

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION
JUNE 8, 2026

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Pursuant to notice, the regular board meeting of the De Beque Fire Protection District (DFPD) was called to order by Board President Tanner at 6:04 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2026.

OPEN WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM:

Cynthia Farris, Present; Dustin Koehler, Present; John “Dick” Latham, Present; Rebecca “Maria” Ramthun, Present; Michael 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; Finance/Office Manager Kim Latham.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

No Additions or deletions to the Agenda were made. Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

MINUTES:

Minutes were presented to the BOD for consideration for the regular board meeting of May 11, 2026. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for May 11, 2026 as presented. Motion passed.

FINANCE REPORTS

Financial Reports were presented to the BOD for January – April 2026. Motion was made and seconded to approve the finance reports for January – April 2026 as presented. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Non-Agenda Items)

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) OB - None

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) NB - None

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

- 1) Rope Rescue refresher is complete. Blake Heym was coordinator for the class.
- 2) New hire (seasonal) orientation is complete.
- 3) SAWS class is complete and went very well. A community member went on Facebook to complain about trees that had been cut and submitted photos with the stumps standing up as part of the complaint. Chief Matis informed the BOD that the Fire District cut the trees as part of the

SAWS training and reported that it was unusual for the tree stumps to be standing after the training was complete, so he sent a team to investigate. The team discovered that someone had gone to the site and set the stumps back up, but the stumps had been flush cut and cleaned up as they were supposed to be prior to the complaint.

- 4) There have been calls regarding a truck crash on De Beque Hill, which is an older accident that has not been mitigated to date; however, the District still has to check out every call that comes in.
- 5) The District annual refresher courses are being completed.
- 6) The District has submitted pay wages to the State for fire assignments. Once those are approved the District can begin billing for this year's assignments.
- 7) The seasonal new hire employees are working out really well.
- 8) The District is working on the State and County ambulance renewal packets with annual ambulance inspections needed.
- 9) Active 911 subscription has been updated.
- 10) Chief Matis has the application prepared for SAMS.
- 11) Mesa County Fire Chief's Association meeting has completed. Chief Matis has received Mesa County Hazard Mitigation plans have been received and will be ready for approval at the next BOD meeting.
- 12) Captain Quigley has completed his Fire Office II training and will be testing for Fire Officer II next.
- 13) Mesa County Wildland Resiliency and MOU have been signed. Garfield County has yet to send that to us for signature.
- 14) The District ordered three extra Starlink (Roam) devices. The District activated the Wildland Deployment for assignment in North Dakota, which was a huge help for connectivity at that assignment. The District can be reimbursed for this cost. The District activated the three new devices for local apparatus which has been very useful when on calls that are in non-cell friendly areas.
- 15) Engine 81 keeps throwing a check engine light, so it will be taken down for diagnostic assessment.
- 16) EMS is being transferred to the new company, there are a few issues, but the new company is working to get things ironed out.
- 17) The District is moving people in and out with the California assignment. The District will have a busy month coming up.

OTHER COMMENTS: None

BOARD COMMENTS:

- 1) Board President asked where the District is with our Policy. It is still with the attorney's office waiting on their review. The District is next in line, but it could be a while yet.
- 2) Board Member Latham asked where the team is stationed on assignment – Currently the team is stationed in Quincy, California, which is an hour and a half NW of Reno.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Next regular meeting: Monday, July 13, 2026.

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on Month Day, Year.

Michael Tanner, President

Maria (Rebecca) Ramthun, Secretary

Board of Directors:

Board President Michael Tanner

Board Vice-President Dustin Koehler

Board Secretary Maria (Rebecca) Ramthun

Board Member Cynthia Farris

Board Member Dick (John R) Latham

It is noted that Board Member Cynthia Farris is also on the Board of Directors for the Town of De Beque. It is noted that the dual Board positions might be considered a conflict of interest in the event of interaction between the De Beque Fire Protection District and the Town of De Beque.

This is an informational document designed to be accessible on our web site. Please contact the District office if you desire a copy of the signed document.

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