



REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION  
Monday, February 12, 2024

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 6:01 PM on Monday, February 12, 2024

**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	Present
Maria Ramthun	Present
Annette Tanner	Present

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Forest Matis, De Beque District Fire Chief  
Lieutenant Jesse Hughson  
Secretary Kim Latham

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

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

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

**Motion Passed.**



## MINUTES/FINANCE APPROVAL ITEMS

- 1) **Minutes** were presented to the BOD for consideration for: **January 8, 2024**

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

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

**Motion Passed.**

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

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

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

**Motion Passed.**

- 3) **Insurance Write-Down/Write Off Adjustments**

**Insurance Adjustments** were presented to the BOD for: **December-2023**

Insurance Adjustment Amount - Write-Down **\$16,192.64**      Total Amount    **\$19,965.04**

Insurance Adjustment Amount - Write-Off    **\$3,772.40**

**Motion was made and seconded to approve the insurance adjustment write-down and write-off amounts 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	Aye
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**



4) **Transfer of Funds to Regular Checking**

Discussion ensued regarding the need to transfer funds from the ColoTrust account to the main Alpine checking account for January expenses. We are still waiting for payments from Colorado for last summer's deployment. Tax income should start coming in February.

**Motion was made and seconded to have Secretary Latham transfer \$100,000 from ColoTrust to the Alpine Bank main checking account.**

<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	Aye
	Maria Ramthun	Aye
	Annette Tanner	Aye

**Motion Passed.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1) **Trane Heater/AC Update**

Chief Matis gave an update on the Trane Heater/AC situation at the station. Trane has responded to the demand letter sent to them by our attorney by sending a group of representatives to the station that included an engineer, the regional parts manager, a regional director, and a tech agent. The Trane crew assessed the station and the non-functioning system. They would like to have us up and running within a month and will provide a plan with information on how to get the system running, along with the amount that it will cost the district. The unit is under warranty, but for parts only. We would still have to pay labor charges. Chief Matis will forward any submittals to our attorney for their input. Grimes Service also came up and assessed our system and will provide an estimate based on their recommendations as the best way to move forward.

2) **Ladder Truck Update**

The Ladder Truck has finally been repaired and is back in service. Chief Matis will now contact the Meeker Fire Department to see if they are still interested in purchasing it.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1) **None**

**FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

- 1) Fire billing (deployment) is still in progress. We have received three of eight payments.
- 2) The regional Fire Chief's meeting was good. Discussions included training, medical sharing costs (we won't participate in that program at this time), mutual public education, social posting, PR/Advertising.



- 3) We're still on track for getting our new ambulance in May.
- 4) We signed the contract for the new engine purchase.
- 5) Mesa County Chiefs' meeting was pretty quiet. One agency wanted to steal Jason Lee from us to run their Wildland Fire Assignment program, but to no avail.
- 6) We're having a few issues with protocol training that we're working on.
- 8) Trevor is going into Fire Academy.
- 9) We have an interest in our Jr. Firefighting program and another request about the possibility of a volunteer firefighter program (which we do not have in place right now). We would need to do some work on a volunteer policy with guidelines if we were interested in implementing a volunteer program, but we really have no need for a volunteer program at this time.
- 10) The lack of winter storms has resulted in a lower call volume average.
- 11) Captain Lee and Chief Matis attended some great HR officer training. Nate and Triston attended Fire Office I training. Nate is currently on the Eastern Slope attending an inspector training. We are planning to teach an S200 class, either here or at Grand Valley, maybe both.
- 12) Crew Updates:
  - a. Captain Lee reported that we're in training season. The training officer's group is making a few recommendations on changes that will make the group more effective. Captain Lee has been nominated as president of the group and would like to model some training along the lines of the Three-River training consortium. There is a lot of talk about how to respond to EV fire calls, which are very challenging due to the nature of dealing with electrical fires that don't respond well to water firefighting protocol.
  - b. Captain Lee is now involved as an instructor with the fire academy where Trevor is training.
  - c. The Upper Colorado River Wildfire Collaborative is working on mitigation and risk mapping. There is some concern on how the mapping might affect insurance costs, but the driving forces behind the group want the mapping completed.
  - d. RT 130 classes are being developed and we would like to include our new Engine Bosses on the roster as assistant instructors. Late April is the target date for hosting these classes.
  - e. We are hosting some state testing here in March. We're becoming one of the go to spots for state testing.
- 13) We did have a big structure fire in our district. Our fire team did an amazing job in their response for the call, with an impressive time response up the creek on very icy roads. We also had a great response from our neighboring fire districts that allowed a nice rotation of fire apparatus to get water to the site.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS:**

- 1) Thank you to the firefighting crews



**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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

**Motion Passed.** Meeting adjourned at: **7:29 p.m.**

Next regular meeting: **Monday, March 11, 2024**

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on: **3/11/2024**

 <hr/> Annette Tanner, President		 <hr/> Melanie Hansen, Secretary
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Board of Directors:

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