



SOUTHERN PARK COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Special Board of Directors' Meeting

2015.11.22 @ 4:00 pm

1) Introduction of Visitors

Bill Betz
Le Roy Brehm
Don Davis
John Garland

Rose Garland
Gary Guagenti– Provider
Catherine Johnson
Mark Johnson

Geri Salsig
Glenn Slanaker – tank installer

2) Attendees:

Board members present:

Ken Thomas - Chair
Flip Boettcher
Mike Parrish
Sandy Rucker – Treasurer
Steve Wilson
(Mike Brandt - Secretary to the Board)

Department members present

Chief Aaron Mandel
Scott Elmore
Don Rocksted

3) Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 04:01PM by Board Chair Ken Thomas.

4) Approval of Agenda:

Amended to include report of the HAMET review on Nov. 17 in Guffey. Mr. Thomas moved to approve the agenda as amended, second by Mr. Wilson; motion carried.

5) HAMET meeting review

Reimbursement in the case of an accident was discussed and a letter from Col. Hamilton was received. (see [attachment](#)). The discussion also addressed the concern regarding whether the exercises result in no fly zones that would preclude access by Flight for Life if needed. Col. Hamilton and CW5 Ham made it clear that there is not a no fly or exclusion zone during any exercises.

Chief Mandel asked that the Board allow him to respond to Lt. Col Hamilton with thanks for his email and note that the discussion addressed all the Board's concerns.

6) Propane farm and public discussion

Mr. Betz has proposed installation of an 18,000 gallon tank to allow distribution locally. This will be operated by Affordable Fuels.

The Board is interested in the safety procedures, records and training of personnel that will operate and deliver propane.

Gary Guagenti, President of Affordable Fuels, discussed the business model selected to supply fuels at a lower cost to the area. Mr. Guagenti has experience in distribution – he had a beer distributorship in Ohio before starting the fuels company in Elizabeth, CO.

How many drivers will be hired? One is on board now, and a second is on call. Will try to get a local driver to be able to make it easier to get a driver as needed. There is a candidate that is under consideration. At present there is one truck with 4-wheel drive and others with 2-wheel drive.

What kind of training is required for the driver? Driver must have a CDL and HazMat training. He is also required to obtain specific training for operation of a propane delivery truck. Drivers must be certified to be able to be employed and insured.

Tanks for customers can be sold to customers or leased from the company. The company can't fill tanks owned by another company as it's illegal. The supply truck can remove gas from another company's tank, set a new tank (leased or owned) and the gas can be moved to the new tank.

If there is a leaking tank, how will it be serviced if the owner or fire department smells gas? Depends on the situation – a minor leak vs. a major leak. If it is a major leak it will be serviced promptly, minor leaks are serviced as time permits.

If there is a wild fire, how does an underground tank react? Tanks can't get hot enough to cause venting because of the earth cover; if there is a leak the propane needs a specific fuel/air mixture (1:24) to burn.

The installation is planned to be an 18,000 gallon underground tank (which would hold approximately 14,000 gallons). Underground installation is both for protection and aesthetics. Underground tanks are epoxy coated to slow corrosion, then surrounded by 10-12 inches of pea gravel and buried 18 inches below grade. A soil test will be needed to establish water table level. The tank will have an above ground access tube that allows access to all valves and piping. There will be no small tank fills allowed at the tank – it will be solely for transfer to propane delivery trucks. Evergreen Station sells prefilled tanks (on exchange basis).

Gas is moved by a compressor (rated for propane) with a Nitrogen pump system rather than vacuum extracting or using propane gas pressure to extract gas from the storage tank. As there will be no power on site, a generator will be installed.

Trucks must be 3,499 gallons or less to stay within the insurance bonding system in the business plan. Today the company has a station with three 12,000 gallon above ground tanks in Elizabeth, CO off Highway 86 east of town.

Safety: tank is pressurized by the pump to move liquid out of the tank. There is a stanchion with a liquid ESO valve that will automatically trip in the instance of a driver leaving with the hose to the tank still attached. Typical loss in this instance with an automatically tripped valve is no more than 3 gal. Piping is all schedule 80, with a burst strength of 15,000 psi – propane generates less than 300 psi pressure.

In the instance of a driving accident with a delivery truck, the tank in the truck is equipped with internal valves in the tank that will isolate the tank and preclude loss. Trucks must pass an annual DOT inspection.

At present, price is \$1.36/gallon. Today they are locking in prices at \$1.69 without contract or pre-buy good through March. Remotes sensors are available in some areas to monitor usage and can be hooked in via cell, Wi-Fi or landline.

In the event of a fire, the propane company would be considered as non-included and would be subject to billing for services supplied by the Fire District. The Board may also propose an annual fee to cover added expenses to prepare for an accident. This is acceptable to Mr. Guagenti.

The approval process will be through the County Commissioners planning process and they will be looking for feedback on the Board. The installation is planned for level ground and access by

truck will be appropriately improved with slope, drainage and road-base to support both the delivery trucks and the truck used to fill the storage tank. Such improvement will also aid the fire department in accessing the property. The road has supported access by a 50-passenger bus in its present condition – improvement will make the property more accessible to semis delivering propane. Mr. Betz invited any one to the site to see the planned location.

Is an Environmental Impact Report needed? Not necessarily. There are requirements for contact by Homeland Security, planning permits, and approvals from zoning and planning.

The installation will have to be inspected by the state oil inspection and meet all requirements including 6' high fencing with 2 exits, no adjoining occupied structure, and control of vegetation. Most bulk tanks are above ground and are accepted by surrounding communities. Above ground tanks are susceptible to accidents or damage from gunfire. Burying the tank will improve safety.

Going to the county with a plan site map showing the tank, maps of road improvements, traffic flow and required controls will improve the process. The planning commission will review the plan and await responses before taking the plan to the county commissioners.

Linda, a current user, has received good service from the start of the tank installation through use and refuel. No delivery fees are assessed and service has been good.

7) Adjourn meeting:

Meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m. by Chairman Thomas.

Attachment 1 - letter from Lt. Col Hamilton to Chief Mandel

From: **Hamilton, Joel D COL USARMY USAG (US)** <joel.d.hamilton.mil@mail.mil>
Date: Fri, Nov 20, 2015 at 8:06 AM
Subject: Ft. Carson HAMET HLZ Meeting Follow-up
To: "hametshares@gmail.com" <hametshares@gmail.com>
Cc: "wildfire@guffeyfire.net" <wildfire@guffeyfire.net>, "McNutt, Doraine K CIV USARMY USAG (US)" <doraine.k.mcnutt.civ@mail.mil>

Mr. Mandel and Residents of Guffey,

Thanks so much for attending the meeting with us this week. The coordination and communication is invaluable to Fort Carson and your hospitality is greatly appreciated. We wanted to follow up with an answer to the question of reimbursement for emergency services. The Army and Fort Carson would consider any requests for reimbursement on a case-by-case basis, if and when Guffey authorities incur expenses while carrying out temporary emergency measures in support of an unlikely event of a downed Army helicopter.

In order to receive reimbursement, local authorities would put a claim in through our legal office and the public affairs office would assist in that coordination. The current public affairs office contact information discussed at the November 17th meeting would be sufficient for that coordination.

Regards,
Colonel Hamilton

COL Joel D. Hamilton
Ft. Carson Garrison CDR
Off: [\(719\) 526-5600](tel:7195265600)
BB: [\(719\) 338-6371](tel:7193386371)