



REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION  
Tuesday, October 10, 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 Tanner at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, October 10, 2023

**OPEN WITH PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO FLAG:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM:**

Cynthia Farris	Present
Melanie Hansen	Present
Dustin Koehler	Absent
Maria Ramthun	Present
Annette Tanner	Present

**OTHER PRESENT:** None

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Under NEW BUSINESS add 3) Discussion regarding possible change of BOD meeting night.

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended.**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Member	Cynthia Farris
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**



**APPROVAL ITEMS:**

- 1) **Minutes** were presented to the BOD for consideration for: **September 12, 2023**

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented.**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board President	Annette Tanner
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**

- 2) **Financial Reports** were presented to the BOD for: **September-2023**

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial reports as presented.**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board President	Annette Tanner
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**

- 3) **Insurance Adjustments** were presented to the BOD for: **September-2023**

Insurance Adjustment Amount - Write Down	\$4,234.90	Total Amount	\$6,169.90
Insurance Adjustment Amount - Write Off	\$1,935.00		

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the insurance adjustment write down and write off amounts as presented:**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board Member	Cynthia Farris
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**



**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1) **Hiring Update:**

Chief Matis updated the BOD on the status for the current full-time opening at DFPD. Per DFPD policy hiring practices, the position has been opened up in-house as a first option, and there are three very capable part-time employees who have applied for the full-time position. The process has begun, and interviews are being scheduled with each applicant. This will open up a part-time position at DFPD, which will be filled with DFPD policy protocol.

2) **Heating/AC Update:**

The heating/ac unit has been down since last December. Chief Matis was assured by Trane, the company responsible for the repairs, that said repairs would be completed by the end of September. The repairs have not been completed, and the responsible company is not answering calls or emails from the Chief at this point. The office staff are gathering data for our attorney, who will contact the company in our behalf.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1) **Proposition HH Costs to DFPD:**

Discussion ensued regarding what kind of financial effect Proposition HH could/will have on our district. Estimates received from Garfield County show a negative effect of close to \$400,000 in loss of revenues if Proposition HH succeeds in the November election. Our budget will have to be adjusted to reflect that, along with an additional amount of TABOR reserves that will have to be submitted to the State, making the negative amount effect closer to \$500,000.

2) Resolution 2023-15 - Opposition to Proposition HH:

**Motion was made and seconded to sign Resolution 2023-15 Opposition to Proposition HH.**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board President	Annette Tanner
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**



3) **Meeting Night Change Discussion:**

Discussion ensued regarding a possible need to change the BOD meetings to another night due to conflicts with the De Beque School District athletic program schedules. It was decided to move November's BOD meeting to Monday, November 13, 2023 and December's BOD meeting to Monday, December 11, 2023.

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

- 1) The DFPD is working on the Community Fire Center fire clearance.
- 2) QA meetings have been going well; we are in good standing there.
- 3) Fire billing continues to be a process of going back and forth on explaining charges.
- 4) Tyler S. is continuing his paramedic internship at Delta. He will soon complete the internship and will be a full-fledged paramedic.
- 5) We have an additional Engine Crew Boss due to completion of his task book.
- 6) Captain Lee has qualified as a Task Force Leader.
- 7) We are looking at adding some jet boils to the trucks for heating food when out on assignment.
- 8) We purchased three small laptops for the Lieutenants and Captain.
- 9) We responded to two mutual aid fires within the last few days: One at Plateau Valley and one at Parachute. Chief Matis ended up responding to the Parachute fire and backfilled the station with other team members. A structure was lost at the Parachute fire and there were some close calls on losing some fire fighters. One Parachute vehicle was left behind to burn because it was not feasible to get it out before the fire engulfed them. The truck did not burn, but it suffered some melting damage. A BLM truck also suffered some melting damage. Chief Matis and Lieutenant Hughson went back to initiate a rescue of two civilians spotted on their roof. Lieutenant Hughson did receive an injury to his eye, so a First Report of Injury was submitted to Worker's Comp. Reviews on the fire and on the fire protocol during the fire are in the works and all fire fighters are being monitored for after affects.
- 10) After elections, Chief Matis will look into possibly adding an Assistant Fire Chief position sometime next year, which will be very helpful with fire deployments and when Chief Matis is off duty. This could very easily be a dual role with another current team member.
- 11) There has been some talk about a possible future merger/consolidation request with the Plateau Valley Fire District. Chief Matis asked the BOD to give him direction on whether or not the BOD would be willing to meet with the PVFD BOD to discuss the possibility should a request be made. The BOD decided to put this topic on hold until after the elections.
- 12) Crew Updates: Crew leaders were unavailable for Crew Update reports due to a fire call.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

- 1) Did the pins come in for the pinning ceremony? Yes, Chief Matis will get the pinning ceremony scheduled for the next Board of Directors Meeting
- 2) Thanks to Chief Matis for all he does for the DFPD.



**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

<b>Motion By:</b>	Board President	Annette Tanner
<b>Seconded By:</b>	Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
<b>Vote:</b>	Cynthia Farris	Aye
	Melanie Hansen	Aye
	Dustin Koehler	Absent
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye
	Meeting adjourned at:	7:45 p.m.

**Motion Passed.**

Next regular meeting: **CHANGED TO:** Monday, November 13, 2023

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on: **November 13, 2023**

  
Annette Tanner, President



  
Melanie Hansen, Secretary

Board of Directors:

Board President	Annette Tanner
Board Vice President	Maria Ramthun
Board Secretary	Melanie Hansen
Board Member	Cynthia Farris
Board Member	Dustin Koehler