



**DEER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
6181 COUNTY ROAD 28, COTOPAXI, CO 81223
June 15, 2022 - 6:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by M. Hammons at 6:00 PM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Michael Hammons, Mike McKay and Gretchen Abel

PRAYER: Led by Rick Cleveland

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE: Led by M. Hammons

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

- G. Abel – Requests to add a statement after the Bill's Paid Report
- M. Hammons – Requests to add a motion.
- Motion by M. Hammons to approve Anita Gregg as the website administrator. Second by G. Abel. Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.
- M. Hammons – Requests to add a motion. Motion by M. Hammons to assign M. McKay to develop an advertisement for the new fire chief. Second by G. Abel. Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

NEW BOARD MEMBER – Jay Hyde was introduced by M. Hammons. He was appointed and sworn in as a board member. - *see attachments*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion by M. McKay to accept/approve the May 18, 2022 Board Meeting minutes. Second by G. Abel. Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: G. Abel (*see attachments*)

- May Treasurer's report

Checking account balance as of May 1, 2022	\$ 832,553.91
Month of May deposits	\$ 62,027.57
Income plus beginning balance	\$ 894,581.48
Expenses to date	\$ 27,850.94
Total checking account funds	\$ 867,734.54
Emergency Reserves	\$ 53,429.82
Capital Improvements	\$ 22,839.27
Engine Debit Account	\$ 5,343.06
Total funds available (5/30/2022)	\$ 948,342.69

Motion by G. Abel to accept/approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Second by M. Hammons. Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

- June 2022 Bill's Paid Report

Checking account balance as of June 1, 2022	\$ 948,342.69
Income thus far in June	\$ 22,678.56
Total income plus beginning balance	\$ 925,664.13
Total expenses to date	\$ 38,157.90
Current checkbook balance (6/15/2022)	\$ 887,506.23

M. McKay inquired about the amount of income. G. Abel will review and clarify.

G. Abel read a statement and resigned as Assistant Treasurer and from the board effective end of meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: - *see attachment*

1. Karen McKee – **Q:** What will be the role of new board member, Jay Hyde? **A:** To be decided at the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: M. Hammons

- Suggested hiring an outside bookkeeper to alleviate tasks of the Treasurer.
ACTION ITEM for M. Hammons to research hiring a bookkeeper for the board.

The board created the Assistant Treasurer position to help with the numerous responsibilities of the Treasurer. Transparency is essential. Outsourcing the job should be considered. Budget meeting recommended for funding the proposed new expenditure. Bills are paid once a month. Payroll is every two weeks. G. Abel will assist with the next payroll run. Reminder of important grant reimbursement.

- Mill Levy Initiative
Motion by M. McKay to move forward with looking into a mill levy increase.
Second by M. Hammons.
Discussion: Governor Polis has frozen tax increases for two years. Verification needed from the county to determine if the ballot initiative is possible. **ACTION ITEM** for M. Hammons to consult with the county. -
Vote: McKay-YES, Hammons-YES, Hyde-YES, Abel-ABSTAIN. Motion passed.
- Motion by M. Hammons to contract with Laura McKay to be the Wildland Administrator to handle billing.
Second by J. Hyde.
Discussion: Payment of 1% provided by the state. - Vote: McKay-ABSTAIN, Hammons-YES, Hyde-YES, Abel-ABSTAIN. - Motion failed. **ACTION ITEM** for M. Hammons to place item on a Special Meeting agenda.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: None

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: M. McKay

- New email addresses are available. Each member was provided information on their account. An account for J. Hyde will be added. **Q:** Why are email addresses with names rather than titles? **A:** Names needed for CORA requests.
- Four portable radios received. **ACTION ITEM** for R. Cleveland to assure radios are programmed.
- Wildland Fire payments must be paid within 30 days and amounts due have been provided. - *see attachment*
Motion by M. McKay to pay wildland firefighters their amounts earned.
Second by M. Hammons.
Discussion on the requirement for a motion. **Q:** Are the wildland fire fighter paid as contractors or staff? **A:** Not clearly determined. G. Abel will forward the sample agreement/contract again to board members and information on last year's motion on payment. Motion tabled. **ACTION ITEM** for M. Hammons to place on a Special Meeting agenda.

STATION REPORTS: Rick Cleveland - *see attachments*

- Year-to-date information reviewed for both Fire and EMS.
Motion by M. McKay to accept the Station Reports. Second by M. Hammons.
Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.
- New Hires - A new driver, currently a firefighter, will begin driving next week.

OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS: M. Hammons

- Continued board **ACTION ITEM** for Fire Department Webpage Redesign. Point of contact is Rachel Vinson.
- Continued board **ACTION ITEM** for Engine Boss Bonus.
- Continued board **ACTION ITEM** for Public Meeting Rules.

NEW BUSINESS: Special Board Meeting scheduled for Saturday, June 18 at 10:00 AM.

EMS OPTIONS: JR Niblett

1. Tom Anderson could take over EMS for \$180,000 annually. Staffing provided 24 hrs a day/7 days a week. DM would provide two ambulances staffed with their crew. All medical supplies, fuel, maintenance and insurance to be provided by DM. Total cost of \$500,000 to \$600,000 annually.
2. State can **impose** a tax for emergency services. This tax would be in addition to the current DMFPD tax for fire services.
3. County-wide ambulance service for Deer Mountain was estimated a \$750,000. In 2021, commissioners rejected this proposed service.
4. Deer Mountain started EMS with volunteers in 2014; moved to paid EMS staff in 2015. Suggests this service must continue with DMFPD.
5. AMR indicated the distance to cover DM is too far.
6. Combine with another Special District already with EMS and spread mill levy costs across more taxpayers.

ANNOUNCEMENT: M. Hammons

Next regular board meeting is July 20, 2022 at 6:00 PM. Special board meeting on June 18, 2022 at 10:00 AM.

Thank you to G. Abel. R. Cleveland has bid for light on tower. **ACTION ITEM** for next board agenda.

ADJOURNMENT: M. Hammons

Motion by M. Hammons to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 PM.

Second by G. Abel - Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Gregg, secretary

Supporting documents:

- Notice of Appointment
- Oath of Office
- Treasurer's Report
- Bills Paid Report
- Sign-up Sheet
- ~~Wildland pay~~
- Station Reports