

into the FHN gated community development.

- Traffic and evacuation studies have already begun. See <https://epcdevplanreview.com/Public/ProjectDetails/178485>.
- The district has been discussing renovations for the expansion of Station 2 on Hodgen Road for seven months, and it would be a tremendous benefit to the community if the developer were to work on a new fire house. See www.ocn.me/v21n10.htm#bffrpd.

Note: See the fire chief's response to the proposed planned commercial zone at www.bffire.org.

Chief's report

Langmaid gave a report for December and said the following:

- The district responded to 12 fire calls and 47 EMS calls.
- At the request of the state, three personnel deployed with a Type 3 Engine to the Marshall Fire in Boulder County on Dec. 30 with the Colorado Springs, Cimarron Hills, Security, and Manitou Springs Fire Departments. There was a crew swap on Dec. 31 before they all returned that day.
- COVID-19 positive cases continued to create increased staffing challenges in the workforce and throughout the region, and four personnel were out sick. However, overtime was drastically down.
- About 1,027 hours were spent on training, but the district did not push for any large training events

due to the holidays, and the district trained alone.

- The district received \$6,014 in wildland deployment revenue in December.
- The total tax revenue received by the district in November was \$30,988, and \$30,562 was received in December.
- Due to the spending moratorium, there were almost no expenses in December, however some training spots (tuition) expenses for 2022 were reserved for \$5,400.
- A transfer of \$396,439 was made to the Capital Improvement Fund.
- The Type 3 Engine is out of service due to a leaking pump, the Type 6 brush truck is receiving new brakes, and the reserve tender is out of service with a leaking primer pump.

Exclusion of properties update

Langmaid said the municipal parcels of property west of Black Forest Road and south of Research Boulevard have been excluded from the district as of December 2021. The next phase will include the properties east of Black Forest Road. See www.ocn.me/v21n9.htm#bffrpd and www.ocn.me/v21n10.htm#bffrpd.

Board meetings

The board also approved resolution 2022-01, notifying the public of postings for meetings and meeting dates, 5-0. See www.bffire.org for a listing of future meetings for 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District, Jan. 26

Battalion chief retires; unification insight; ladder truck approved



Above: From left, Division Chief of Operations Jonathan Bradley, Division Chief of Community Risk/Fire Marshal Jamey Bumgarner, Battalion Chief Janaka Branden, Lt. Keith Barker, and Fire Chief Andy Kovacs at the TLMFPD board meeting on Jan. 26. Kovacs administered the oath of office, and spouses pinned on the badges. *Photo by Natalie Barszcz.*

By Natalie Barszcz

At the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District (TLMFPD) meeting on Jan. 26, the board heard about a retirement, witnessed two staff promotions, received an update on the unification process with Donald Wescott Fire Protection District (DWFPD), and approved the purchase of a ladder truck.

Treasurer Jason Buckingham and Secretary Mike Smaldino were excused.

After the pledge of allegiance, a moment of silence was held for the three firefighters who died in the line of duty in Baltimore, Md.

Retirement and staff promotions

Fire Chief Andy Kovacs said that Battalion Chief Mike Keough had announced his retirement from the fire service in January, and the district wishes him well in his future endeavors. Kovacs administered the oath of office to Battalion Chief Janaka Branden and Lt. Keith Barker during the meeting and said one of the benefits of a retirement is the opportunity to promote individuals that have already contributed to the department, and these two are going to do an outstanding job for the district for many years to come, said Kovacs.

Wescott unification—

discussion of full-service contract

Kovacs said TLMFPD attorney Maureen Juran of Widner Juran LLP is drafting the full-service contract for services agreement and then the DWFPD attorney Emily Powell of Ireland Stapleton Pryor Pascoe PC law firm will review the contract, and the first draft could be presented at the February board meeting, but no later than March. A lot of great progress has been made in short order, and everyone is "blending and congealing well together," and we are excited for what we have seen in the first weeks, said Kovacs. See the DWFPD article on page 1.

Kovacs also said:

- A DWFPD advisory committee will be formed after the full-service contract is approved. The number of board members on the committee is yet to be determined.
- The advisory committee will represent DWFPD

throughout the process and become part of the TLMFPD board meeting agenda.

- It is important that DWFPD still have a voice throughout the process.
- After the full-services contract is approved, he and the committee will work with Powell to develop the ballot language for the full merger by inclusion, and that will include the equalization of the mill levies. See www.ocn.me/v21n6.htm#dwfpd.
- DWFPD will still exist as a tax entity and collect revenue as a special district, but TLMFPD will be the operating district.

Division Chief of Operations Jonathan Bradley said the crews began integrating on Jan. 11, and everyday staff are moving around, with the first goal of building a shared culture for everyone to have a voice in the creation of one department. The second goal was for everyone to become familiarized with the equipment and come up

Correction

In the October edition of OCN, the link to www.ocn.me/v21n10.htm#bffrpd in the BFFRPD article, on page 12, top left column, should have read www.ocn.me/v21n9.htm#bffrpd. OCN regrets the error.

Meetings are usually held on the third Wednesday of every month at Station 1, 11445 Teachout Road, Colorado Springs. Meetings are open to the public via Zoom until further notice. The next regular meeting is scheduled on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. For joining instructions, updates, agendas, and minutes, visit www.bffire.org or contact Administrative Officer Rachel Dunn at admin@bffire.org or call 719-495-4300.

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- Sign-ups start 5-6 weeks prior to class. Register at www.tlumc.org/events/event-registration
- Any age welcome that can pay attention for 8 hrs.
- The \$30 cost includes the certification card and course manual.
- Held at Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church (TLUMC), 20256 Hunting Downs Way (in King's Deer, just SW of Hwy 83 and Palmer Divide Ave./County Line Rd).
- Bring a lunch, no restaurants nearby.
- Questions? Contact TLUMC Emergency Preparedness Group at epg@tlumc.org.