

SPECIAL MEETING  
RESOLUTION FOR ELECTION  
MILL LEVY INCREASE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION  
MARCH 2, 2022

MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Pursuant to notice, the special board meeting of the De Beque Fire Protection District was called to order by President Annette Tanner at 6:01 PM on Wednesday, March 2, 2022.

**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; A quorum was present and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed.

Others present: Forest Matis, De Beque District Fire Chief; Lieutenant Jesse Hughson; Lieutenant Jason Lee via zoom; Lieutenant Nate Voorhees via zoom; Employee Triston Quigley; Secretary Kim Latham.

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

- 1) None

**APPROVAL ITEMS:**

- 1) Mill Levy Increase Resolution.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Mill Levy Increase Resolution. The purpose of the Special Board Meeting is to vote on the ballot language for the mill levy ballot increase. This language needs approval by Thursday, March 3, 2022. Our election attorney provided two options for the ballot language for the Board's consideration:
  - a. **A general ballot language proposal to approve a mill-levy increase from four-mills to eight-mills to address the funding issue at hand. (highlighted to show this was chosen)**
  - b. A general ballot language proposal to approve a mill-levy increase from four-mills to eight-mills to address the funding issues at hand, along with de-Brucing language to eliminate the monetary funding caps that are currently legally in place under TABOR laws.

Chief Matis recommended that we go with option #1 and not include the de-Brucing language. President Tanner read a clarifying article that explained what de-Brucing means.

“De-Brucing is the act of eliminating the revenue cap at a governmental level to allow a government to retain and spend all of the revenue it collects. The revenue cap is part of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) and works together with other provisions to reduce the state's ability to raise revenue and invest in Colorado and its families. The revenue cap has been a topic of debate since the inception of TABOR in 1992. This is largely due to the negative effect it has on the public investment in Colorado, particularly during economic downturns. Achieved through voter approved ballot measures, eliminating the revenue cap, or de-Brucing, named as such because of TABOR's

hiring stays within the budget. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

- 1) Vice President Ramthun has been asked by community members if the DFPD gets any compensation from the federal government when we go on calls on the Interstate. The answer is no. Our district is a Title 32 district. We have a duty to act in our district, so we must go on calls, but we do not receive federal compensation for those calls. Ambulance calls can be billed to the person needing transport, but if they refuse transport, we do not charge for responding to the call. Ambulance calls are also subject to insurance/Medicare/Medicaid payment procedures, often significantly reducing the amount we receive for a transport call. We do not charge for district fire calls. The only way we get paid for fire calls is if we go on a deployment to a federal fire and receive a contract to provide services for (specific) federal fires.

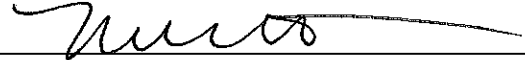
**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made by Secretary Hansen and seconded by Board Member Farris to adjourn the meeting. **Vote:** Cynthia Farris, aye; Melanie Hansen, aye; Dustin Koehler, aye; Maria Ramthun, aye; Annette Tanner, aye. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

**Next regular meeting: March 8, 2022**

**Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on March 8, 2022.**



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Annette Tanner, President



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Melanie Hansen, Secretary

