



GOLDEN GATE

Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 843, Golden Colorado, 80403

Meeting Minutes

(DRAFT)

March 27, 2025, 7:00 PM

Board Meeting

IN PERSON:

Golden Gate Grange
25201 Golden Gate Canyon Rd.
Golden CO 80403

Recorded Session:

[Golden Gate Fire Protection District Board](#)

[Meeting](#)

Closed captioning available, click on CC

- **Board Members Present**
 - President Deb Curlee
 - Vice President Niffy Ovuworie
 - Secretary Marith Reheis
 - Member Dave Primmer
 - Member Steve Green
- **Meeting Called to Order**
 - 7:00 PM MDT
- **Changes to Agenda**
 - Move review of credit card statements to item 4.2
- **Conflict of Interest Affirmations**
 - None
- **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**
 - February 27, 2025 Meeting Minutes – Moved by Ovuworie, second by Curlee – **Passes**
 - Aye (Deb Curlee, Niffy Ovuworie, Marith Reheis)
 - Nay (Dave Primmer, Steve Green)
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Treasurer report and transaction lists posted online. \$354,793 currently held in accounts.
- **Chief's Report** – (see report posted on website for details, also see YouTube, 7:27-1:01:30)
 - New website can be viewed in draft form (NOT final) at: [Home | Golden Gate Fire](#)
 - Awarded DFPC Grant of \$20,000 for 30 sets of Wildland/EMS and extrication PPE
 - Old UTV 81 and flatbed trailer have been posted for public sealed bidding on website and Craigslist
 - Proposed purchase of up to 9 tablets, licenses, and software to upgrade departmental connectivity and situational awareness during emergency response. Lengthy discussion with board regarding best option (AT&T FirstNet vs. T-Mobile, plus Central Square software), cost, and funds available in operational budget. Agreed to limit purchase to 6 sets and FirstNet to stay within budget.
- **Amend budget for annual audit to a maximum of \$15,000 and authorization for executive committee to sign contract** – See YouTube, Golden Gate Fire Protection District, running time 1:01:10-1:07:10
 - Motion to amend budget and approve selected audit contract; moved by Ovuworie, second by Curlee -- **Passes**
 - Aye (Deb Curlee, Niffy Ovuworie, Marith Reheis)
 - Nay (Steve Green, Dave Primmer)

- **Discussion of 2024 credit card statement vs. posted transactions** – See discussion on YouTube, Golden Gate Fire Protection District, running time 1:07:20-1:12:10.
 - CORA request for 2024 credit card statements was fulfilled. Primmer avers that charges on statements do not match transaction list. Green presented monthly summaries showing that in some months, transaction lists do not show any credit card payments despite purchases made. Board will examine discrepancies.
- **Review of statistics on Front Range chief salaries** – See discussion on YouTube, Golden Gate Fire Protection District, running time 1:12:15-1:17:20.
 - Primmer states that average salary for full time chief in Front Range districts is \$90,000-\$100,000, and our chief's part time salary is \$78,000, accounting for large fraction of district budget.
 - Ovuworie explains that salary is not the same as total compensation. Some other districts have more than one paid employee. Chief Benson is the only paid employee, so to compare his total compensation vs. district annual revenue with those of just the fire chief in other districts is not equitable.
- **Increase Chief's annual compensation to budgeted amount of \$84,798, with pay retroactive to January 1, 2025** – See discussion on YouTube, 1:17:24-1:24:18 running time.
 - Motion presented by Ovuworie, second by Curlee – **Passes**
 - Aye (Deb Curlee, Niffy Ovuworie, Marith Reheis)
 - Nay (Dave Primmer, Steve Green)
- **Budget request from Chief Benson to purchase hardware and software to upgrade communications** – See Chief's report online and discussion on YouTube, running time 1:24:35-1:27:44, also 18:38-1:01:30.
 - **Motion to approve funding for 6 tablets and software** – Moved by Ovuworie, second by Reheis - **Passes**
 - Aye (Deb Curlee, Niffy Ovuworie, Marith Reheis)
 - Nay (Dave Primmer)
 - Abstain (Steve Green)
- Motion to adjourn at 8:29 PM – Moved by Ovuworie, second by Reheis – **Passes**
 - Aye (Deb Curlee, Niffy Ovuworie, Marith Reheis, Dave Primmer, Steve Green)

www.goldengatefire.org