

PRESS RELEASE SPCFPD NEW ACTING FIRE CHIEF AND BOARD MEMBER

On 01/02/14 the Southern Park County Fire Protection District (SPCFPD) Board of Directors appointed our current Captain/Wildland Coordinator/Training Officer Aaron Mandel to the position of Acting Fire Chief, replacing former Fire Chief Mike Simpson. Aaron is a long-time Guffey resident, with over 10 years with our department and has experience with The Nature Conservancy performing fire management in several states, including Missouri, Minnesota and Michigan where he qualified as a Type 3 Prescribed Fire Boss. For two seasons, Aaron worked with the Federal Forest Service located in Fairplay. His qualifications include:

- Colorado FF 2 with Haz-Mat Operations;
- Federally-qualified Engine Boss, Incident Commander and Wildland Instructor;
- Colorado EMT-B with IV, Advanced Airway.

During this same meeting our former Fire Chief, Gene Stanley, was appointed to the vacant board of directors position and his experience, knowledge and expertise will be a great asset to our board at this time.

The SPCFPD Board of Directors has these upcoming scheduled meetings:

Thursday, January 9th, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. at Station #1 in Guffey with the purpose of: clarifying the duties of the Acting Fire Chief, discussing and reviewing the employee position and job descriptions of the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief and Wildland Coordinator and creating a New Fire Chief Search Committee.

Thursday January 16th, 2014 @ 8:00 a.m. at Station #1 in Guffey for the board to meet and have open discussion with the Acting Chief and at 9:00 a.m. we will be meeting with our neighboring districts: South Park Ambulance District, Ute Pass Regional Ambulance District and Cripple Creek Ambulance District to discuss and improve our Inter-agency agreements.

This year we are excited to host several community based preventive trainings. Our Physician and Paramedic Advisors will present preventative medicine education programs that will include themes specific to living in our remote high altitude environment. Also we will have Fire Mitigation and prevention training for the home owner associations and residents of our district at our three fire houses.

Amy Mason, Board Chair