

**COLTON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #70
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 19, 2014**

*The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Budget Committee Members Present: Jim Postlewait, Rex Rice, Joyce Parker, Ann Miller, Dave Conner, William Lee, Kelly Stephens

Others Present: Fire Chief Beau Beaudoin, Jan Kaforski, Ken Carroll

*Introductions of the Budget Committee Members were held.

*Chief Beaudoin read a summary of his plan for meeting the financial goals of the District in order to continue to provide the highest level of service to District patrons.

*Nomination of Officers – William Lee nominated Dave Conner to be the Chairperson of the Budget Committee. Dave Conner nominated Kelly Stephens to serve as the Chairperson and William Lee seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote those budget committee members present.

Joyce Parker nominated Ann Miller to be the Secretary of the Budget Committee and Dave Conner seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote of those budget committee members present.

Kelly Stephens, after being instructed on her duties as the Chairperson, turned the meeting over to the Budget Officer, Fire Chief Richard Beaudoin.

*Chief Beaudoin said he has to be creative and look down the road at the direction the department is headed. The chief discussed cutting full time employees to part-time to create a significant savings and the contract with the water district has been discussed and will be seriously looked at during the budget process.

Kelly Stephens asked how many full time employees are there. There is one full time employee, one-half time fire chief and Jan Kaforski's position is shared with water at 40% charged to the fire district. Gary Anderson's position is full time. William Lee asked how the District will be staffed if hours are cut back. Chief Beaudoin said it would be a 50/50 split on the days that he is not in district someone would be here on those days to fill in. This would cut down on not only wages, but PERS and taxes since the position would be filled part-time. Coverage during the day is necessary but benefits would be cut back.

Kelly Stephens asked Chief Beaudoin if he is going to cut Gary Anderson's full time position and offer him part-time. Chief Beaudoin said he would not cut

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Gary's hours, but he is planning on moving. William Lee asked if an employee can volunteer his time. Chief Beaudoin said no.

Dave Conner asked how many interns there are now and Chief Beaudoin said there aren't any currently but the District is working on an intern program.

Chief Beaudoin read the Budget Message and began the proposed budget review with LB-20 General Fund Resources noting changes he has made to the original LB-20 sent out prior to include available cash on hand \$165,166 with total resources, except taxes to be levied at 173,382 and Total Resources after taxes to be \$473,119.

LB-31 General Fund Detailed Requirements was reviewed and under Personnel wages for Line item #2 Chief Officers has been increased from last year by \$3,000; Line item #4 Employees has stayed the same at \$7,000 and is for coverage when Gary Anderson is out on sick leave or vacation. The PERS rate for 2014-15 will be 12.97% the same as it is currently.

Under Material and Services Line Item #14 Duty Officer Reimbursement has been reduced to \$7,500 because some volunteers do not want to receive a 1099 at the end of the year for more than \$600. Line item #15 Dispatch/Pager Rental has been decreased because of Active 9-1-1 and calls going to volunteer cell phones now. Line Item #22 Maintenance Tools/SCBAs/Medical Equipment has been lowered by \$4,500 from last year to \$39,000. On Page 2 Line Item #7 has been increased to reflect immunizations that is a cost of doing business. Line Item #10 Uniforms has been increased to \$8,000 from \$3,500. Line Item #14 Volunteer Association has been substantially increased to help with recruitment and retention. William Lee said that's a lot and it appears more is being shifted to the volunteers. Discussion followed on giving the volunteers an annual stipend for their service if they fulfill certain required obligations to the District. Chief Beaudoin said it is difficult to keep the volunteer numbers up without giving them some kind of incentive to stay. Line item #21 Property Improvements has been increased to \$10,500 from \$500 to fix earthquake damage to the bays and to fix the upstairs balcony on the main building. Chief Beaudoin said there is the potential to go out for a bond or a levy this year to help fund the property improvements.

Dave Conner asked what has happened about installing exhaust fans. Chief Beaudoin said that has not been done.

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William Lee mentioned that he spent quite a bit of time studying the original budget mailed out a week ago and that he didn't appreciate the last minute budget changes. Chief Beaudoin explained that he had a back injury and was out for some time and was not able to make final proposed changes in the timeframe allowed.

Total Expenditures are \$397,436 with an unappropriated ending fund balance of \$75,683 for Total Requirements of \$473,119 balancing with Total Resources.

Kelly Stephens asked Chief Beaudoin about the potential changes in personnel that he mentioned earlier but is not reflected in the proposed budget. Chief Beaudoin said potential personnel changes are based on conversations and may happen in the future.

LB-11 Reserve Fund was reviewed noting a proposed \$10,000 transfer from the General Fund during fiscal year 2014-2015.

*Chairperson Kelly Stephens asked for public input on the budget.

Kent Carroll said the chief is working hard to make sure the department has the equipment and training needed so the volunteer group is better equipped to handle emergencies.

Jim Postlewait made a motion to approve the proposed budget as presented. Joyce Parker seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously by those budget committee members present.

*The budget committee meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Miller, Secretary