



## FLORISSANT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

### Board of Directors Special Meeting

Conducted via Zoom Meeting

December 10, 2022

### MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING

**MEETING RECORDING:** [https://zoom.us/rec/share/uLb-YyGllu\\_GHryYK3E-5q5Kd-CPyL-wBjOSMNb4uZbDCfrpEiJvylBuMJ5VnDaZ.0q3o1G38HJeOlfM0](https://zoom.us/rec/share/uLb-YyGllu_GHryYK3E-5q5Kd-CPyL-wBjOSMNb4uZbDCfrpEiJvylBuMJ5VnDaZ.0q3o1G38HJeOlfM0)  
Passcode:7Ex%V\$cb

1. **Call to Order** 1705 hours
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Roll Call**

*Board Members:*

President, Starla Thompson  
Vice President, Justin Snare  
Treasurer, Vicky Collings  
Secretary, Amanda Sutton  
Second Secretary, Shane Pratt

*Board members absent : n/a*

*Others in Attendance:*

Chief Erik Holt

4. **Opening Statement:** Board President Thompson gave an opening statement addressing the public with some serious concerns. "We continue to be attacked on both social media and by email from a small group of proclaimed concerned citizens. We is being defined as district employees, directors of the Board and volunteers, of Florissant fire Protection district. In addition, the Board has received information, including official complaints and overall concerns of harassment and even fear of public attack, because of participation and or association with the FFPD. Let it be known that this behavior is perceived as threatening I'll be it, each person is entitled to their opinion. I want to publicly state for

the record that these types of continued communications about accusations of misconduct are being considered as a tax harassment, and, in fact, threatening these acts are also being considered by some as attempts to influence the board business through intimidation. I am asking once again for some consideration, in allowing the district to conduct business effectively. Unfounded accusations are being considered threatening and will be addressed appropriately with the proper officials. Again, I will state that we are conducting business in the best interest of the district within the statutes and the laws of the Constitution of the United States and of Colorado, to the best of our abilities. This is an official statement based on information that's being received."

Second Secretary also made an opening statement. Making an official statement, introducing himself and stating, "I have never seen heard any threatening statements from any public manner at any time. If they do exist. I'd like to hear about them or see them in writing. The public have the right to be angry to be upset, to express that dialogue in any way they can, except for in a threatening manner and I have not seen it in my short tenure here at the fireboard so if you're seeing something that I'm not, I need to be brought into the picture, and that's all I have to say."

Treasurer Collings also made an opening statement, "I have to admit my short tenure on the board, all of the public meetings we've had have been very respectful. So, I haven't actually had any of those kinds of experiences."

## 5. Discussion about need for Executive Session

- a. Board discussion on whether to move conversation into Executive session per §24-6- 402(4)(a), C.R.S. for discussion of apparatus purchase
  - o Board secretary Sutton offered interpretation of §24-6- 402(4)(a) as acquisition lease transfer or sale of any property interest more notably to property. As in land buildings other property interests, such as things that would be required on land. Based on this, did not feel discussion of an apparatus would necessarily need an executive session.
  - o Board members in agreement, Second Secretary in agreement executive session may not be needed unless there is personnel involved or something that must stay amongst the board.
2. **MOTION:** Board President Thompson motion that we do not go into executive session and conduct this business in open public meeting. Board Secretary Second - All in favor-Unanimous, Vote Passes

## 6. Apparatus Purchase Proposal by Fire Chief Holt

- a. Addendum A (attached): Florissant Fire Protection District - Proposal for Purchase of Light Rescue Apparatus
- b. Chief Holt presented proposal document of the vehicle under purchase consideration
  - o 2008 Mini pumper, with 300 gallon water tank with pump on the rear, built on 450 chassis and has 20,458 miles located in Alabama.

## 7. Board discussion, questions, clarifications with Fire Chief Holt

- a. Second Secretary had Chief confirmed this a is a 2023 Capital Outlay purchase and responded to questions about apparatus: The motor is a power stroke 6.4L
- b. Warranty: Contract includes 3 year bumper to bumper warranty with \$12,000 limit
  - i. Board had question about the contract term including the 3 year warranty, but does not have language about per incident at \$12,000 over 3 years vs. \$12,000 cap total over 3

- years. Chief Holt conversation with seller believed this is 3,000 minimum, 12,000 Max per repair, on all major components.
- ii. Chief to take action item to clarify warranty and request contract term updated to reflect accurately and bring back to board
  - c. Apparatus Retrieval: Seller has agreed to cover expenditures of housing and meals to travel to pick up and drive vehicle back. FFPD would pay for travel.
    - i. Shipping is an option at ~ \$1500.00, although travel to retrieve would be cheaper
  - d. Suitability:
    - i. Chief reported based on the types of incidents, this is much more suited to our district with hundreds of miles of dirt roads. Second Secretary Pratt asked Chief if we are getting rid of our only structure fire type engine; Chief Holt shared that engine currently in use, the clearance is not great and response times are horrible; not well suited for dirt road, even high-quality dirt roads; often 4 or 5 minute additional drive time.
    - ii. Goal in this new vehicle is to make one vehicle setup that meets our districts needs and has all the capabilities of a vehicle off the road-way (ex. Can handle a vehicle that goes off into a ditch that may require rope systems to be setup).
      - 1. Shared story of vehicle when he first started having rope rescue stored in same compartment of as fuel tank/gas cans, which renders ropes useless as it is damaged by fumes.
      - 2. Shared goal is professionally and accurately staff district with what [it] needs in a vehicle that goes anywhere
      - 3. A much smaller fuel, efficient vehicle that meets all the same needs as a higher clearance for the rough roads, dirt roads that we operate in.
    - iii. Chief clarified that no special licensing is required to drive this type of vehicle; An internal training course and sign off by Chief or another supervisor; nothing additional required to run this than any of those the fire engines
  - e. Discussion about resale of vehicle to recoup some cost:
    - i. Discussion between Chief and Board (Chief Holt pulled up 2003 vehicle to get idea of possible resale, it is an aging engine. Collective agreement may get \$25,000+ for sale of Engine 50
    - ii. May take time to find a buyer; selling is very dependent upon finding someone who has the need for it
  - f. Vehicle Hold & Deposit:
    - i. Seller has agreed to a 3-day non-financial hold to give Chief time to present proposal of apparatus to the FFPD Board
    - ii. If proceed, commit 25% of the cost which is the \$34,750, and approve Chief travel there to do a hands-on inspection and report back if everything aligns and satisfactory
    - iii. Then we commit to purchasing for \$139,000
    - iv. Board requested the Chief confirm that the \$25,000 deposit is refundable
    - v. Treasurer Collings confirmed we have cash on hand for the purchase
      - 1. There is ~\$580,000 in the bank right now; if we apply \$140,000 purchase and took 3 months of operating expenses, with everything, [we] still have plenty of reserve
  - g. Vehicle Onsite and Inspection:
    - i. Seller has a qualified person that they approve of

- ii. Seller timeframe is to host Chief for onsite around December 20, 2022
  - iii. Chief believes flight to/from Alabama ~\$600
- h. Vehicle Maintenance: We can utilize woodland Park Fire Department Northeast – IGA (Inter Governmental Agreement) and they have a trade certified mechanic
- i. Payment Options:
- i. Full purchase – payment in full versus lease, or payments
  - ii. Agreement among all that a lease or payment is a not a smart financial decision; Second Secretary Pratt shared a lot of small departments really handcuffed themselves by doing leases or financing
- j. Future Additions to Fleet and Upgrades
- i. Chief reiterated his plan includes to upgrade our extrication and rescue equipment to go along with this and will be part of the overall process
  - ii. Plan first of getting to the needs of our district but and starting with apparatus as top priority to better manage apparatus fleet to meet our district
  - iii. Upgrades of our squad vehicles
    - 1. 2023 budget there is \$40,000 set aside for firefighting equipment and for rescue and education.
  - iv. Board Secretary had Chief Holt confirm this will meet the district’s needs on day one
    - 1. Future additional upgrades and extrication and some additions to the vehicle
- k. Apparatus Comparison
- i. Three vehicles were considered with a difference in \$10,000
    - 1. The other vehicle had a manual transmission and and requires additional drivers trainings, and only 2-seated
  - ii. 2008 under consideration can hold 5 responders; with \$10,000 difference a better purchase
- l. Purchase Opportunity: Discussion about time frame and necessity to act on this purchase right now
- i. Chief Holt stated only a handful of these vehicles available across the entire country, and lose opportunity if a decision is not made by Monday
  - ii. Chief Holt working with a seller for over a month and recently came off of hold after another buyer backed out; This opportunity was unexpected and seller reached out to Chief Holt on December 7<sup>th</sup>; he conducted his due diligence to take action on this across many conversations over last weeks

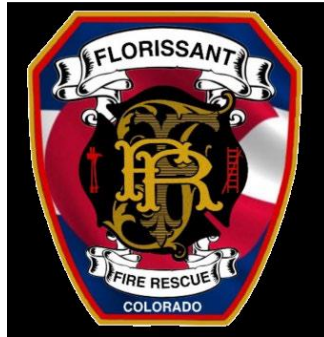
**MOTION:** *President Thompson Motion to pay the 25% dep continue to explore vehicle to allow Erik to fly out, Second Secretary Pratt Second – All in Favor- Unanimous, Vote Passes*

**MOTION:** *President Thompson motion to approve the flight to Alabama, Shane Second – All in favor – Unanimous, Vote Passes*

## 8. Meeting adjourned at 1831 hours

## ADDENDUM A

# FLORISSANT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



**2606 W. HIGHWAY 24 / P.O. BOX 502  
FLORISSANT, CO 80816-0502  
Phone: 719-748-3909 / FAX: 719-748-5342**

### PROPOSAL FOR PURCHASE OF LIGHT RESCUE APPARATUS

#### OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

Florissant Fire Rescue provides emergency services response to approximately 5 miles of U.S. Highway 24 between Divide Fire Protection District and Lake George Fire Protection District. Teller 1 from U.S. Highway 24 south to Teller 1 and Deer Mountain Road which is 7.6 miles. County Road 3 to County Road 51 which is 6.7 miles of paved and dirt road. This along with hundreds of miles within our 66 square mile district of both county maintained and private dirt roads including recreational areas in National Forest used for UTV/ATV trail riding. Currently, FFR apparatus fleet does not adequately provide for rescue operations such as vehicle extrication, motor vehicle accidents off the roadway, technical rescue incidents such as water rescue, ice rescue, or rope rescue. The current apparatus fleet at Fire Station 1 is Squad 51 (Ford F-250), Brush 51 (Wildland Type 6 Engine), Engine 51 (Type 3 Engine), Engine 50, (Type 1 Structural Engine), and Tender 52 (3000 gallon water tank). Engine 50 (Type 1 Structural Engine) is equipped with technical rescue equipment and vehicle extrication equipment. This type 1 structural firefighting engine is not well suited to serve the district in rescue operations. This engine is very large, heavy, slow to respond, and does not have enough clearance to travel on rough terrain. Fire Station 2 apparatus are Engine 52 (Type 3 Engine), Rescue 51 (no water tank), and Brush 53 (Type 6 Wildland Engine). The current combination of Rescue 51 and Engine 52 are necessary to respond to any accident with entrapment due to Rescue 51 not having water protection capabilities. Due to volunteer staffing in Florissant Fire Rescue, there is no guarantee there will be sufficient available personnel to operate multiple apparatus for an incident. This creates a deficiency in emergency response to rescue operations and a safety concern for Florissant Fire Rescue personnel. The only available work around to this issue is for mutual aid request once resource determination has been made. Depending on the location of an incident our immediate mutual aid departments are Divide, 4 Mile, and Lake George. This would cause a delay in not only extrication of victims, but a delay in transport to a trauma center. Additionally, many motor vehicle accidents involve heavy trauma to victims requiring transport via flight requiring FFR personnel to establish and protect a landing zone. Our designated landing zones are Fire Station 1 and 2. Secondary, landing zones can be requested at the incident scene, but the pilot has the ultimate discretion on this decision. In order to effectively respond to technical rescue operations including motor vehicle accidents requiring extrication Florissant Fire Rescue must adapt its apparatus fleet and equipment to sufficiently meet the needs of our district.

#### BACKGROUND ANALYSIS OF HISTORICAL DATA

Florissant Fire Rescue has a total of 173 incidents since 2018 that would fall within the technical rescue and motor vehicle accident reporting data. This data may not be inclusive of all calls as prior reporting data may have been miscategorized using Emergency Reporting. This data also does not reflect the environmental conditions where responses may have been delayed due to larger vehicles responding in poor weather conditions. It is not possible to quantify safety concerns to personnel regarding the use of heavier apparatus not specifically designed to the light rescue response capabilities in response during poor weather conditions responders commonly face in the mountains of Colorado. Discretion must be used to understand the safety impacts on responding personnel in understanding the difference in response apparatus.

### **COST**

This proposal is conclusive of a nationwide search for a light rescue apparatus with multiple vendors for a vehicle that meets the needs of the Florissant Fire Protection District. The District Fire Chief received multiple currently available apparatus within the designated specifications. There were 3 that aligned with the specifications given. Please see the below links to two of these vehicles meeting specifications. The first (2013 HME) was too high for our budget as a capital expense and therefore removed from consideration. The second (2008 F-550) meets specifications and within budget consideration. Last is another 2006 F-550 chassis that has lower mileage and meets our needed specifications. The downside is this vehicle has a manual transmission and is only a two seated cab. Given the relatively low mileage for both the 2006 F-550 and the 2008 F-550, and the similar pricing between the two the best option was to continue further with the 2008 as it was the 4 seat cab with an automatic transmission. Initially, the 2008 was placed on a hold from a Fire Department in Alabama but on 12/7/2022 the salesperson called to inform Chief Holt that the department that had a hold on it was unable to move forward for the purchase. The dealer agreed to place the 2008 on hold for up to 72 hours. This allowed getting further information and allowed negotiations to find the best value. Further discussions were had with the Ford certified mechanic that is certifying all the warranties, pump certification, and equipment. Once again conversations with the salesperson provided additional value as the dealer offered to cover meals and housing for a hands-on inspection of the vehicle before finalization of purchase as well as extending the warranty from 1 year to 3 years without any cost added to purchase.

<https://www.firetruckmall.com/AvailableTruck/16287/2008-Ford-F-550-Super-Duty-Mini-Pumper> \$139,000.00.

<https://www.firetruckmall.com/AvailableTruck/16056/2006-Central-States-Ford-Commercial-4x4-Mini-Pumper> \$129,000.00.

[https://www.firetruckmall.com/AvailableTruck/16357/2013-HME-Ford-F-550-Commercial-4x4-Mini-Pumper?price=0-1200000&year=1950-](https://www.firetruckmall.com/AvailableTruck/16357/2013-HME-Ford-F-550-Commercial-4x4-Mini-Pumper?price=0-1200000&year=1950-2023&chassis=All&brand=All&pumpsizesize=All&tanksize=All&category=Pumpers-Engines&warranty=All&region=All&mileage=Any%20Mileage&perpage=25)

[2023&chassis=All&brand=All&pumpsizesize=All&tanksize=All&category=Pumpers-Engines&warranty=All&region=All&mileage=Any%20Mileage&perpage=25](https://www.firetruckmall.com/AvailableTruck/16357/2013-HME-Ford-F-550-Commercial-4x4-Mini-Pumper?price=0-1200000&year=1950-2023&chassis=All&brand=All&pumpsizesize=All&tanksize=All&category=Pumpers-Engines&warranty=All&region=All&mileage=Any%20Mileage&perpage=25) \$239,000.00.

### **ADDITIONS**

Warranty of all major components extended from 1 year to 3 years without any additional costs. Pump certification. Hosted hands-on inspection, driving test, and pump test.

Part of this proposal will include the listing and selling of Engine 50 (Type 1) to recoup costs and reduce our fleet expenses. This will leave Florissant Fire Rescue with 2 type 3 Engines at station 1 and 2, and a reserve engine housed at Station 3. This new light rescue truck will be less expensive to respond with and better suited to serve our district needs.

### **TIME FRAME**

Vehicle is on hold with first right to buy until Monday morning. If board approval is received to purchase vehicle will be held on deposit (25% \$34,750) until scheduling and completion of hands-on inspection. If full purchase agreement is made vehicle will be paid for and will be shipped from Alabama to Florissant, CO through a shipping company at additional cost which would allow this vehicle to go in-service in January of 2023.

## **APPROVAL**

On this day, January 6, 2023, we attest that the foregoing minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Florissant Fire Protection District, are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.

President, Starla Thompson

Vice President, Justin Snare

Treasurer, Vicky Collings

Secretary, Amanda Sutton

Second Secretary, Shane Pratt