

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Dec. 4

2020 budget approved; engineer promoted

By Natalie Barszcz

On Dec. 4, the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) board approved the final proposed 2020 budget, including a pay raise for all staff, and witnessed the promotion of Engineer Mike Smith.

Treasurer Jason Buckingham and Secretary Mike Smaldino were excused, and Director Tom Tharnish failed to arrive before the meeting adjourned.

Engineer promoted
Chief Chris Truty congratulated Lt. Smith on his promotion from Engineer. Board President John Hildebrandt administered the oath during the ceremony.

Truty informed the board that the final assessment of anticipated property taxes had been received from the El Paso County Assessor's Office, and an additional \$3,000 in property taxes had been included in the final 2020 budget presented for signature. Truty said the following:

- The 2020 wage schedule

increase is 3.75% as presented and approved at the October board meeting. See www.ocn.me/v19n11.htm#tlmfpd.

- The mill levy is set at 18.4 mills for the 2020 budget year.
- The fee schedule is unchanged for 2020, except for the return check fee increase to \$35.
- The fee schedule has not changed since 2015 and may need to be reviewed for 2021.
- Impact fees are being



Above: Lt. Mike Smith receives his new rank pin from wife, Britney Smith, during the swearing-in ceremony at the TLMFPD board meeting on Dec. 4. Photo by Natalie Barszcz.

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- A temporary location change for board meetings will be required from February through May during the remodel project at Station 1.
 - Regular board meetings will be held on the fourth Wednesday of each month except for the Nov. 18 and Dec. 2 meetings.
- Hildebrandt said, "The budget is the guiding factor for the district, and the budget num-

bers drive the organization throughout the year." He asked the board to approve resolution 06, 07, and 08 to adopt all aspects of the 2020 budget, the mill levy, and the wage schedule. The board unanimously approved and adopted all resolutions presented in the final 2020 budget, 4-0.

May 2020 board election
Truty said four board positions with three-year terms and one two-year term position will be open for the May 7 election. Self-nominations begin on Jan. 1, and the form will be available for download at www.tlmfire.org. Hildebrandt and Truty agreed to discuss the election format and nominate a designated election official at the January board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Meetings are usually held the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Jan. 22 at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For information, contact Office Administrator/HR Jennifer Martin at 719-484-9011. For upcoming agendas, see www.tlmfire.org/board. Natalie Barszcz can be reached at nataliebarszcz.ocn.me



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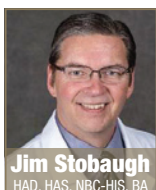
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