



**Above:** From left, Driver Operator Justin Myers and Firefighter/EMTs David Bowker, Seung Ju Han, and Matthew Griggs receive their badges from family members at the pinning-on ceremony in the bay at Station 1 after Interim Fire Chief Warren Jones administered the oath of office. The ceremony continued as board Chairman Mark Gunderman administered the oath of office in the board room to all four staff before the regular board meeting. Family members attended both ceremonies. *Photo by Battalion Chief Sean Pearson.*

nue, and approval can be made after the books for 2021 are closed.

**2022 budget update**

Jones thanked the board for the two-hour work session that provided a better understanding of where the district stands financially and said:

- Staff have been conservative in developing the 2022 budget, and a late October staff meeting to discuss the 2022 budget will finalize the details.
- The 2022 budget has about a \$70,000 hole in it right now, and we can deal with that deficit by cutting a little bit here and spending less there on some line items.
- The district may not be able to fund the educational assistance that was offered last year for paramedic training, and currently the district does not have an education program set up, but TLMFPD is implementing a program.
- If no equipment and apparatus is purchased for the next five years, it may be possible for the district to purchase an engine in the future.
- The district receives 95% to 99% of its revenue from assessed property value, and next year an apartment complex and a few single-family dwellings will be built, generating a small revenue increase.
- It is a "big lift" for a small district to move to a next-level department with only a single source of income.
- Tight belts and a lot of discipline will be needed with little commercial and single-family home growth, and unification will be important to the district.
- The 2022 budget will be presented to the board in November for final board approval in December.

Director Charles Fleece said he appreciated the feedback and helping the district prepare for the future will help us out down the road.

Gunderman agreed with Fleece and said he appreciates the chiefs looking under every stone to be as frugal as we can, and regardless of what happens we will need to be disci-

plined.

**Financial report**

Administrative Assistant Stacey Popovich read the district financials for Sept. 30, 2021 and said the following:

- The Community Banks Fund of Colorado holds \$233,936 of district funds.

- The Wells Fargo Public Trust Fund has \$1.28 million.
- The district has a total of \$1.52 million.

The board accepted the financial report as presented, 3-0.

The board approved the September meeting minutes,

3-0.

**Chief's report**

Jones said Battalion Chief Scott Ridings had prepared the September activity report, as he does every month, and Jones noted the following:

- Except for the few usual wrecks on Highway 83

and a small grass fire there, September was a quiet month and calls were down a little bit.

- Some training exercises took place with neighboring partners.
- The remaining driver operator open position will be filled mid-November with one of the three firefighter/EMT volunteers that were sworn in at the beginning of the meeting.
- The Station 1 roof repairs will be made by Summit View Roofing for \$26,000 after all the materials have been received. The cost of the roof repair is well below the estimated \$40,000 approved by the board and funded from the reserves in September. See [www.ocn.me/v21n10.htm#dwfcpd](http://www.ocn.me/v21n10.htm#dwfcpd).
- Live fire training with TLMFPD is scheduled for several days in November at the Air Force Academy, and the board is invited to

**LEARN ABOUT AN EXCITING OPPORTUNITY FOR EASTERN COLORADO**

Xcel Energy hosting public open houses to provide information and ask for input on Colorado's Power Pathway

Xcel Energy continues to make progress identifying potential locations for planned electric transmission lines and substations.

We've identified focus areas, smaller areas within each segment study area, where the transmission route and substation sites could be located. Please join us at one of our upcoming in-person public open houses to learn about our routing and siting progress and provide feedback. Project staff will be available to provide information about the potential locations for the proposed transmission lines and substations and answer questions about Colorado's Power Pathway. We want to hear from you about this important project and any issues we should consider in your area.

No formal presentation is planned, so please attend at any time during the open house. Meeting materials are available in our Library at [ColoradosPowerPathway.com](http://ColoradosPowerPathway.com) and an electronic comment form is available if you are unable to attend a public open house (click on 'Contact Us' on the website to access).

**ABOUT THE PROJECT**

Colorado's Power Pathway is a proposal to build 345-kilovolt transmission lines in eastern Colorado. We estimate the system will cross more than a dozen counties and include:

- Approximately 560-650 miles of new high-voltage transmission infrastructure
- Four new and four expanded substations
- If approved, construction could begin in 2023 and the first transmission segments could be in service in 2025, with other segments completed in 2026 and 2027

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Contact us at **855-858-9037** or [ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com](mailto:ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com) if you have questions or need assistance.

Si necesita asistencia o información en español, por favor contáctenos directamente al 855-858-9037 o [ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com](mailto:ColoradosPowerPathway@xcelenergy.com).

**OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE**

MONDAY, NOV. 1	TUESDAY, NOV. 2	WEDNESDAY, NOV. 3
<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>Platteville Community Center</b> 508 Reynolds Ave Platteville, CO 80651	<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>Fort Morgan Field House</b> Gym #3 1239 E. Kiowa Ave Fort Morgan, CO 80701	<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>Arapahoe County Fairgrounds Event Center</b> Exhibit Hall B 25690 East Quincy Ave Aurora, CO 80016
THURSDAY, NOV. 4	MONDAY, NOV. 8	TUESDAY, NOV. 9
<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>Elbert County Fairgrounds</b> Agricultural Building 95 Ute Ave Kiowa, CO 80117	<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>El Paso County Fairgrounds</b> Whittemore Building 366 10th St Calhan, CO 80808	<b>5:30-8:30 p.m.</b> <b>Ellicott Elementary School</b> 399 S. Ellicott Hwy Ellicott, CO 80808
WEDNESDAY, NOV. 10	THURSDAY, NOV. 11	
<b>3-7 p.m.</b> <b>Olde Towne Carriage House</b> 102 S Victoria Ave Pueblo, CO 81003	<b>9-11 a.m.</b> <b>The Heritage Center</b> Corner of 3rd and Main, Crowley, CO 810335	<b>5-7 p.m.</b> <b>Plains Theater</b> 1304 Maine St Eads, CO 81036

**Note about COVID-19:** Xcel Energy continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation in the region. If local, state or corporate guidance prevents in-person meetings or affects the number of attendees allowed at any one time these open houses may be rescheduled or moved to an online format. We may also adjust the format to manage these considerations. Please check [ColoradosPowerPathway.com](http://ColoradosPowerPathway.com) or call the project hotline at **855-858-9037** for up-to-date information.

