

Delta County Fire Protection District No. 4
Minutes of the October 14, 2024, Board Meeting

Call to Order at 6:34 pm

Members Present: Bill Long, Dan Miller, Cresta Pene, Zach Hotchkiss
Fire Chief: Doug Fritz
Secretary/Treasurer: Diane Walker

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the September 9, 2024, board meeting were read and approved on a motion from Zach Hotchkiss and seconded by Dan Miller.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account:	\$135,273.34
Special Projects Checking Account:	\$ 5,764.85
Bonds/CDs:	\$815,180.56
Firemen's Fund:	\$ 4,023.61

Dan Miller made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Cresta Pene seconded, and the motion passed. The credit card bill and the bills paid since the last meeting were reviewed and approved on a motion from Cresta Pene and seconded by Zach Hotchkiss, and the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: No report.

FIRE CHIEF AND OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Fires and other calls: 13 calls – 6 vehicle accidents, 3 lift assists, 2 public service calls (Homecoming bonfire and parade), 1 false alarm, 1 smell of gas.

Equipment: Spreaders broke during training and they have been sent to L.N. Curtis for repair. Light tower on ladder truck stripped a gear, motor on Tanker 2 monitor failed, batteries on Engine 14 died and have been replaced, winch on Engine 3 broke and it's been repaired, tire issue on Engine 10 has been resolved and the shocks have also been replaced.

Training: Doing a lot of training and getting ready for winter academy.

Personnel: Nathan Head and Jeremy Vorno are leaving; Adriana Carey is a new firefighter.

Grants: None of the grant purchases have come in, \$20K grant funds owed by the state has come in.

Building Maintenance: Replaced exterior lights on front of Hotchkiss station. Lighting has been fixed at Redlands Mesa station. Swamp coolers have been winterized. Sprinklers have been turned off and need to be blown out.

Subdivisions: Request for exemption at the old Rose building on Bridge Street – they want to have two apartments there and we will comment they need to conform to the building code. Boundary adjustment on a 2nd Street house and they want to tear down a house. Request to tear down a small building next to the old feed store. We were asked to tear down the old Coyote building and Doug said no. Simon DeHerrera on Hanson Mesa wants to split off part of his land and we have no comment. Request for Olson property near 3100 Road and J road to be split down the middle for a possible 4-way split.

Other: New website is ready and the donation link has been set up.

Virtual meeting tomorrow morning on the Delta County Hazard Mitigation Plan.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT: No report.

OLD OR CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Pension Board: No report.

5 Year Plan: Doug has had a couple phone meetings with Icon on the front range about fire truck grants. The smartest idea is to replace Engine 10 at a cost of around \$750K. Doug will continue to work with Icon. If we hire someone to write a grant the cost would be between \$5K and \$15K. Not much chance for federal grants. Community Development Block grant will only write grants for facilities. DOLA said they would give us a grant to add onto the Hotchkiss station and they would finance the entire building at 3% interest.

1 Year Plan: Still waiting for interest rates to drop; Bill and Doug will keep checking rates.

Other: No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Purchase Requests: No report.

2025 Budget: Preliminary budget was presented to the board. More discussion to be held at the November meeting.

Other: No report.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.

Future fire board meetings:

December 9 – 2025 budget needs final review and board signatures.

January 13

February 10