

**RIST CANYON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
November 4, 2023**

The 2023 RCVFD Annual Membership Meeting was held at Stove Prairie Ranch.

Note: Bridget Tisthammer took the minutes in the absence of Leisa Taylor.

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm by President Neil Faber.

I. Confirmation of Quorum

A quorum was confirmed with approximately 45 people in attendance.

II. Adoption of Agenda

With a motion by Carolyn Stanley and a second by Danny Diefenderfer, the agenda was approved.

III. Approval of Minutes from November 2022 Annual Meeting

Bridget read the 2022 Annual Meeting draft minutes. With a motion by Bridget and a second by Danny, those minutes were approved without correction.

IV. President's Comments

Neil thanked:

- Bridget for her eight years of volunteer service as Ristwatch Editor;
- Jeff Elsner, who is stepping aside as Fire Chief;
- Merv Jacobson for donating his venue free of charge for the RCVFD Annual Meeting;
- Karen Steadman for her lead in creating the Responder Lounge; and
- HJ Siegel for coordinating the Mountain Festival.

Neil also reported:

- Dean Yoder is working on getting a fire station in the Buckhorn;
- A new (used) ambulance is outfitted and ready for use;
- Jocelyn Wolf has taken over as chair of a grants committee for RCVFD; and
- the department recently received a \$75,000 grant for SCBA equipment.

V.A. Officer Report: Fire Chief

Chief Jeff Elsner thanked the RCVFD responders and asked them to stand and be acknowledged. Jeff said Mark Neuroth will take over as Fire Chief in 2024, Carol Dollard will be the Assistant Chief, and Jesse Ceplecha will be Captain.

The Chief also reported:

- every house should have a Chimfex fire extinguisher;
- a program is available for air ambulance service for \$75 per household;
- free address signs, made by Louise Creager, are available for every house;
- Karen Steadman has been the driving force behind a responders' debrief area at Station 1;
- an ambulance will be stationed at Karen's house;
- a fire truck will be stationed at Alan Villavicencio's house;
- a chart (attached) shows RCVFD calls by type and location;
- work continues on a proposed fire station in the Buckhorn;
- 10 new SCBAs were purchased with the \$75,000 grant (a SCBA cost \$7,500 and must be retired after 15 years); and
- RCVFD has been working with Loveland Fire Rescue Authority re: mutual aid and fire services using geolocation coordinates.

With a motion by Danny and a second by Karen, the Fire Chief's report was accepted.

V.B. Officer Report: Treasurer

Treasurer Richard Lund said the department is on a solid foundation with total funds of \$1,085,409.42:

Business Checking:	\$ 91,390.24
Money Market:	111,175.38
PayPal Account:	2,676.73
Long-Term Investment:	<u>880,167.07</u>
	\$1,085,409.42

Richard said that with the over \$800,000 received after the High Park Fire, the department built Station 1, finished Station 4, and invested \$400,000. The invested money will be used when vehicles need to be replaced.

Richard also reported:

- the department's average annual budget is a little over \$80,000;
- RCVFD is donation-based, with residents paying no taxes;
- the department is short about \$10,000 on donations this year compared to last year at this time;
- the department's response area has 1,212 landowners; however, only about 30% donate to RCVFD (so encourage your neighbors to donate);
- grant monies are often designated for specific equipment; and
- proceeds from the annual Mountain Festival help fund the budget, and HJ and many volunteers are doing a great job.

With a motion by Carolyn and a second by Roger Dev, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

V.C. Officer Report: Ristwatch Editor

Bridget said the Ristwatch is published quarterly and mailed to every household in the response area. Households not receiving the newsletter should contact Richard or Diane McCarthy to get added to the mailing list. The Ristwatch is also published in full color on the RCVFD website.

Bridget said she is retiring after eight years, and the new Ristwatch Editor is Ellison Carter. Ellison was unable to attend the Annual Meeting, but she and Bridget have met several times. Bridget said the Ristwatch is in good hands.

V.D. Committee Report: Festival Chair

HJ thanked Neil for being so involved with the Festival. He also thanked Merv Jacobson for the use of Stove Prairie Ranch for the Annual Meeting. HJ asked attendees to look at the Silent Auction items left over from the Festival.

HJ also reported:

- over 130 volunteers were involved with the Festival;
- based on the number of cars, approximately 2,700 people attended the Festival;
- the Festival profit was over \$28,000; and
- Carolyn Stanley, the Queen Bee, will knight you for \$1.

HJ played a slide show presentation and thanked the following Festival chairs/volunteers:

- Ambulance – Jeff Elsner;
- Bake sale – Patti Clutter (over 100 pies and 1,000 cookies);
- Book sale – Carolyn Stanley and Kathy Cox (over 20,000 books);
- Craft/vendor booths – Debbie Benson (over 40 vendors);
- Facilities – Richard Lund, Shannon Phelps, and James Clutter;
- Dunk tank – Trisha Johnston;
- Fire trucks, gear demos, and exhibit booth – Juana Jackson;
- Food trucks – Bridget Tisthammer;
- Graphic design – Brett Carr;
- Helicopter – Mark Neuroth;
- Ice cream tent – Bridget Tisthammer (need a new chair for next year);
- Kids' activities – Trisha Johnston (lots of kids' activities and farm animals);
- Larimer County Sheriff's Department – Karen Salaz;
- Music – Sandy Deraney-Reilly;
- Non-profit and educational booths – Trisha Johnston;
- Plant Sale – Kimberley Carr;
- Shuttle Tractor – Brett Johnston and Joshua Neufeldt;
- Silent Auction – Janet Siegel and Pam Thomas (over 280 items);
- Sponsorships – Tony Pavlantos (over 40 donors; need a new chair for next year); and
- T-shirts – Molly McLean and Shannon Phelps.

VI. Presentation of Board Nominees for 2024

The President presented the following nominees for the 2024 RCVFD Board of Directors:

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| President – Neil Faber | Rist Canyon Rep. – Debbie Benson |
| 1 st Vice President – HJ Siegel | Davis Ranch Rep. – Carolyn Stanley |
| 2 nd VP and Fire Chief – Mark Neuroth | Stratton Park Rep. – Louise Creager |
| Secretary – Leisa Taylor | Whale Rock Rep. – Roger Dev |
| Treasurer – Diane McCarthy | Stove Prairie Rep. – Tim Stratman |
| Assistant Treasurer – Richard Lund | Upper Buckhorn Rep. – Erica Michel |
| Ristwatch Editor – Ellison Carter | Lower Buckhorn Rep. – Dean Yoder |

VII. Invitation for Nominations from the Floor

There were no nominations from the floor. With a motion by Danny and a second by HJ, the nominations were closed.

VIII. Election of Nominated Officers

The foregoing slate for the 2024 RCVFD Board of Directors was elected by acclamation.

Adjournment

At 3:05 pm, with a motion by Carolyn and a second by Dean, the 2023 Annual Meeting adjourned.