



Present Fire Board of Appeals Board Members (6):

David Hewett, Chair
Ron Honn, Vice Chair
Vince Colarelli
Mike Riggs
Jannic Ekornes
Laurie Olsen (attended virtually)

Industry Represented:

Small Business
Citizen At-Large
Building
Architecture
Fire Suppression
Insurance

Not Present (0):

Industry Represented:

Vacant Position (1):

Industry Represented:

-

Large Business

Present Fire Board of Appeals Secretary

Brett T. Lacy, Fire Marshal

Representing:

Colorado Springs Fire Department

Additional Attendee(s):

Connie Manning, Compliance Coordinator
Mellisa Wutzke, Administrative Assistant Senior
Sarah DaCosta, Administrative Assistant II

Representing:

Colorado Springs Fire Department
Colorado Springs Fire Department
Colorado Springs Fire Department

CALL TO ORDER

1. **Board Chair Hewett called the meeting to order at 8:32 A.M. and promptly conducted a roll call.**

ADMINISTRATIVE

1. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Board Member Colarelli motioned to approve the meeting minutes.
Board Member Ekornes seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

2. **Contractor Licensing**

A. Fire Alarm Contractor A

- i. Business Name: Vanguard Fire & Security Systems, Inc.
Applicant: Mark Matheis
RME: Mark Matheis

Fire Marshal Lacey stated applicant meets the requirements and recommended approval.

**Board Member Colarelli motioned to approve the application.
Board Member Riggs seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

B. Fire Alarm Contractor B

- i. Business Name: Diversified Electric & Controls, LLC.
Applicant: Joshua Donnelly
RME: Joshua Donnelly

Fire Marshal Lacey stated applicant meets the requirements and recommended approval.

**Board Member Colarelli motioned to approve the application.
Board Member Riggs seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

C. Fire Suppression Contractor A

- i. Business Name: Eddie B Fire Protection, LLC
Applicant: Richard Hartman
RME: Lana Pilbin

Fire Marshal Lacey stated applicant meets the requirements and recommended approval.

**Board Member Riggs motioned to approve the application.
Board Member Ekornes and Olson seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

BUSINESS

- 1. -0-

NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Discussion

Presenter: Fire Marshal Lacey, Fire Marshal, Colorado Springs Fire Department

City Finance forecasted a 13% increase in revenue for 2023. Year to date the city is at 1% point over last year. He is confident that we won't make the 13%. The city has placed a freeze on the budget, including onboarding unless it is a critical position. Fire Marshal Lacey wants the board aware of the constraints. The Colorado Springs Fire Department (CSFD) filled some positions with incumbents within the Division of the Fire Marshal (DFM) prior to the freeze. However, now the DFM has to wait three months to post those positions that the internal moves made. The workloads have subsided, but the DFM is still busy and doing all that can be done to provide customer service. If revenue picks up and the freeze is lifted, then the process of filling open positions can resume.

Board member Colarelli asked if fundraising has been considered.

Fire Marshal Lacey replied he wish that could be done.

Board Chair Hewett stated more construction is needed.

Fire Marshal Lacey confirmed this and stated the rain has slowed things down.

Board Member Colarelli asked about the fire alarm contractor requirements on the applications. The RME generally has to have some sort of NICET (National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies) certification depending on the classification. He is also aware that a registered P.E. (professional engineer) can fulfill the requirement. Does the CSFD consider the area of discipline of the P.E.? In other words, can a civil engineer qualify as the P.E. for a fire alarm company?

Mellisa Wutzke, Senior Administrative Assistant, introduced herself and stated no direction has been given from RBD (Regional Building Department) if a civil engineer is qualified for that. In her experience of processing applications, she has not seen anyone put in a P.E. qualification. Every applicant has a NICET certification.

Board Member Colarelli asked if the code speaks to that.

Senior Administrative Assistant Wutzke responded she will research this and get back to him.

Fire Marshal Lacey stated the (fire)code does state that the individual needs to be qualified to do any design work. It is not provided in the regional building code license piece. The CSFD does not see a lot of P.E.'s doing the RME function as they would have to be dedicated solely to that business. Under the state registration requirements, it is possible to have multiple disciplines as a P.E., but the state licensure expectation only allows one to do the duties within their expertise and knowledge. Fire Marshal Lacey stated as the person with the Authority Having Jurisdiction, he would not be opposed to a civil engineer doing electrical work as long as they understand electricity and can perform the duties proficiently. The CSFD does watch and if there is the inability to do quality design work, appropriate action will be taken including presenting to the Fire Board of Appeals.

Board Chair Hewett shared his personal knowledge concerning P.E.'s and stated this board has a diverse reputation and experience which is what is needed on this board.

ADJOURN

**Board Member Riggs motioned to adjourn.
Board Member Colarelli seconded the motion.
The motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by,


Brett T. Lacey
Fire Marshal and Secretary to Fire Board of Appeals

BTL/cm

