

to the BOCC for approval once they have all approved.

The biggest change between this 2009 IFC with local amendments and the one adopted in 2006 is Amendment K, the "hardened structures requirements," Ridings said. This section gives details on building materials and in which cases sprinkler systems would be required in new home construction.

Chief's report

Chief Vinny Burns reported that he and firefighters Jonathan Urban and Justin Chavez earned their national Fire Officer 1 certificates.

Ridings presented the September run report, which said that calls decreased 6 percent from last year, from 179 calls in September 2012 to 168 in September 2013. The district assisted with five mutual aid calls to Black Forest Fire Rescue Protection District and Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District. One fire, at Fox Run Park, is still under investigation.

Ridings said that he is still researching a new station alert system. The board approved purchase of new system in February. However, there may be a change in operating procedures by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office

dispatch center. To meet National Fire Protection Association standards, the district would like to make an arrangement with the county dispatch/E911 office and all the county fire districts to purchase a system they all agree on.

The Black Forest Merger Committee has not met since August, but Burns said the plan will now be to set a consistent meeting date the week before the board meetings of both fire districts. However, Burns and Black Forest Chief Bob Harvey have been meeting regularly for operations discussions, and the two districts' firefighters have participated in joint training exercises to get to know each other as well as their equipment and procedures, Burns

said. The Wescott district is waiting for the results of the mill levy ballot issue on Nov. 5. Lt. Bryan Ackerman said that Friends of Wescott volunteers, off-duty firefighters who are not in uniform, distributed mill levy information fliers to most homes in the Wescott district before the ballots were mailed out in mid-October. No district funds were used to advertise or campaign for any of the election issues, Administrative Assistant Cheryl Marshall said.

Financial reports

Marshall said bank balances as of Oct. 30 totaled \$1.5 million: Peoples National Bank \$57,000, Colorado Peak fund \$178,000, ColoTrust Fund \$439,000, Wells Fargo Public Trust \$909,000.

Some of the budget items mentioned by Marshall included:

- The district is "a little bit ahead" of where it should be for this time of the year, with expenses at 81 percent instead of 75 percent of the total 2013 budget. This higher than expected spending is due to station and vehicle maintenance that was discussed during recent board meetings.
- To date, the district has received \$40,500 in reimbursements from the state for fighting four wildfires this year. The conservative budget estimate for total 2013 reimbursements was only \$5,000.
- The High Forest Ranch community picnic fundrais-



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