

the possible merger with DWFPD is scheduled for April 4.

Special meeting

On March 18, TLMFPD board held a special meeting with an executive session pursuant to CRS 24-46-402 (4) (b) for discussion of specific legal questions with the attorney for the district on pending litigation.

When the board returned to the regular meeting, a

motion was unanimously approved "that we authorize the fire chief to sign a settlement agreement with (previous TLMFPD Fire Marshal) John Vincent to settle the current litigation between the district and Mr. Vincent in a form to be approved by the attorney for the district and conditioned on the district expending no more than \$15,000 in funds as part of that settlement agreement, which amount shall be reimbursed to the district by the district's insurer."

Meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. April 24 at TLMFPD Station 1, 18650 Highway 105. For information, contact Office Administrator/HR Jennifer Martin at 719-484-9011. For upcoming agendas, see <http://tlmfire.org/board>.

Natalie Barszcz can be reached at nataliebarszcz@ocn.me.

DWFPD (Cont. from 1)

the hospital. Ridings indicated one person might have lost their life without the actions of the firefighters.

He was also proud that Wescott was able to swiftly provide road condition and power line damage assessments to the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management (EOC) so they could deal with issues more

efficiently. "I have a feeling this was more information than other districts sent in," he said.

In all, 16 staff members were on duty during the 48 hours of the storm. No mutual aid requests were made by Wescott, but they did provide "pretty critical" aid to other departments. Ridings is preparing the final after-action report reviewing changes that need to be made for next time.

TLMFPD merger discussion

DWFPD Chairman William "Bo" McAllister told the board he had spoken with TLMFPD President Jake Shirk, telling him the Wescott board was not interested in a possible "contract for takeover" he was told TLMFPD was writing. Shirk asked if talks were closed, and McAllister said they should continue to discuss options other than a contract for service.

At its February meeting, DWFPD board members learned of the contract and were puzzled as to why the TLMFPD board authorized Chief Chris Truty to write it, since earlier discussions had been about types of possible mergers. Although the DWFPD unification committee made up of Director Larry Schwarz and Hartung had said they would meet with Truty before the next meeting to continue the flow of information between the two departments, McAllister said the last meeting had occurred "before the holidays." See <https://ocn.me/v19n3.htm#dwfpd>.

Ridings said a meeting has been set up between the chiefs and directors but did not specify a date.

Budget decision-making unclear

During the February financials review, Director Gary Rusnak indicated the board had already decided to gift

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