desert landscape with no fuel is preferable. Most importantly, fuels should not to encroach on zone 1, and zone 2 mitigation is needed. He added that Fire fighters need safety zones, and if there are no safety

zones, it not defensible. Further concern was discussed regarding the DVLA CC&R's currently prohibiting homeowners from cutting down any natural vegetation except to build a driveway and pad, and if it is cut down, it must be replaced. Concerns were also discussed in the case of a fire and homeowners having their irrigation turned on, may not leave enough water pressure for someone to apply the gel product to their home. Potential concerns if everyone is spraying their house with barricade at the same time. Rick Johnson expressed that education on the matter is the top tier approach. Anything to prevent and mitigate through FireWise or education, the SSD will participate in. He encouraged a conversation with the DVLA. Insurance concerns were also discussed along with the fact that becoming a FireWise community can help the residents maintain lower insurance rates or their capability to hold insurance at all.

Carol Craig inquired if it is possible to cut a fire break on West Coyote Way where the SITLA land is with the bulldozer prior to fire season. Chief Barnes explained that it is possible, the challenge is getting permission and getting everyone to agree.

Carla Saunders stated that now is the time to talk about mitigating fire risk and moving to a place where the DVLA can move out or eliminate more vegetation as they are about to have their annual meeting and such a topic will need to be the agenda. She encouraged anyone from the DVFR and SSD willing to come on the 15th of May to do so. The meeting will be held at the Fire Station.

Mack Sorensen explained that residents can call the Station and schedule a FireWise assessment. He clarified that the FireWise assessment does not affect insurance rates, the ISO number that the Fire Department does affects insurance rates. Larry Carlon inquired if an assessment has been done of the water storage and flow. Chief Barnes stated that everything he has seen be tested on the hydrants is good, it's about volume and what's available. If everyone turns on the sprinklers, that is the question. Curt Shelley added that there was a water committee that worked on the water storage issue at which time it was determined that there is more than enough storage assuming the tanks are full which exceeds minimum requirements.

**Park's Report** presented by Mack Sorensen, Chair. He has mowed, aerated, and fertilized the park. If anyone in the community is going to schedule an event at the park, let Mack know so he can turn the sprinklers off. There is going to be a community BBQ on June 5<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm -7:00 pm. There will be kids games and a horse shoe pit with a tournament. The event will be a chance for everyone in the community to come and be together.

**Dammeron Valley Helping Hands Update** presented by Ryan Andersen, Clerk. Basically, anyone that needs some help or know of someone who needs help or service, let the organization know. It doesn't matter what they need help with. Other projects have included a lot of yard work and water feature/pond cleaning. It is an awesome opportunity to serve people. He thanked Dammeron Valley for their contributions to the food bank. He mentioned that as there are a lot of people who don't want to be on Facebook, the Dammeron Community online has been created to host this idea which is a site that has been expanded for other community activities, including a gardening group, a horse group, and just for community involvement. It can be found at [DammeronCommunity.com](http://DammeronCommunity.com).

Future agenda items: Mack Sorensen, Chair, reminded the community the SSD fees have to be paid before August and offered help to anyone who may need it. He reiterated that unpaid fees are turned over to the county after July.

**Adjournment:** Rick Johnson made a motion to adjourn. Ryan Anderson seconded the motion and all were in favor. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.