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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – FALL GRANT PRESENTATION WORKSHOP**

**Date and Time:** 3:20 PM on Wednesday, September 16, 2020

**Location:** Online Zoom Meeting (Replay link is on our YouTube Channel and Facebook, starting at 20:45 into the video.)

### **Attendees:**

Dusti Reimer  
John Justman  
Quint Shear  
Christine Madsen  
Craig Springer  
Dan Van Loon  
Derek Wagner  
Benita Phillips  
Tim Foster  
John Marshall  
Frank Cavaliere

### **Agenda:**

- I. Call to order.
  - a. D. Reimer said thank you to everyone for participating in our Fall Grant Cycle. We are going to start like we usually do with our traditional grants going first. You have five minutes, and you'll be allowed to do screen sharing, so go ahead and pull those up on your computer. You're allowed five minutes and afterwards the board will be allowed to ask any questions. The Board has had your applications since last week, so they have had time to review them. They will ask questions if they have any. If they don't ask questions, it doesn't mean they aren't interested in your application, it might mean you did such a great job they don't have any additional questions and it was straight forward. If they do ask a lot of questions, it doesn't mean you did a bad job, it just means maybe they are really interested in it. Again, thank you for participating in this process. We spent some time this summer and we tweaked our application and we hope it was more beneficial for everyone this time around. With no further ado, I turn this over to the East Orchard Mesa Fire Protection District, and Dane. You may go ahead with your presentation.
- II. Presentations by Fall 2020 Grant Cycle applicants:
  - a. Traditional Grants:
    - i. 2020-FT-01 East Orchard Mesa Fire Protection District Water Tender Apparatus.

ii. Presenter: Dane Van Loon

1. Questions:
2. J. Justman asked what year the other truck was in Ridgeway?
  - a. D. Van Loon said the T1212 is a 2000.
3. J. Justman asked what year the other one was.
  - a. D. Van Loon said the other one was a 1999.
4. Q. Shear said the operation of the vehicles are automatic transmission so they will be much easier to operate.
  - a. D. Van Loon said much easier to operate. They are much newer and lot easier and the safety features are there and have better fire fighting capabilities than our current tender does.
5. C. Springer said I'm curious, the increase in calls you're receiving, you're on a pretty good incline there, much more than the growth of the county. You guys are getting a higher percentage of calls than you used to be, is that other departments are trusting you more or why is that?
  - a. D. Van Loon said all the departments in the valley have a mutual aid contract, so depending on the situation and need for apparatus any time we are called upon we go anywhere with the Mesa County boundaries. I do believe it has a lot to do with trust. Myself and the rest of the command staff have worked really hard the last three years to bring the department to what it used to be, to what it is today, which is a better trained, safer equipment department that offers a better service to our residents and county in general. Since I joined in 2016, where we had a membership of 16, we're not up to 22 people that are at the station to reduce our response time so that we can be there at a moments notice. Just bringing things up to the time has really helped out a lot.
6. Benita Phillips asked if they knew why Ridgeway was getting rid of this piece of equipment?
  - a. D. Van Loon said if you look in the back of this photo right here you'll see this piece of equipment, it's their tactical tender. They are currently deploying that one out. They've been holding on to this since the beginning of the last grant cycle. They're having an issue getting more people on scene. Their tactical tender seats three, and this one seats three, but they are looking to get a tender that holds more personnel. They are one of the larger departments in their general area and they are having an issue getting more people on scene faster to suppress fires faster. They are looking to sell this one to pay off the loan they have on it now and pull another one along with their tax base that is more conducive to what their future outlook is.

7. Q. Shear said you're calls are increasing, do you see the type of calls you're getting change?
  - a. D. Van Loon said our wildland calls are increasing. Starting our 2016 year, we started building up our wildland program and getting more people successfully trained. Since then, our success rate of getting there on time and aiding not only with our local residents, but county as well, that increase has been going on and on. Unfortunately, with the drier temperatures we've had, wildland has become a more natural thing. The structure fire, our residents become safe as far as their homes go. We do have a section of the district that doesn't pay in and are gray area for the county, so we are sent that direction because the county does not have structure. All the homes there have \$13,000 fire suppression systems built into the homes, so as far as all that goes it's about the same. Our EMS calls still hang out in the 20s, but it's really more the fire side is picking up more and more, especially as far as the mutual aid side of the county.
- iii. 2020-FT-02 Colorado Mesa University & Mesa County Valley School District 51 Phase II COVID-19 Early Detection & Rapid Test Deployment.
  1. Presenters: Derek Wagner, John Marshall, and Tim Foster.
    - a. Questions:
    - b. Q. Shear asked if Tim could talk about the maintenance of these units and how often they need to be maintained and the life of them.
      - i. T. Foster said they're pretty low maintenance. They are really just a screen and you're just picking up effluent and then you bring it up and test it. Other than it's not a pleasant thing to clean out. It's a poop screen if you will. The other equipment was a piece of equipment we already had on campus. Most biology departments do. It's the cooker, if you will that analyzes the spit test and that's pretty straight forward. The chemicals we get from a third party, it's a company called Darwin. They're the company that developed this particular test. It's a commercialization out of the University of Colorado.
    - c. C. Springer asked if they could explain, if you could, the utilization of this five years from now.
      - i. T. Foster said that depends on how pessimistic you want me to be, or optimistic. Optimistically, I hope nothing. Pessimistically, I think the predictions are all over the board of whether we see another pandemic and how will we react to it. I think our readiness as a country is way up and I think ours as an institution is as well. It's really more of a one

time. I'm not sure if you have an opinion, John, about five years from now. I'm hoping not. The piece of equipment we will be using in the biology department. We will have use for it, as an academic perspective, but other than that, John can add.

- ii. Joh Marshall said the digital PCR machine is a high-speed piece of equipment. A lot of universities have a PCR machine, but these digital ones are substantially more powerful. Most communities our size do not have that kind of equipment, so that would allow us to do a range of things that could expand well beyond the COVID-19 conversation down the road. It's a very powerful piece of equipment.
- d. C. Springer asked would you say you're at the cutting edge of getting out in front of it in this manner, or are there other public entities that have installed similar testing type facilities?
- i. T. Foster said I will tell you, and this is to brag a little on John, that the range of people we are working with range from Harvard to foundations in Denver. I think our little hometown institution is way on the forefront on how to deal with this disease on campus. Some of this simply is manpower, and a lot of it is technology. We're going to spend \$5 million to try and keep kids on campus this semester. That is from thermal imaging machines that notify us if you come in with a temperature, to cleaning materials, and testing is a huge part of that expense and it will continue to probably into next year. I would say we are on the forefront, particularly with this. CU is deploying the so called "spit test." I don't think as effectively as we are. We did its side by side a PCR test to verify the accuracy. Last week and just launched it this week, testing a host of students who had been quarantines to make sure they were cleaned. The speed is the critical issue. We ship it off and have to just wait. We've been getting 36 hours, thanks to John. As in other areas in the metro area they've going 4-5 days. So, to get 36 hours or the same day, will be a huge advantage to us in terms of ability to manage those who will get infected. We are going to have people who get the corona virus, that's just going to happen.
- e. C. Springer asked if this is the last piece for the testing facility or are there other things you need to do as well?
- i. T. Foster said this is the top end of the funnel, you do the broad based and then you do the lab testing and then you do the PCR testing where we swab your nasal. That's a

diagnostic test, the other two are broader and just telling you someone here has it. Then you can shift it down to one of these five have it and then you can find out who actually has it.

- f. Benita Phillips asked if the PRC machine is part of the proposal?
  - i. T. Foster said it's not a PCR machine, what do we call it? The machine is part of the proposal.
- g. B. Phillips asked if that was the most expensive part of it?
  - i. T. Foster said yes, the other ones we'll scatter around the high schools and middle schools and that's just effluent test and that's just putting that screen in a variety of locations. The singular expenditure will be that machine.
- h. B. Phillips asked how much money the state is giving us for this?
  - i. T. Foster said zero.
- i. B. Phillips said really?
  - i. T. Foster said we took a negative from the state this year in terms of budget cuts. You could say we are clearly not giving us money for this.
- j. B. Phillips asked if this will be the only machine on the Western Slope?
  - i. T. Foster said I don't know. Someone might have a lower version.
  - ii. J. Marshall said I don't think anyone else has one. I think the short answer is yes. I think the closest lab that has it, is in Fort Collins.
- k. B. Phillips asked if the community will have access to be tested, Mr. Marshall on this then, if need be, other than just the students at CMU or District 51?
  - i. J. Marshall said yes. The notion is rather than sending samples off at a pretty substantial costs, you could envision deploying these, not just at CMU and the District, but envision say a retirement community or other areas we can partner with and then you can literally do for pennies on the dollar you can do those samples. Once you have that piece of equipment, you can do vary robust sampling for very inexpensive across the community.
- l. Q. Shear asked if in the future, could this equipment be used for other types of the flu or other outbreaks?
  - i. T. Foster said I would think so. As John reflected it will also get used in our biology department for experiments,

science, tests and etc. But potentially if we have another pandemic, it would be used for that as well. If I could say, and I know you're on a more deliberative timeline, we're in the quicker the better situation. A speedier decision would be good for us to get these things implemented as fast as we can. With all due respect.

m. J. Justman asked if the equipment has to be certified through the Colorado Department of Health?

i. T. Foster said it's not a diagnostic test, it's a screening test. While it has a high degree of accuracy, if you get a positive that's why we go on to the PCR machine that is approved by the state and feds for diagnostic purposes. If you go off the effluent test, that's not approved by anybody, but that's a sample we know we can test to see if there is virus in those samples. It's more screening and cost containment and an ability to be able to catch a large and small pool of people and then ultimately the individuals that have it. That's the one we use by the state and feds.

n. C. Springer said thank you very much, we appreciate it.

b. Mini Grants:

i. 2020-FM-01 Lower Valley Fire Protection District Station #32 Access Upgrade.

1. Presenter: Frank Cavaliere.

a. Questions:

b. No Questions.

III. Unscheduled business.

a. C. Springer said with all three applications being presented, how much money do we have available?

b. D. Reimer said we have \$200,000 available for our fall grant cycle.

c. J. Justman asked if that money was divided between mini grants or traditional, or is one lump sum?

d. D. Reimer said it's all one lump sum and you guys get to decide how to spend it.

e. C. Springer said thank you all for participating.

IV. Meeting ended at 3:55 pm.