



**DEER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
6181 COUNTY ROAD 28, COTOPAXI, CO 81223  
March 16, 2022 at 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by S. Zuidema at 6:00 PM.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Chairman, Sharon Zuidema - Vice Chairman, Kathy Reese - Treasurer, Cheryl Kelsey

**PRAYER:** Led by JR Niblett

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:** Led by S. Zuidema

The Board appointed James Clint Mays to the open director position of Communications and Construction. Oath of Office was administered. - *see attachments*

**CHANGE TO THE AGENDA - S. Zuidema**

1. Add wildland pay for Marshall Fire under Treasurer's Report.
2. Remove board position under Vice Chairman's Report.
3. Add wildland billing, payroll and emails under the Vice Chairman's report.

**MINUTES:** S. Zuidema

- Motion by S. Zuidema to approve the December 15, 2021 regular board meeting minutes.  
Second by K. Reese - Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** C. Kelsey (*see attachments*)

- Treasurer's report
  - Checking account balance as of December 1, 2021 \$ 631,022.87
  - Month of December deposits \$ 114,140.05
  - Income plus beginning balance \$ 745,162.92
  - Expenses to date \$ 32,694.88
  - Total checking account funds \$ 712,468.04
    - Emergency Reserves \$ 50,429.82
    - Capital Improvements \$ 19,839.27
    - Engine Debit Account \$ 6,354.20
  - Total funds available (12/31/2021) \$ 789,091.33
- January 2022 Bill's Paid Report
  - Checking account balance as of January 1, 2022 \$ 701,516.78
  - Income thus far in January \$ 28,859.86
  - Total income plus beginning balance \$ 730,376.64
  - Total expenses to date \$ 19,429.12
  - Current checkbook balance (1/19/2022) \$ 710,947.52

Motion by C. Kelsey to pay fire-fighter Cindy Howard for funds due on the Marshall Fire.  
Second by S. Zuidema - Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous - motion carried

Motion by C. Kelsey to approve the January 2022 Bill's Paid Report.  
Second by K. Reese - Discussion: None - Vote: Unanimous - motion carried

**PUBLIC INPUT:** - *see attachment*

1. Brent Darnell - Commented on his intention to pursue a board director position as the Assistant Treasurer. Spoke on the benefits of transparency and the life's experiences/skills he would bring to the position.
2. Karen McKee - Commented that:
  - a. The bylaws posted on the website are invalid, contain unapproved information and illegal sections contradictory to law. Changed sections of the bylaws are not updated nor signed.
  - b. The transfer of Indian Springs Station 3 has no signed or dated documentation.
  - c. The charges for services outside the district are not posted under Legal Documents.
  - d. The Paypal donation option on the website is not resolved.
  - e. The DMFD logo was misused. The DMFPD logo should be used on all district business documents.
  - f. A quorum of the board met with the SDA. A violation since the meeting was not properly noticed.

- g. The sale of district property located at P Path and Copper Gulch was sold without authorization, without asking price agreement, or sale agreement.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** S. Zuidema

- Motion by S. Zuidema to schedule a Budget Workshop to address the outdated firegear. **ACTION ITEM** for C. Kelsey to schedule and invite the district accountant.  
Second by K. Reese  
Discussion: Current bunker gear is old. This gear cannot be sold and must be destroyed. Estimated replacement cost is \$90,000 to \$94,000. Bids are requested.  
Vote: Unanimous - motion carried
- Motion by S. Zuidema to have the board chair to be the primary point of contact with legal services. Second by K. Reese  
Discussion: Dan Slater will no longer accept direct emails from the firechief requesting legal services for the district. Q - Will the job description need to be rewritten? A - No. See resolution.  
Vote: Unanimous - motion carried
- Motion by S. Zuidema to accept Resolution 2022-0119-01 as presented. - *see attachment*  
Second by  
K. Reese  
Discussion:  
n: None  
Vote: Unanimous - motion carried
- Elections - Colorado laws were changed. Since 2020, all elections should be held in odd years only with three positions for three years and two positions for one year. Term limits are 4 years. DMFPD elections have not been held correctly. SDA advised that four positions are now open. **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to place an updated transparency notice on the website. All election terms will be re-verified.  
The call for nominations will be posted on January 23 in the Canon City paper. **ACTION ITEM** for C. Kelsey. -  
*see attachment*. The schedule and self-nomination forms are available on the website.
- FYI - The charges for services are on the front page of the website. C. Mays will assume social media communications. Paypal donation button still needs further research and will be assigned to C. Mays.
- Website - C. Mays will be trained and take over website updates. **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to secure his access to the state site.

**VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** K. Reese

- Wildland billing - The district is seeking a person or company for wildland billing in 2022. **ACTION ITEM** for JR Niblett to secure wildland billing services.. Karen McKee has completed billing for 2021 and one billing for 2022. Her final bill for the 2021 season was presented for payment.
- Motion by K. Reese to authorize Sherry Hastings to complete wildland payroll in 2022. Second by S. Zuidema  
Discussion: Contract and compensation for this role not yet determined. New training required. Tabled until the scope of work is defined.
- Motion by K. Reese to request that S. Zuidema forward threatening emails from a local resident to attorney Dan Slater to review.  
Second by C. Mays  
Discussion: Any additional information on threats should be forwarded to the board chair. Vote: Unanimous - Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS REPORT:** JR Niblett

- **ACTION ITEM** for JR Niblett to complete changes to form for radios and forward to board members. C. Kelsey to process this previously approved purchase.

**INSURANCE REPORT:** None - D&O insurance coverage under Old Business.

**STATION REPORTS: FIRE & EMS:** JR Niblett

- Fire/EMS runs and training hours: Responded to a total of 24 calls. There were 18 total EMS calls, 6 total Fire calls, 54 hours of EMS training and 50 hours of Fire training.

- Totals for 2021 are: 257 Responses (note 249 in 2020), 170 Ambulance runs (note 18 already in 2022), 28 MVA, 32 Small fires, 6 Structure fires, 17 Smoke investigations, 2 Hazmat and 4 Fires from improper ash disposal.
- Recent Fires
  - Continuing fires resulting from improper ash disposal.
  - 911 still sends DM to Fremont County properties incorrectly. Clarification on maps still pursued.
  - Firefighters have been threatened on calls. The department is working with the sheriff's office.
- Wildland - Season has closed. One truck is ready to go. Three or four BK radios needed.
- New Hires - 20 current firefighters with two coming soon.
- Costs: **ACTION ITEM** for JR to provide a prioritized list for the budget workshop.
- Higher fuel costs. \$3.29/gallon for colored fuel; \$3.34/gallon for gasoline; and \$5.00/gallon for aviation fuel.
- Electric bill for station 2 has increased.
- Truck moved from Indian Springs due to no heat or fuel. Break in attempt.
- Tires and diesel oil prices have gone up.
- Note: 99 free COVID-19 tests ordered from the state.
- Training contract - EMTI contract needed. **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to contact Dan Slater on contract.
- Ambulance inspection and relicensure coming in March. **ACTION ITEM** for JR to to schedule.

#### **OLD OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

##### S. Zuidema

- 2022 Board Election Workshop - Workshop held on January 8, 2022. Thanks to those working on the upcoming mill levy. C. Mays will be the point of contact for information.
- Website Workshop - Workshop postponed. C. Mays will be taking over the website.
- Contract and Approval for ALS training - **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to contact Dan Slater.

##### K. Reese

- Station 4 at P Path
  - Property sold for \$39,000. Closed on December 31, 2021. All board members signed the contract. No information on building refund from Dan Slater. **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to follow up with the attorney and post property sale information on the website. Questions on sale and Title 32 processes should be directed to Dan Slater.
- D & O status - Policy is in place with Gallagher Insurance.
- Open Board Position Posting - Assistant Treasurer position is open. Résumé from Brent Darnell to be sent to S. Zuidema.
- By-law updates - Workshop rescheduled to Saturday, March 5, 2022.
- Motion by K. Reese to change Section 5 Paragraph (d) of the bylaws - *see attachment*.  
Second by C. Kelsey  
Discussion: Agendas for special meetings are generally posted 48 hrs prior. Suggested that special meetings be held in the evenings or on a Saturday whenever possible. **ACTION ITEM** for S. Zuidema to locate previous by-laws for the website.  
Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next board meeting is February 16, 2022 at 6:00 PM.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by S. Zuidema to adjourn the meeting. Second by K. Reese - Discussion: None Vote: Unanimous, motion carried

Meeting adjourned a 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted, Anita Gregg, secretary

#### *Supporting documentation:*

- *Oath of Office, Notice of Appointment*
- *Treasurer's Report, Bill's Paid Report*
- *Public Input Signup*
- *Resolution 2022-0119-01*
- *Call for nominations*
- *Section 5 - Paragraph (d)*