

**ASPEN SPRINGS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**  
**PO Box 488**  
**Pagosa Springs, CO 81147**  
**970-731-5656**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors, Aspen Springs Metropolitan District was convened on February 12th, 2019 at 6:00p.m. at the Aspen Springs Metropolitan District building located on Metro Drive in Unit 5 Aspen Springs Subdivision. Elected board members Pam Wallis, Jame Venturini, Kenneth Barber, and Shane Tuller were in attendance, as was employee Carey Brown. Board member Kelly Evans attended via conference call. 17 property owners attended, as did Sheriff Valdez, Mike LeRoux, and Undersheriff Derek Woodman.

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kenneth Barber.

### **Minutes**

Jame made a motion to approve the previous month's minutes; Ken seconded, all in favor.

### **Presentation by Mike Leroux on Evacuation Route**

Mike Leroux spoke about the history of the Burns Canyon evac route. He considers the Tara Mandala road the better route, as it is graveled and maintained year round. He and a fire team in a tanker truck and trailer had traversed that road a week prior, and it was passable and plowed. There were some questions and concerns from residents from Unit 6 and Oak Hills about the closure of Burns Canyon. Mike noted that one of the primary reasons for the Forest Service decommissioning Burns Canyon was the public and personal nature of the usage that had been occurring since it had been reopened, and that it was not a public road, intended to be used for emergency purposes only.

Ken read a letter authored by Sheriff Valdez in 2018 regarding the evacuation plan, and asked the Sheriff if he considered that letter still valid, or if their plans had changed since its writing. Valdez said the letter was no longer applicable, and had been superceded by the Tara Mandala route.

Andy Spaul, the road maintenance man from Tara Mandala spoke about the route, and how he maintains it year round, with plowing, grading, and graveing.

Mike said that in the event of an actual evacuation scenario, Burns Canyon would be opened, and that if not, residents should employ every means at their disposal to get themselves to safety, including cutting or driving through fences or gates to get access to necessary routes.

Ken asked Sheriff Valdez about the procedure for marking and towing abandoned vehicles in the roadway or right of ways. Carey had, for the first time in 15 years, tagged a vehicle and had it towed for being in the way of the plows. The Sheriff said that Carey should call dispatch

and have a deputy post a 72 hour notice on the vehicles, and then the Sheriff's department would have the vehicle towed, as they have an MOU with the tow companies for such situations. If the vehicle was blocking snow plows, the department would have it towed immediately. Pam said that there were several repeat offenders who leave their vehicles in the road or in cul-de-sacs. She would have Carey start calling them in and having them tagged and towed.

## **Public Works**

- Carey said the new grader needed a new fuel pump and other repairs, and noted that the bill would likely be around \$1600. He said that his old grader and the other plows would all be needing repairs before long.
- Shane asked for clarification on the policy regarding berms in driveways. Carey stated that the policy, as that of the county, is that snow deposited in driveways is the responsibility of the homeowner. The district does not have the manpower to clear everyone's berms. He also wanted to note that residents pushing snow into the road off of their property was illegal per state statute, and while it had gone ignored for a long time, he would be starting to report the serious offenders to the Sheriff as it creates a road hazard.

## **Treasurer's Report**

- Jame: The district had \$279,431 in cash assets, and \$1,818,031 in total assets and property as of the end of January. Total income for January was \$27,616, with year to date income of \$27,616, which is 7% of this year's budgeted income. Total property tax income YTD is \$14,081, which is 7% of this year's budgeted income. Total income YTD for the water depot is \$1,095 which is 5% of this year's budgeted income. Total expenses for January were \$53,353, and YTD of \$53,353, which is 12% of the yearly budget. The primary expenses for January were to Colorado SDA and CHP in the amounts of \$17,750 and \$2,700 respectively.
- Pam made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as read, Shane seconded; all in favor.

## **Old Business**

- Pam said the SDA wanted a designated representative from the board to the SDA. Jame would be the representative, with Pam as alternate.
- The annual inspection on the water station had shown some small issues which needed to be fixed, which included grouting around outlets, and the plastic covering for the tank needed to be replaced. Guiseppe would handle the repairs.

## **New Business**

- Several people had complained that the water per quarter rate at the water station

seemed to be fluctuating. Shane said that he had also noticed the irregularity. Carey said that the water rate meter may possibly need to be replaced, he would check to see if there's any obvious fault with the current one. Dick noted to the board that the state had recently mandated that any water rate change at fill stations would have to be put on the ballot at an election, it could no longer be changed unilaterally as was the past policy.

### **Property Owner's Concerns**

- Cara on Mervin's Court had expressed frustration about the berms at the end of her driveway, and asked that Carey not berm her drive. Another property owner had emailed the district with the same complaint. Carey once again noted that he couldn't keep from berming everyone, and couldn't provide special treatment.
- A property owner on Badger Road who's access to his property is via Turkey Springs road, which is county maintained, asked to be removed from the Metro District as he did not receive road services from it. This would not be possible; all properties platted within the subdivision would remain in the subdivision.
- Linda talked about the U-Haul truck with graffiti on the side that was just off the north side of the highway in Unit 2. She had found out that while signs with unpleasant language were allowable as freedom of speech, signage on vehicles was not.

**Kenneth Barber adjourned the meeting at 7:13**