

- Very Good - Truck 1
- Excellent - Ambulance 4, Ambulance 5, Brush 1, 2200 (chief), 2202 (battalion chief)

The policy was approved unanimously, but not before considerable discussion and questions from the directors.

District rebranding under consideration

Truty said, "2017 was banner year. We accomplished an awful lot. Now it's time to focus on the future. One element is rebranding, specifically relative to our organization's name. We hear people drop the 'Monument' part of our name and just call us 'Tri-Lakes.' There is a history with 'Tri-Lakes,' and there may be an indication we want to put that behind us and move on." He said Battalion Chief Kris Mola has been working on rebranding and trying to figure out "if it is just a name change or if there should be more to it."

Hildebrandt commented it was important to consider "what the area is known as," geographically. Truty said that one of the questions that had come up was "whether we want to be on a map. 'Tri-Lakes' does not come up as a specific pinpoint to say 'this is where we are at.' Those are the kinds of things [Mola] is evaluating [regarding] the pros and cons, as well as what else may come as a part of that such as colors of uniforms and those kinds of things." Director Terri Hayes said it was important to consider the costs associated with this, too.

Truty said in the next couple of months he and Mola will report more progress on this idea.

Financial report

Hildebrandt read the financial report from Truty encompassing all of 2017, saying overall expenses were 100.29 percent of budget. For 2017 revenue, property taxes were \$4.48 million (100 percent of the budgeted amount), Specific Ownership Taxes received were \$604,665 (128.65 percent), and ambulance revenues were \$798,229 (99.78 percent).

Chief's report

Deputy Chief Randy Trost said that Engine 2 was still waiting for its replace-

ment motor, and as soon as it was back in service, Engine 3 would go in for service. His goal is to spread out the purchases of large vehicles, but with two so close together in "fair" condition, one might have to be extended beyond its projected life span, or else more money had to be saved sooner to buy another vehicle sooner.

Trost said that asbestos abatement was complete at Station 1 and the firefighters had just moved back in. The next long-term project is to decide in what order to remodel the fire stations, "ask the troops how to design the remodel," find an architect, and figure out temporary housing for the firefighters during remodeling.

Training updates

Battalion Chief Jonathan Bradley explained all the organizing he is doing, mentioning the timeline for five new hires starting the firefighter academy in Denver and the planning he is doing for specialized and refresher courses being offered within the district this quarter, including ice rescues, wildland firefighting, and active shooter response training. Some training will be coordinated with other fire districts.

Other items discussed and approved

The board voted unanimously to approve a resolution changing its general liability, property, and workers' compensation insurance to the Colorado Special Districts' Liability Pool.

The board voted unanimously to approve the sale of two old ambulances and one old tender to the Ellicott FPD for \$5,000. Then they voted unanimously to approve the donation of old Brush Truck 1 to the Fire Rehab Group of the Pikes Peak Firefighters Association. Vice President Roger Lance was recused from that vote since he is an active volunteer with Fire Rehab.

Call volume summary for the year was included in meeting agenda packet but not discussed by the directors. Truty noted that for 2016 the district had 2,508 total calls, and in 2017 it had 2,482 total calls.

Public comments

President Shirk switched to his Monu-

ment Police Chief "hat" to thank TLMFPD for its help on the December Santa on Patrol event, which included "hundreds of kids and thousands of toys. It went very well!" See www.ocn.me/v18n1.htm#photos.

Lt. Franz Hankins, president of Local 4319 of the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) union, spoke on behalf of all the employees of TLMFPD and thanked the board for the 2018 budget and the 25 percent wage increase it included.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Meetings are usually held the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Feb. 28 at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For information, contact Jen-

nifer Martin at 484-0911. For upcoming agendas, see <http://tlmfire.org/board>.

Lisa Hatfield can be reached at lisahatfield@ocn.me.

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downturn. At that time, it was thought that the downturn would be short-lived. Over time, it appeared less likely that the building would again be used as an elementary school. All Grace Best Elementary students were moved to Bear Creek.

Taylor praised the district's use of its resources during that challenging time but reminded the board that a great deal of development is underway.

Taylor said that Grace Best operated as an elementary school despite the fact that the bus barn was nearby, and the gasoline tanks and traffic were inconvenient. These are the primary arguments against returning it to use as an elementary. He said the building has become a money pit, with little maintenance and few decisions made.

Board President Matthew Clawson said it seems that elementary schools are a primary problem to solve in terms of planning. He said that the district should use the district-owned site next to Bear Creek to build a new elementary school in the area where the greatest growth is taking place.

Clawson said that, after seeing the interior of Grace Best, he would not want his children attending there. Perhaps there is a use for Grace Best in the district, but bringing it up to code would be very expensive, he said.

Board Secretary Sarah Sampayo said that most attendees at the pub-

lic deliberation session voted to tear down the old part of Grace Best.

Sampayo also commented that the district has an obligation to maintain its buildings, and Grace Best has always been the last priority for maintenance. Children are in the building for the Home School Enrichment Academy and the Transitions program, she said.

Sampayo said that apparently the district does not want to sell the building because of its central location, but traffic patterns make it less than ideal as an elementary school. She suggested that the district stress this consideration at the upcoming public deliberation session in February. She agreed with Taylor that getting a bid for alternative uses of the building would be wise.

Brofft said that it isn't customary to ask for bids unless you are sure of funding for action.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman agreed with Pfoff that the likelihood of reusing the building as an elementary is slight. Consequently, assets of the building such as whiteboards and lockers have been removed and utilized elsewhere in the district. The building was essentially mothballed to save on utility costs.

Pfoff said that not deciding on action is a decision in itself. He was concerned about not being proactive in this time of growth and said that the