



REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
DE BEQUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DE BEQUE FIRE STATION  
AUGUST 12, 2024

**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 6:01 p.m. on Monday, August 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. A quorum was present and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed.

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Paul Miller, Auditor; Forest Matis, De Beque District Fire Chief; Lieutenant Jesse Hughson; Secretary Kim Latham.

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

Additions or deletions to the Agenda were made as follows: Delete the June EMS report due to incomplete information from the EMS billing company; Addition to New Business to consider a request for a gas stove for the crew quarters. Motion was made by Board Vice President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Faris to approve the agenda as amended. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Aye; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

**AUDIT PRESENTATION:** District Auditor, Paul Miller with Blair and Associates, P.C. presented a draft audit to the BOD with an explanation on how the audit works, the information that is gathered and analyzed for the report, how capitalization and depreciation work, and what the figures in the report indicate. Mr. Miller will have a completed report for the board meeting in September that will be submitted to DOLA.

**MINUTES:**

Minutes were presented to the BOD for consideration for the regular board meeting on July 8, 2024. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Secretary Hansen to approve the minutes for July 8, 2024 as presented with a spelling correction. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Aye; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

**FINANCE REPORTS**

Financial Reports were presented to the BOD for June, 2024. Motion was made by Board Vice President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Faris to approve the finance reports for June 2024 as presented. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Aye; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.



## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) Trane Update. Chief Matis updated the BOD on the station heating/cooling system. The system is up and running. Hawks is coming back to complete some insulation work. We will monitor the system to see if it continues to work properly.
- 2) Town of De Beque Sewer Update. The Board received a copy of the Amended Town of De Beque Annexation Agreement for signature. Our attorneys have gone over the agreement and agree with the document. Motion was made by Board President Tanner and seconded by Board Vice President to approve the Town of De Beque Sewer Annexation Amendment. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Aye; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.
- 3) Ambulance 81 (old) Disposal Update. Chief Matis reported that bids have been coming in for the old Ambulance 81 disposal. Lieutenant Voorhees has been receiving a good amount of interest in the apparatus. The Board will be advised of the outcome at the next meeting.
- 4) Command 81 Bid Update. The disposal sale for the Command 81 is set to up begin receiving bids. Bids will be due no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2024.
- 5) Rope Rescue Equipment Update. At the last meeting, the BOD voted to use the anticipated \$10,000 donation from Chevron to upgrade and replace our rope rescue equipment. It is noted that the donation we received was for \$7,000 instead of \$10,000.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1) Crew Quarters Kitchen Gas Stove. Lieutenant Hughson presented a proposal to replace the defunct stove in the kitchen quarters with a gas stove (it is currently wired for electric appliances). The estimate to replace the electric stove with a gas stove is \$2,677.50. Board Vice President asked if anyone knew of the government's alleged plan to do away with gas/propane devices in the future. Discussion ensued regarding safety issues with electric stoves when the personnel get called out amidst food preparation. There are safety concerns because even though there is an automatic shut off of the appliances when a dispatch call comes in, electric stoves continue to slow cook until the burner wanes. A gas stove will automatically shut off the gas and the burners will immediately stop heating. Motion was made by Board Vice President Ramthun and seconded by Board Member Koehler to approve the cost to replace the current electric stove with a gas stove, not to exceed \$2,800. Vote: Cynthia Farris, Aye; Melanie Hansen, Aye; Dustin Koehler, Aye; Maria Ramthun, Aye; Annette Tanner, Aye. Motion Passed.

## **FIRE CHIEF REPORT:**

- 1) Engine 82 has had some routine maintenance completed, such as rotating the tires.
- 2) Our new Ambulance 81 has been weighed, so we should be able to move forward with getting the license plates.
- 3) We are a little behind on fire assignments this year. We will get back on the deployment list and should be sent out on assignments again.
- 4) The Fire Chief's computer crashed and had to be repaired.
- 5) We have had more issues with the Ladder Truck. We had to have it towed to Denver for repairs. Meeker is still interested in purchasing it when we get it back. Estimated repairs are \$25,000.



### **BOARD COMMENTS:**

- 1) Personalized District License Plates. Board Vice President Ramthun asked how the personalized license plate project is coming along. District Secretary Latham reported on the trials of trying to get Ambulance 81 registered and licensed, and the trials on trying to get personalized government license plates.
- 2) 911 Remembrance. Board President Tanner asked about plans for 911 remembrance. It was noted that we usually do it with the Ladder Truck, but Chief Matis will work on an alternate plan.
- 3) Jet Boat. We have been unable to schedule a time for the Jet Boat outing that was postponed from last summer to this summer. Chief Matis will try to come up with a plan to accommodate the employees for this outing.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion was made by Board Member Faris and seconded by Board Secretary Hansen 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 7:13 p.m.

**Next regular meeting: Monday, September 9, 2024.**

**Approved by the De Beque Fire Protection Board of Directors on May 9, 2024.**



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**Annette Tanner, President**

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**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.