

nity to meet with all of the DWFPD employees in a station setting to get to know them better. Staffs have co-mingled, and every comment received indicates the orientation process is going really well with no issues, said Kovacs.

Bradley said the following:

- Permanent assignments will be decided on March 15, in conjunction with the battalion chiefs, the Local 4319, and both district board presidents.
- Half to a third of the Wescott staff will move to TLMFPD stations and vice versa, with the idea being that staff do not go back to their corners after such a long struggle to achieve a merger.
- Orientation will end earlier than the projected May 19, and permanent assignments will begin April 1-10.
- A third full-service ambulance will be in service in April at Station 5 (formerly "Shamrock" Station 2, Highway 83/Stage Coach Road) far earlier than the original goal of Aug. 1.
- The crews are making it happen and the district can accelerate the ambulance by four months.

Bradley said that periodically a "shift shake-up" takes place, and the shifts need to be balanced due to the recent promotions and the five staff members currently attending the academy. The district will move toward a "bid type system" with parameters in 2023.

**Proposed squad vehicle purchase**

Division Chief of Community Risk/Fire Marshal Jamey Bumgarner gave a short presentation on the proposed purchase of a squad vehicle for 2022, and said the following:

- The purpose of a squad vehicle would be to respond to medical calls with at least a two-person crew, and the multi-purpose vehicle will carry advanced life support and firefighting equipment.
- The vehicle would provide a quicker response time and greater maneuverability than the larger apparatus, and that will reduce maintenance costs on the engine.
- At other times, the squad vehicle could be moved around the district and used as a support vehicle for chipping days, a wildland

crew, technical rescues, firefighter rehab and gross decontamination, and as a community paramedic vehicle.

- A new Pierce F550 will be available in Florida in June and a crew would visit Pierce manufacturing in May-June, and it would be in service July-August.
- The cost would not add to budget due to the sale of an older engine no longer in use, after a few light vehicles were auctioned by Schur Success Group, Monument and sold for \$21,491 in January, and the Castle Rock ambulance was sold to Cimarron Hills Fire Department for \$30,000. See [www.ocn.me/v22n2.htm#tlmfpd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n2.htm#tlmfpd).

Kovacs requested the board consider the motion to approve the purchase of a 2022 squad vehicle for \$224,568 and said:

- The squad vehicle will initially be placed into service at Station 5, and eventually it will be co-located with the new tower ladder truck, wherever that might be.
- The long-term goal for Station 5 will be an engine company with a water tender and a Type 3 engine, after the fire academy re-

cruits graduate and staffing levels increase.

- The 2022 squad 575 vehicle will be equipped with the surplus firefighting equipment from the sale of a DWFPD engine and the district cache of spare EMS equipment.

Bradley said the squad 575 vehicle will fill an immediate hole and add capability (at Station 5) and help the combined district plan for an increase in service. The vehicle gives the district the opportunity to bring specialized equipment on scene quickly, and the district drone will likely be kept on the vehicle, said Bradley.

The board approved the purchase, 7-0.

Vice President Roger Lance said, "It is a win-win and an excellent idea."

**Pierce tower ladder truck lease purchase agreement**

Kovacs requested the board approve Resolution 2022-02, a motion to approve the lease purchase agreement for the new tower ladder truck. The apparatus will cost the district about \$1.592 million paid over 13 years and it will take about 18-24 months to build, with an anticipated delivery date in 2024, said Kovacs. See [www.ocn.me/v22n2.htm#tlmfpd](http://www.ocn.me/v22n2.htm#tlmfpd).

The board approved the lease purchase agreement, 7-0.

**Chief's report**

Kovacs said the chief's report in its new format was shared with the DWFPD board on Feb. 15, and he said the following:

- During February, a detached garage was a total loss in the DWFPD, and a large swath of ground also burned around the structure.
- The Station 1 (Highway 105) remodel came in under budget by about \$20,000, and the major punch list has been addressed with just a few small items to be completed by Mark Young Construction.
- The board approved additional enhancements to include privacy fences and signs, a landscaping plan, additional tables and chairs for the training room, and some carpet enhancements to the dormitories and the day room have yet to be completed. See [www.ocn.me/v21n12.htm#tlmfpd](http://www.ocn.me/v21n12.htm#tlmfpd).
- An open house "ribbon cutting" at Station 1 is planned for spring.
- The new ambulance will be in service in late February, and ambulance 2282 has moved to Station 4 on Gleneagle Drive, the busiest station for EMS calls.

**Note:** See the DWFPD article for additional information on the combined district on page 11.

**First Due pre-plan software**

Bumgarner said the following:

- First Due pre-plan software was purchased to specifically complete company inspections and building pre-plans, and it gathers data from the El Paso County Assessor's Office, Pikes Peak Regional Building Department, and Google maps and combines it into one easily accessible format.
- The program allows crews to access the data en route and know before arriving at a fire where hydrants are located, the building's age, the structure design, and an aerial and street view.



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