



REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION
MARCH 10, 2025

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Pursuant to notice, the regular board meeting of the De Beque Fire Protection District (the District) was called to order by Board President Tanner at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2025.

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. 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 Nate Voorhees (via phone); Secretary Kim Latham.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

No Additions or deletions to the Agenda were made. Motion was made by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board President Tanner to approve the agenda as presented. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

MINUTES:

Minutes were presented to the BOD for consideration for the regular board meeting of February 10, 2025. Motion was made by Board Secretary Hansen and seconded by Board Member Farris to approve the minutes for February 10, 2025 as presented. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

FINANCE REPORTS

Financial Reports were presented to the BOD for January 2025. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Member Farris to approve the finance reports for January 2025 as presented. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

Insurance Write-Downs/Write Offs in the amount of \$17,306.76 for January 2025 were presented to the board due to some write-offs on old accounts that are not deemed recoverable. Motion was made by Board Vice-President Ramthun and seconded by Board Secretary Hansen to approve the insurance adjustment write-down/write-offs in the amount of \$17,306.76 for January 2025. Vote: Cynthia Farris,



Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye.
Motion Passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Election Update. DFPD had three self-nomination submissions for three positions for the DFPD BOD, and no write in candidates were submitted. The election will be cancelled, and the three candidates will assume the open BOD positions.
- 2) HVAC Bids Update. The system is working right now. The bids for a new gas-type system were tabled for now.
- 3) Type 6 Engine Purchase. A Type 6 engine is available for purchase for \$288,000 plus costs to outfit the engine. Purchasing now will mean DFPD will have the engine for the upcoming 2025 wildland deployments. The District has a capital expense apparatus replacement fund that was established for these kinds of purchases. Discussion ensued. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Secretary Hansen to approve up to \$300,000 for the purchase of the Type 6 engine and costs to outfit the engine. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.
- 4) Apparatus Repair Updates.
 - a. Ladder Truck. The technician from Germany is scheduled to come repair the Ladder Truck, with an estimated repair completion date in the next two-three weeks. DFPD will have the ladder truck delivered back to the station upon completion of the repairs, then will take it up to Meeker, who is still interested in purchasing the ladder truck. It was noted that the sale of the ladder truck will offset a portion of the Type 6 Engine purchase.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) Starlink Mobile for Wildland Fire Deployments. There have been multiple issues with connectivity with the fire fighters sent on deployments. Starlink has a mobile service that is available for portable service. The cost is \$520 to purchase the equipment (one time charge) and then approximately \$165/month for the service, which can be turned on and off as needed and can be cancelled at any time. The BOD agreed that this would be a good move for the deployed fire fighters and also noted that no vote is needed as this purchase is under the allowable purchase limit for the Fire Chief.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

- 1) Chief Matis
 - a. Training is ongoing. We welcome Jonathan Bader and Zackary Nehm to our district as the new part-time team members.
 - b. Fire Billing. The Chief continues to work on the fire billing.
 - c. Paramedic Refresher. DFPD held a paramedic refresher that was successful.
 - d. Staff Meeting. We had a good staff meeting with lots of input.
 - e. Member Handbook. We continue to work on this project.
 - f. Garfield County Regional Chiefs' Meeting will be held next week.
 - g. Mesa County Chiefs' Meeting will be held next week.



- h. BLM Truck Update. The Chief does not believe we will receive the BLM Type 6 engine.
- i. HVAC Update. Already addressed.
- j. Irrigation System. The irrigation system was turned on early this year, which adjusted our plans to take care of the leaks and replace the head gate. We will monitor and take action when the irrigation gets shut off.
- k. Ladder 81. Already covered.

CREW UPDATES:

- 1) Lieutenant Hughson reported that the new hire process for the PT candidates was good, good discussions were held, and he was happy with the qualities of the candidates who applied for the positions.

OTHER COMMENTS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS: Thanks, all is going well.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion was made by Board Secretary Hansen and seconded by Board Member Farris to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Absent; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Next regular meeting: Monday, April 14, 2025.

Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on April 14, 2025.



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

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.