



**DEER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
6181 COUNTY ROAD 28 - COTOPAXI, CO 81223
NOVEMBER 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: CJ Allen, Cathy Mask, Laurie McKay and Nancy Mickelson

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by CJ Allen at 6:01 PM

PRAYER: Led by Jerry St. John

PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE: Led by CJ Allen

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: L. McKay requested to add the following motion. **Motion** by L. McKay to set aside no more than \$1200 for a department Christmas celebration. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Motion** by L. McKay to accept the minutes for the October 16, 2024 Regular Meeting. Second by CJ Allen. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORTS: N. Mickelson (*see supporting documentation*)

October Treasurer's Report:

Checking account balance	\$ 581,345.92
Month deposits	\$ 13,082.25
Income plus beginning balance	\$ 594,428.17
Expenses to date	\$ 49,340.80
Total checking account funds	\$ 545,087.37
Total funds available (10/31/2024)	\$ 940,012.24

Motion by N. Mickelson to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by CJ Allen. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

November Bills Paid Report:

Bills paid through November 20, 2024	\$ 61,707.57
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Motion by N. Mickelson to accept the Bills Paid Report. Second by CJ Allen. Discussion: Note that there were three pay periods. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Budget Amended for Q4 in 2024: (*see supporting documentation*)

Motion by N. Mickelson to adopt Resolution 20240221-02 for Supplemental Budget and Appropriation pursuant to Section 29-1-109(2) C.R.S. adopted on this date and to accept this budget amendment. Second by C. Mask. Discussion: There was additional revenue and expenses re-categorized. The chairman thanked the treasurer and assistant treasurer for their efforts in working on the budget to reflect the transparency of tax dollars. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: CJ Allen

- Ward Thorne provided an overview of his company, Phoenix Technology, to provide IT partnership support to DM. Located nearby providing 25 yrs of experience, focusing on services to municipalities and assisting with cyber security. **Motion** by CJ Allen to adopt the services of Ward Thorne. Second by N. Mickelson. No further discussion. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.
- SDA insurance quote is still a work in progress and the agenda item tabled till the December meeting.
- The new digital sign has been delivered. The installation date to be set up with staff pending better weather conditions.
- The Board announced the selection of Tamara Jones, the current head of Deer Mountain EMS, to be the new Deer Mountain Fire Chief. **Motion** by CJ Allen to adopt the hiring of Tamara Jones as the DMFD Fire Chief. Second by N Mickelson. Discussion: There were four candidate interviews. No candidate resided within the DMFPD. The department will work to backfill the EMS position. David Nowlan was thanked for his work as interim chief. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.
- Additional digital cameras needed for the sign security and parking areas. **Motion** by CJ Allen to purchase and install additional digital cameras not-to-exceed a cost of \$300. Second by C. Mask. Discussion: Purchased under security equipment budget category. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.
- Announcement of the Holiday Community Dinner on December, 24 at 3:00 PM. All are welcomed. Additionally, a Holiday Bazaar is tentatively scheduled on December 7. A community member commented on the ambulances stuck in the snow this past week. Provided pricing information on vehicle chains. D. Nowlan indicated that vehicle chains have been available. CJ Allen noted that ambulances should go out prepared.
- Deer Mountain Family Movie Night on Saturday, December 14 at 6:00 PM. Cotton candy and popcorn will be available during the viewing of Top Gun Maverick.
- MAA has been submitted to Westcliffe and should be finalized next month with executive staff.
- State judgment's final compliance and mitigation actions are complete. The attorney to finalize paperwork.
- A meeting has been requested with Fremont County Commissioner, Dwayne McFall to verify tax boundaries and potential retail tax revenue.
- A hiring ad with Indeed has been posted for wildland firefighters.
- Notice to amend by-laws so residency is not an obstacle to employment. **Motion** by CJ Allen to amend the DMFPD by-laws to take into account the position of Fire Chief residing outside of

DMFPD on a case-by-case basis. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None of the candidates reside within the district. The only position hired by the Board is the Fire Chief. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

- The end-of-year cleanup day has not yet been determined. The new Fire Chief will schedule and coordinate.
- Securing all utility access points is required by insurance. New locks will be installed for protection and security.
- Purchase of tire chains for ambulances and at least one fire truck. Additional chains to be purchased as needed for icy and muddy road conditions. V-Bar chains, at an approx. cost per set of \$450 to \$500, were again recommended by a community member.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: N/A

ASSISTANT TREASURER'S REPORT: L. McKay - No report.

CGC REPORT: None

PUBLIC INPUT:

- A community member commented on his representation of others unable to attend because of advanced age, disabilities and work responsibilities. Suggested podcasts or videos of board meetings should be made available on the website. Requested that chains are available on department vehicles at all times.

STATION REPORTS: Dave Nowlan

- 17 total calls - 10 medical runs and 7 fire calls
- 69 hrs of fire training
- No new hires
- Currently the department has trained on the following - the Cascade System that fills the SCBA tanks; SCBA tanks; communications; response protocols; and fire restrictions. CJ Allen noted that at the next meeting the Board will review the adoption of International Fire Code regulations. This will assist with legal enforcement next year.
- The Board was thanked for department staff inclusion on the Fire Chief hiring process.

OLD UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next regular board meeting is scheduled on December 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by CJ Allen at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Anita Gregg, recording secretary

Supporting documentation:
Profit & Loss Budget Performance
Bills Paid
Resolution No. 20240221-02
Approved Amended Fall Budget