



**DEER MOUNTAIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
6181 COUNTY RD 28, COTOPAXI, CO 81223  
December 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by R. Abel at 6:03 PM.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Rose Abel, Gretchen Abel, Nancy Mickelson and Cathy Mask

**PRAYER:** Led by Rick Cleveland

**PLEDGE of ALLEGIANCE:** Led by R. Abel

**CHANGE TO THE AGENDA:** N. Mickelson

Remove the 2022 Audit Report - The auditor is not available due to the weather, so the report will be postponed. Audit will be heard at a special meeting.

Cancel the Executive Session - The session is no longer needed.

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Motion by G. Abel to approve the November 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORTS:** G. Abel - *(see attachment)*

**November Treasurer's report**

Checking account balance as of November 1, 2023	\$ 527,077.81
Month of November deposits	\$ 12,032.24
Income plus beginning balance	\$ 539,110.24
Expenses to date	\$ 50,693.18
Total checking account funds	\$ 488,416.87
Emergency Reserves	\$ 62,429.82
Capital Improvements	\$ 324,839.27
Engine Debit Account	\$ 6,655.78
Total funds available (11/30/2023)	\$ 882,341.71

Motion by G. Abel to approve the November Treasurer's Report. Second by R. Abel. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

**December 2023 Bill's Paid Report**

Checking account balance as of December 1, 2023	\$ 488,416.87
Income thus far in December	\$ 7,022.33
Total income plus beginning balance	\$ 495,439.20
Total expenses to date	\$ 18,346.25
Current checkbook balance (12/13/2023)	\$ 477,092.95

Motion by G. Abel to accept the December Bills Paid Report. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by R. Abel to defer to the DMFPD attorney for guidance, the email correspondence of 12/11/2023 sent to the board, state agencies and media. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by N. Mickelson to identify G. Abel as point of legal contact with the attorney in reference to the 12/11/2023 correspondence. Second by R. Abel. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Motion by G. Abel to pass a resolution that states the DMFPD agrees to cancel access for Sherry Hastings on all DMFPD accounts and eliminate her as a signatory on the DMFPD accounts at the Bank of the San Juans effective December 13, 2023. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried. - *(see attachment)*

**PUBLIC INPUT:** *(see attachment)*

A resident commented on his concern with the DMFD Fire Chief refusing his request to open burn. He suggests his five decades of fire experience should allow him to burn the years of accumulated trash/slash on his own property.

A tax-paying resident has concerns about the recent information she reviewed about: persons residing in the firehouse with an aggressive dog; the dog defecating within the firehouse; the unacceptable use of an ambulance; staff firing; the potential of a lawsuit and; infighting affecting fire protection.

The board offered to review the concerns and follow-up with the commenters.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** None

**VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** R. Abel – None

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** G. Abel – None

**CGC REPORT:** C. Mask – None

**ASSISTANT TREASURER'S REPORT:** N. Mickelson – None

**STATION REPORTS:** R. Cleveland

Fire/EMS: Since the last meeting the department has responded to a total of 24 calls. There were 16 EMS calls, 4, MVA, 1 Smoke investigation, 1 Structure fire. 1 Fire alarm, 1 Suspicious package and 34.5 Training hours.

R. Cleveland resigned as Firechief of DMVFD effective December 31, 2023. (*see attachment*) The board thanked R. Cleveland for his service to the district.

**OLD UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** G. Abel - None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** G. Abel

Next regular board meeting rescheduled for January 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by G. Abel to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 PM. Second by N. Mickelson. Discussion: None. Vote: Unanimous, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anita Gregg, recording secretary

Supporting documents:

Treasurer's Report  
Profit & Loss Budget Performance  
Resolution  
Public input sign-in  
Resignation