



REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION
MAY 8, 2023

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Pursuant to notice, the regular board meeting of the De Beque Fire Protection District was called to order by President Annette Tanner at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, May 8, 2023.

OPEN WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM:

Cynthia Farris, absent (excused); Melanie Hansen, present; Dustin Koehler, present; Maria Ramthun, present; Annette Tanner, present; A quorum was present and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed.

OTHERS PRESENT: Forest Matis, De Beque District Fire Chief; Secretary Kim Latham.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

- 1) No additions or deletions.
- 2) **Motion was made** by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Koehler to approve the agenda as presented. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

SWEARING IN OF ELECTED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 1) Board of Director elect Dustin Koehler was sworn in to fulfill a four-year term of Board of Director for the DFPD. Director Koehler will serve from May 2023 to the next BOD election in May of 2027.
- 2) Board of Director Cynthia Farris was absent due to a family emergency and will be sworn in at the next Board meeting.

APPROVAL ITEMS:

- 1) Minutes from the April 11, 2023 Regular Board Meeting. **Motion was made** by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board President Tanner to approve the April 11, 2023 regular board meeting minutes as presented. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, abstain; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 2) Minutes from the May 2, 2023 Emergency Board meeting. **Motion was made** by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Vice-President Ramthun to approve the May 2, 2023 emergency board meeting minutes as presented. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, abstain; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 3) Financial Reports:
 - a. Financial Statements for March 2023 were presented to the Board. **Motion was made** by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Koehler to approve the Financial Statements for March 2023. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
 - b. Insurance Adjustments/Writes Offs for March 2023 were presented to the Board. Discussion ensued regarding the Medicare/Medicaid payment policies and why write-downs are so high for those patients. **Motion was made** by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Vice-President Ramthun to approve write downs in the amount of \$11,917.83 and write offs



in the amount of \$0.00 for March, 2023 . **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Policy Software Update (SDA/Navex). Discussion ensued regarding research into an SDA backed company for policy software management per request of the Board. SDA does not currently provide that service. Navex has sent a reasonable proposal for this service that would include the initial set up of our account and then a yearly maintenance/user fee. The program would make it much easier to have a central place for policies that would track updates, a place for all employees/board members to sign on and find current polices, as well as a system to track employee confirmations and time dating of receiving the policies. Discussion ensued regarding how the DFPD would benefit from this proposal. **Motion was made** by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Koehler to purchase the Navex Policy Management Software contract. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 2) Kitchenette Update. The appliances have been delivered for the kitchenette. We're moving forward on the cabinet construction.
- 3) Station Heating System Update. The station heating/cooling system is scheduled to be repaired on May 10th. We also have swamp cooler repairs scheduled.
- 4) Station Water Heater Update. The station water heater repair is scheduled for May 15th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Ladder Truck. The ladder truck joystick is not working (it was replaced last year and is still under warranty) and will need to be repaired. The company has been contacted about this.
- 2) Ambulance 81. Ambulance 81 is out of service indefinitely due to a turbo failure. The turbo is under backorder and is under 100% warranty. We have borrowed an ambulance from PV again.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

- 1) Engine 82 is on the board for fire assignments.
- 2) The wheels on Brush 82 will need to be replaced. It is not out of service, but we're looking for wheels.
- 3) The Starlink internet/networking compatibility is slowly being worked out. There has been some posturing between the two companies (the company who set up our network but doesn't want to now work on it without a year-to-year contract and the company who is willing to work on it but needs info from the company who set it up).
- 4) Ground cleanup and work is in progress.
- 5) Fire training has been ongoing. We have been doing live fire training with the trailer that is on site.
- 6) There has been some concern over the HB bill that has been introduced to congress. (Tabor reserves will be confiscated by the government and will hurt our tax base). SDA is fighting this on behalf of the small districts.
- 7) There have been issues with some mutual aid responsibilities. Mesa County would like to move to private ambulance services for all entities. Chief Matis informed Mesa County that we would not be amiable to that solution.
- 8) The Garfield County Fire Chief meeting was hosted here this month.
- 9) Roan Creek is high; we are working on flooding protocol/assessments. We have sandbags available for Garfield County residents to pick up as needed.


BOARD COMMENTS: None



ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Secretary Hansen to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, absent; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2023

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on June 13, 2023


Annette Tanner, President




Melanie Hansen, Secretary