

Peeples Valley Fire Department Corporation and Auxiliary

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Weaver Mountains Regional Facility & Property special Committee Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2025

Committee Member Attendees: Shawn Bomar, Ed Buscis, Lindon Gareis (by videocall), Mark Peterson, Neil Rifenbark, Karen Stafford, and Lew Theokas.

Members of the public present: Lori Bomar, Sue Dickerson, Doug Horn, Jane Meyers, and Ray Paiz.

1. Call to Order: 9:00 am

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Neil.

3. Special Committee Purpose and Description

a. The purpose of this Committee is to advise and support the Peeples Valley Fire Department Corporation and Auxiliary with the next steps involved in pursuing the current land transfer proposal and its future development. This committee will provide regular updates and action recommendations at scheduled Auxiliary meetings.

4. New business

- a. Project Update, Priorities and Discussion given by Chief Bomar
 - i. It's been 6 months and a lot of discussions and political changes. We now have a new District Supervisor (Brooks Compton) who is vital to the project and who is in the loop on the project. Commitment from the County is to be determined, and the proposition passed that would allows the funds. ARPA fund grant was not awarded to us based on the nature of the grant's requirements. This puts us in the position of needing to focus on building a fire station most immediately, rather than the broader community & public service center project.
- b. USDA grant or loan option is still possible; however, based on the grant or loan requirements, the Auxiliary will not qualify to apply for the USDA grant or loan whereas the Fire District stands a much better chance of winning funding.
 - i. This raises the question of whether the Auxiliary should deed some or all of the land to the District so they can pursue the grant/loan process and get things rolling much more quickly and efficiently.
 - **ii.** The District's Fire Board would also have to agree to accept the land/deed transfer for this transfer of ownership to take place.

This matter will be discussed further at the Auxiliary meeting on 2/1/25.

- c. We have an unofficial draft floor plan which shows the space we need, along with room for a possible future Sheriff substation, shared space for our ambulance service partners, and the potential for an exam room.
- d. The current plan has the station fitting into a triangle of about 2.3 acres along the west side of the property; however, we need to have a study done to ensure feasibility of that building location and engineering for drainage.
- e. The current fire station: This could stay with the Fire District for the Wildlands Division to house their equipment and considering they are a revenue generating team for the District.
- **5. Next Meeting:** We will hold off scheduling additional meetings until after the 2/19/25 at which time both the Auxiliary and Fire District Board will have had the opportunity to consider possibly transferring ownership of some or all of the land to the Fire District.
- **6.** Adjournment: Adjournment at 10:20 AM.

Special thanks to Sue Dickerson for taking minutes.