

Note: To see examples of Lowes' previous public comments and questions, search "Bill Lowes" at www.ocn.me.

Home loss prevented

Gent had reported that in December the barn on his property had burned, but due to the intervention of Wescott firefighters, his home had been saved. He said, "I came outside of our house and I thought for sure that our house was gone. (The barn) was completely engulfed in flames, and I want to thank the firefighters immensely..."

Fitness prioritized

Burns requested a special purchase of two commercial-grade treadmills, one each for Stations 1 and 2. He stated that the request comes as a result of the staff's short-, mid-, and long-range planning. Burns received a discounted price quote of \$7,299 per machine plus a \$150 delivery and installation charge, which includes removal of the current, non-functional treadmills.

Director Harland Baker asked if this purchase meant that Station 2 would be permanently staffed again. Burns responded that, "Yes, we will probably a little later this year. We've still got people to get hired." **Note:** In 2017, Wescott's Shamrock Station 2 on Highway 83 was staffed only intermittently, when volunteers were available, as a cost-saving measure. See www.ocn.me/v17n1.htm#dwfpd, www.ocn.me/v17n2.htm#dwfpd, www.ocn.me/v18n1.htm#dwfpd.

The board approved the purchase of the treadmills.

Administrative business and calls reported

Burns provided the monthly financial report in Administrative Assistant Stacey Popovich's absence. The district's fund balance for December totaled \$1.54 million, a decrease of \$125,690.

Assistant Chief Scott Ridings compared the call statistics of 2016 and 2017. The information reflects a 25 percent decrease for the whole district: 2,709 calls in 2016 and 2,020 calls in 2017. Ridings commented that a decrease in total runs was expected due to the loss of the southern portion of the district, but within the remaining northern sub-district, a 15 percent increase in service calls is expected over the next two years due to growth within that area.

May 8 election information made available

Four vacant positions are available for the May 8 election: the board chairman and three general director positions. Self-nomination forms may be obtained by contacting Stacey Popovich at spopovich@wescottfire.org or (719) 488-8680. Self-nomination forms may also be printed from the Department of Local Affairs website, <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dola/special-district-election-forms>. The self-nomination form submission deadline is March 2. The deadline to file an Affidavit of Intent to be a Write-in Candidate is

March 5.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The next DWFPD Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. at Station 1, 15415 Gleneagle Drive. Please call (719) 488-8680, a non-emergency number, for more information, or visit www.wescottfire.org. Wescott is also on Facebook and Twitter.

Jennifer Kaylor can be reached at jenniferkaylor@ocn.me.



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*First ten respondents. Offer good through 2/28/2018.




Jim Kendrick can be reached at jimkendrick@ocn.me. See related DWFPD article on page 6.

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