

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, August 3, 2009
County Courthouse
Rawlins, Wyoming**

A special meeting of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners commenced Monday, August 3, 2009 at the County Courthouse in Rawlins, Wyoming to discuss extrication and fire protection. Attending the meeting were Chairman Terry Weickum; Vice Chairman Jerry Paxton; County Attorney Cindy DeLancey; and County Clerk Gwynn Bartlett. Commissioner Charles C. Young joined the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Present from the Carbon County Fire Department were: Fire Warden Dwight France; Deputy County Fire Warden Brian Hightree; and Larry Trapp.

Present from the City of Rawlins were: City Manager Steven Golnar, Mayor Ken Klouda, Fire Chief Scott Hannum; Blake Ecker; and Chad Brisk.

Chairman Weickum called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and stated the purpose of the meeting is to review the Mutual Aid Agreement Between the City of Rawlins and Carbon County pertaining to fire suppression and extrication.

Chairman Weickum questioned anyone present if they feel the Mutual Aid Agreement should remain in place. Chairman Weickum presented a letter from Brian Hightree to the City of Rawlins regarding stickers on a Source Gas truck that the County Fire Department found to be offensive. Chairman Weickum stated that he has received responses and apologies from City Manager Steve Golnar and Chad Anderson of the Rawlins Fire Department about the stickers.

Commissioner Paxton stated that his mission is to cooperatively provide the best services possible and if the relationship is beyond repair then other options need to be investigated.

There was further discussion of the decal incident along with an apology from the City to the County about the incident.

Chairman Weickum asked why the Mutual Aid Agreement should be continued. Mr. Golnar stated there is an incentive for City volunteers to engage their skills after training in extrication and that it also benefits the County to have cross trained personnel to assist each other.

Chairman Weickum asked why the County was not involved in City fireworks and Mr. Hannum replied that additional assistance was not needed.

There was discussion of the relationship between the two departments and Mr. France stated that if it does not improve, he feels the Mutual Aid Agreement should be terminated.

Dr. Young joined the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

There was further discussion of the strained relationship between the entities. Commissioner Paxton asked if the County were to completely take over extrication if there would be any reduction in the quality of service and Mr. France assured that the County could take over without any problem.

Mayor Klouda stated the City desires to participate and cooperate and if the County wishes to end the Agreement, the City still would cooperate however he feels ending the agreement will further strain the relationship. Mr. Golnar added that the decal incident was not sanctioned and would not further be tolerated in the future and the City does desire to cooperate and he feels the Agreement should continue.

Mr. Hannum stated he would like to be invited to the fire chiefs meetings held periodically as he feels this could improve relations. Mr. Klouda agreed that he agrees that the relationship repair should begin at the Fire Chief level. The BOCC asked Mr. France to meet with Mr. Hannum to

try to identify the source of the issue and a strategy to repair the relationship and report back at a future meeting.

Mr. Klouda stated that he and Mr. Golnar will write to all the City firemen regarding the expectations of them.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Weickum adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

-s- Gwynn G. Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

Approved this 18th day of August 2009.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

-s- Terry Weickum, Chairman