



REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION
NOVEMBER 8, 2022

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

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 Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

OPEN WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM:

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Lowell Ramthun; Forest Matis, De Beque District Fire Chief; Lieutenant Jason Lee via zoom; Employee Jesse Hughson; Secretary Kim Latham.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

- 1) Motion was made by Board Vice President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Farris to approve the Agenda for the November 8, 2022 Board Meeting. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2023 BUDGET

- 1) Presentation of a proposed 2023 budget was presented to the DFPD Board of Directors for consideration
- 2) Discussion regarding the 2023 Budget proposal
- 3) Public Comments
- 4) Close Public Hearing
- 5) Resume regular Board Meeting

APPROVAL ITEMS:

- 1) Minutes from the October 11, 2022 Regular Board Meeting were presented to the board. Motion was made by Board Vice President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Farris to approve the Minutes for the October 11, 2022 Board Meeting. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 2) Financial Reports. Financial Reports and Expenditures for September, 2022 were presented to the Board. Motion was made by Board Member Farris and seconded by Board Vice President Ramthun to approve the Financial Reports and Expenditures for September 2022. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 3) Insurance Adjustments/Writes Offs for October 2022 were presented to the Board. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Vice President Ramthun to approve write downs in the amount of \$11,796.26 and write offs in the amount of \$0.00 for September 2022. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.
- 4) Insurance Write Offs for November 2021 in the amount of \$8,296.60 were presented to the Board due to non-information from the EMS billing company that need to be written off this year since the 2021 audit has been completed. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board



Member Farris to approve write offs in the amount of \$8,296.60 for November 2021 to be added to this year's write off expense. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

- 5) Approval of the 2023 Budget. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Vice President Ramthun to approve the 2023 Budget with the changes as presented earlier this evening (during the 2023 Budget Public Hearing). **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Web Page Update. The web page now has the ability to accept donations and to schedule and accept payments for training services. First Aid class templates are set up, and Jason will begin the process of setting up Wildland Training classes.
- 2) Fire Truck Purchase Update. Already discussed during budget discussion. No immediate plans, just beginning the process of the next step in upgrading our apparatus.
- 3) Kitchenette Update. No updates for now, probably will push that to 2023.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) No new business

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

- 1) Mesa County Chief's Association
 - a. Some repairs are needed on the Delaney Cancer Awareness truck.
 - b. We might bump meetings to every other month.
 - c. We are working on collaboration efforts with surrounding districts on how to coordinate fire mitigation projects. One mitigation project might be off of 44 Road behind the town (of De Beque) in the creek bottom, which is a lot of private/Chevron owned property.
- 2) Fire Truck – already discussed
- 3) Call outs are still up after a lull at the beginning of October
- 4) New ambulance purchase communication has been on-going. We should be able to finalize specs soon and then go for a pre-inspection and get the ambulance build rolling. We will need to fly two people up to Washington to drive the ambulance back when it is ready. The company really likes our build and would like to demo the ambulance, but he has been told that we are not interested in putting those miles on our new ambulance.
- 5) Budget/Salary schedule discussed during Budget Public Hearing
- 6) Christmas party is tentatively set for December 3rd, or 4th. Chief Matis will check for any conflicts and select a date.
- 7) Crew Updates
 - a. Lieutenant Lee
 - i. Reported on Q&A reporting.
 - ii. Reported on plans to set classes for Urban Wildland (Firefighter I), Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting, and S131. The state resource mobilization coordinator has asked Lieutenant Lee (as the only qualified task force/strike force engine leader in Mesa County) to help set up a mobilization emergency team for state and private wildland mobilization. The state would like to bring a mobile life fire unit to set on our property in May to conduct classes. They will give us some training seats in exchange for the storing of the unit on our property.
 - iii. The state got a grant for a fire training facility. We have expressed interest in having the facility on our property, which would enable us to have three or four structural training drills.
 - iv. Crew updates – Lieutenant Lee catching up on things since being back from fire assignment, but reports the crew is doing well and the cohesion of the crews are tight and awesome.



- b. Lieutenant Hughson
 - i. Agreed with Lieutenant Lee on the cohesion among the crews.
 - ii. Team member Kyle George got a good report from his recent training efforts.
 - iii. Lieutenant Hughson and Secretary Latham been working on the web page.

BOARD COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Board Member Farris and seconded by Board Vice President Ramthun to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, absent; Dustin Koehler, absent; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Next regular meeting: December 13, 2022

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on December 13, 2022



Annette Tanner, President





Melanie Hansen, Secretary