

Delta County Fire Protection District No. 4
Minutes of the December 9, 2024, Board Meeting

Call to Order at 6:33 pm

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

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes of the November 11, 2024, board meeting were read and approved on a motion from Dan Miller and seconded by Cresta Pene.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account:	\$116,535.60
Special Projects Checking Account:	\$ 5,774.26
Bonds/CDs:	\$800,731.21
Firemen's Fund:	\$ 4,023.61

Dan Miller made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Kathy Welt 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 Kathy Welt and seconded by Cresta Pene, and the motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Doug is on revenue committee for the state with other fire chiefs about how the state can compensate fire departments since property rates are going down.

FIRE CHIEF AND OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Fires and other calls: 3 calls – False wildland fire call, lift assist, CO alarm.

Equipment: Everything going well.

Training: Six people going to wildfire academy in January; Doug is going and he will teach.

Dan Miller made a motion to create an application for a training stipend that will be approved by the board for each individual request, Zach Hotchkiss seconded, and the motion passed.

Personnel: A couple of people have applied but they don't live here so we won't put them on until they move here. We have 27 active fire fighters.

Grants: Doug has spent time on the SAFER grant; we have probably ten that will qualify. We have between 5-7 people that will qualify by attending 50% of the meetings and 20% of calls per quarter. Doug asked if we would cover the \$300 per person for people that aren't covered by the grant. Tracking will start January 1, 2025. Zach Hotchkiss made a motion that starting in 2025 we will consider an attendance bonus for those who qualify but are not covered by the SAFER grant, Kathy Welt seconded, and the motion passed.

Building Maintenance: Redlands Mesa lost their radio license and we're trying to recover it. An antenna is being installed at the Redlands Mesa station and we could put our repeater on it and move it from Junip Hill.

Subdivisions: No report.

Other: No report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT: No report.

OLD OR CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Pension Board: The state contribution of \$15,300 has been received and a check was sent to Raymond James to be deposited into the pension fund.

Dan Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02 to set the pension fund payment for the 2024 contribution at \$17,000, and that the funds for this come from the General Fund checking account, Zach Hotchkiss seconded, and the motion passed.

Dan Miller made a motion to put \$70-\$75K from the pension fund into a CD, Kathy Welt seconded, and the motion passed.

5 Year Plan: Capital Improvement Plan – A grant for a truck is being worked on.

1 Year Plan: Interest rates have not dropped enough yet; we will continue to wait.

2024 Revised Budget: After review of the revised 2024 budget, Kathy Welt made a motion to approve the 2024 revised budget as presented, Zach Hotchkiss seconded, and the motion passed.

2025 Budget: After review of the proposed 2025 budget, Dan Miller made a motion to approve the 2025 budget as presented, Kathy Welt seconded, and the motion passed.

Resolution 2024-03: Dan Miller made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-03 to set mill levies for the 2025 year to 4.8 mills, Zach Hotchkiss seconded, and the motion passed.

Other: No report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Purchase Requests: No report.

Other: Supplies will be purchased for the Santa visit on Saturday, December 21, at the Hotchkiss station.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Future fire board meetings:

February 10

March 10

April 14