

bad shape, and many serious issues need to be addressed. He noted:

- A 2-inch crack has developed in the driveway.
- A concrete retaining wall is needed beside the entryway steps.
- A cattle grate could help with the drainage issue at the end of the driveway.
- The building was never intended to house staff on a permanent basis and was built for four volunteers.
- The kitchen requires remodeling.
- The leach field is in the worst spot, and he has never seen one like it.
- The basement could be used to house additional personnel, but the existing showers are currently installed below the main floor and each shower is cracking along the wall. Water will be in the basement soon.
- The repairs are critical, and funding should be drawn from Capital Reserves.

Hinton said the addition of two or three more bedrooms in the

basement and extra showers would tie into the leach field with the additional sanitation requirements, and a study to determine the cost would be needed.

Vice Chairman Nate Dowden said a phased approach would be ideal, prioritizing what needs to be done now and what is required to expand the building.

The board decided to spend money on concrete and drainage issues, to include a wall and showers, a drain at the end of the driveway, and repairs to the sidewalk to allow water to drain away from the building.

The board approved funding from the Capital Reserve Fund for the repairs to Station 2, 4-0.

Station 2—expansion project Hinton said the following:

- Additional bedrooms will be required to accommodate extra shift staff.
- The project will require an architect to discover a way to house six to eight people and re-design the kitchen.
- It is a study that needs to happen soon.

Dowden said it will be critical to know what we want an architect to do.

The board instructed the fire chief to determine the scope of work for a study on the expansion of the accommodations at Station 2 and the creation of a sample request for proposal for a future design firm for the next meeting.

Tender sale request

Langmaid requested the board consider selling the 2013 tender for about \$125,000 to \$150,000 to a department in Minnesota where it would be better suited, and he said the following:

- The 2013 tender is useable, but not all of the time because of its size. There are cab safety issues and the district does not use it often.
- For the interim, two tenders will remain in the district until the board can decide how to replace the 2013 tender.
- Custom cabs with airbags are the reason for the cost increase for tenders.
- The district could request a grant and use the sale of

the 2013 tender for future capital improvements.

- The district does not currently take a tender to a fire and is reliant on Donald Wescott Fire Protection District and Falcon Fire Protection District to supply water.
- Revenue from deployments could also help fund a new tender in the future.

The board approved the sale of the tender, 4-0.

Chief's report

Langmaid said the following:

- District Auditor Dawn Schilling was unable to complete the 2020 audit in August. Schilling intends to present the audit in September. A routine extension was filed last month with the state.
- Tactical thermal gear, bunker gear, and hose adapters were purchased. The hose adapters will allow the district to connect to varying hose diameters during mutual aid calls.
- The second story of the training center is under construction.

- High fire danger is a constant threat, and the district will go to Stage 2 when the county decides to move to Stage 1.

Financial report

Hinton said the following:

- The district has \$2.694 million, but without the reserves or the receivables, that amount is \$2.114 million.
- The budget is 14% under projected spending year to date, but that will not last long.
- There is nothing out of the ordinary in the July financial report, which will be broken out more next month.
- The district has received 97% of the property tax revenue for 2021, and in September \$3,000 will be reflected in the August financial statement. Then 100% will be received and anything trickling in after that "will be gravy," and there always is a little bit of revenue trickling in.

The board accepted the financial report as presented, 4-0.

2022 budget

Langmaid said the following:

- The district received the official property tax revenue assessment from the El Paso County assessor for 2022 on the day of the meeting, but preliminary figures had already been obtained by Administrative Officer Rachel Dunn.
- The impact of the pending exclusions will not impact the 2022 budget but will need to be considered in the long-term planning for capital and increased personnel.
- The two-year temporary change in the residential assessment rate from 7.15% to 6.95% the state Legislature passed into law in 2021, or a greater reduction to 6.5% anticipated if Ballot Initiative 27 passes in November, will not affect the 2022 budget. See www.ocn.me/v21n8.htm#dwfjpd.

Wildland fire pre-plans

Langmaid said the district staff had previously discussed establishing wildland fire pre-plans for the whole district in the spring. In the event of a wildland fire, the pre-plans will establish GPS points for fill sites, helicopter dip sites, evacuation routes, and water resources. A consultant would map the whole district and provide tactical worksheets with QR codes for incident commanders. The project is estimated to cost about \$40,000.

Chairman Rick Nearhoof said that in 2013 one-third of Black Forest burned, and there is still enough fuel for the other two-thirds to burn in the future.

Leadership training

Langmaid said the following:

- The district has partnered with a premier leadership company that the district provides with staff for medical deployments. In exchange, the deployed staff gain leadership training for free.
- The district staff deploy with medical equipment, but not an ambulance, and fly to each location.
- Leadership is the most critical aspect in a fire rescue,

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 2021 NOON TO 1 P.M.	THURSDAY, SEPT. 23, 2021 6 TO 7 P.M.
<p>Access Link (audio & video): ColoradosPowerPathway.com</p> <p>Presentation Dial-in Number (audio only)</p> <p>855-962-1519 (English) 833-380-0723 (Spanish)</p>	

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

Colorado's Power Pathway is a proposed 345-kilovolt transmission line in eastern Colorado. We estimate the system will cross more than 12 counties and include:

- Up to 650 miles of new high-voltage transmission infrastructure
- Four new and four expanded substations
- If approved, construction could begin in 2023 and the first segments could be in-service in 2025, with other segments completed in 2026 and 2027.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact us at **855-858-9037** or ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com if you have questions or need assistance to attend a virtual town hall.

Si necesita asistencia o información en español, por favor contáctenos directamente al 855-858-9037 o ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com.

