

**BFFRPD (Cont. from 14)**

tion 1, and due by Feb. 25. The district had not received any self-nominations at the time of the January meeting, and the three seats of Directors Near-hoof, Dowden, and Hoffpaur are included in this election, said Dunn. See [www.bffire.org](http://www.bffire.org) or contact Dunn at 719-495-4300.

**Tender purchase approved**

Fire Chief PJ Langmaid said the district made a needs analysis of the fleet and found the following:

- To avoid the rising cost of apparatus due to inflation, the district needs to keep on top of replacing apparatus that is in poor condition and a detriment to operations.
- The existing two tenders have insufficient pumps: One has an 18-horsepower jockey pump with no gallons per minute rating, and the second 2006 tender has a 500-gpm rating and would move into reserve

status once a replacement is received.

- To achieve 1,500 gpm, the tender in service requires three pumps with two engines and large diameter hose.
- The old tender is just a water hauler with no ability to pump, but before the district considers selling it, the district needs to determine if it could be used on wildland deployments.
- The proposed new tender would help the department achieve a goal of reaching half a mile with three 1,500-gpm pumps and 2,800 feet of 4-inch diameter hose.
- The date for delivery of the 2022 tender is unknown due to supply delays but will likely be from 18 to 24 months.
- The district will save about \$25,000 by ordering in advance before the price increase at the end of January.

Langmaid requested the board consider approving a new

2,000-gallon Pierce commercial cab tender with a 1,500-gpm pump, with a cash purchase up to \$360,000 taken from the Capital Improvements Fund. The tender would be a water delivery vehicle, not a response vehicle, for a cost of \$356,000 with up to \$4,000 in additional equipment, such as headsets to protect hearing, said Langmaid.

The board approved the purchase 5-0.

**Note:** The district sold a tender for \$130,000 to a broker in October 2021. See [www.ocn.me/v21n11.htm#bffrpd](http://www.ocn.me/v21n11.htm#bffrpd).

**Merger ramifications**

Resident Linda Smith asked if any negative and positive impacts had resulted from the Jan. 1 merger between Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District and Donald Wescott Fire Protection District. See [www.ocn.me/v22n1.htm#tlmfpd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n1.htm#tlmfpd).

Langmaid said the following:

- TLMFPD and DWFPD entered into a partial contract for service “intergovernmental agreement” and are hoping to enter into

a full-service agreement halfway through the year and then a full legal merger in 2023.

- The agreement has definitely impacted the district, because before Jan. 1, two ladder trucks were available to the district and now one has been placed in reserve, and the nearest ladder truck is located at Station 1, Highway 105 on the Palmer Lake border.
- DWFPD also had two tenders and TLMFPD had none, and now one is in reserve and the other is located in downtown Monument.
- Temporarily, Station 5 (formerly DWFPD Station 2, located at Highway 83 and Stage Coach Road) is closed until the staff has finished an orientation process, and the response model along the Highway 83 corridor will be reassessed when Station 5 reopens. See the DWFPD article on page 1 and the TLMFPD article on page

17. The district will be evaluating the need for a ladder truck and an increase in tender capabilities due to the decisions made during the relocation and reorganization of TLMFPD.

**American Medical Response staff reduction**

Langmaid said an increase in call volume throughout El Paso County and American Medical Response staffing issues due to COVID-19 are forcing the district to evaluate and maintain district services without relying on mutual aid, but the district will continue to help neighboring fire districts east and west. The district’s second ambulance is in ready reserve status, said Langmaid.

**Financial report**

Treasurer Jack Hinton said the district had the following funds as of Dec. 31, 2021:

- \$596,202 in the General Operating Fund.
- \$136,000 in the savings account.
- \$236,000 in the Emergency Reserve Fund.
- \$821,203 in the Capital Improvement Fund.
- \$136,896 in the TABOR fund.
- The district has a total of about \$1.9 million, with about \$700,000 to get the district through the end of the first quarter.

About \$300,000 will be taken from the reserves to pay for the May delivery of the two-wheel-drive Pierce Enforcer Pumper engine, said Hinton. See [www.ocn.me/v21n7.htm#bffrpd](http://www.ocn.me/v21n7.htm#bffrpd).

The board accepted the financial report as presented, 5-0.

**Future apparatus replacement**

Hinton said the following:

- It is uncertain how the district will fund a ladder truck and where the district would house it.
- The district will need a ladder truck should the district receive an inclusion of property that requires one.
- After the tender purchase, the district will not have the cash funding to even make a reasonable lease payment, but the process could begin for a future purchase.
- Other vehicles will also need replacing, such as the pickup truck with 200,000 miles on the odometer.

Langmaid agreed with Hinton’s statements.

**Flying Horse North development**

Langmaid said he and Capt. Chris Piepenberg attended a meeting on Jan. 18 with the developer of Flying Horse North to hear about the proposed plan for a development that includes about 8.63 acres designated in the concept for a commercial zone. Langmaid said:

- The proposed site includes a gas station and the potential for a fire station on about 6 acres at the corner of Hodgen and Black Forest Roads.
- A series of three public meetings will be held in January and February at Discovery Canyon Campus. See the Flying Horse North new filings article on page 24.
- The plan does not include a connection to Milam Road



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