

Delta County Fire Protection District No. 4  
Minutes of February 10, 2025, Board Meeting

Call to Order at 6:30 pm

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

The meeting started with the board presenting a wall plaque and giving many thanks to Doug Fritz for his 25 years as Fire Chief. Doug's first day as chief was January 1, 2000.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The minutes of January 13, 2025, board meeting were read and approved on a motion from Dan Miller and seconded by Cresta Pene.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Checking Account:	\$126,316.60
Special Projects Checking Account:	\$ 5,774.26
Bonds/CDs:	\$818,868.42
Firemen's Fund:	\$ 4,320.61

Cresta Pene made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Dan Miller 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 recently attended a fire chief's meeting, and a meeting in Glenwood Springs concerning the SAFER grant. Doug met with BLM today.

FIRE CHIEF AND OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Fires and other calls: 5 calls – 2 false alarms, controlled burn at the fairgrounds, welfare check, and 1 burn pile.

Equipment: Batteries on Engine 7 failed, and all four batteries were replaced at a cost of approximately \$250 each.

Training: There have been 484 training hours already this year.

Personnel: Two new people are being added – Travis Wagner and Stephanie Wagner.

Grants: SAFER grant is moving forward and the first payment was approved last week.

Niki Carpenter is working on the Health and Safety grant.

Doug is up to date on grant reporting.

Building Maintenance: Bev Shelden, our janitor, has been very sick and she's been out for a while.

Subdivisions: No report.

Other: Bev's lost radio was received through a grant and we probably can't file an insurance claim on it.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT: Bill Long introduced the board to Daniel Matuszak, who is interested in being a board member. Dan gave a history of his previous firefighting experience.

OLD OR CONTINUED BUSINESS:

Pension Board: No updates and the fund is in good shape. We need to send Gladys Carpenter a check from the general fund for \$100 for the loss of her husband, Jim Carpenter.

5 Year Plan: Capital Improvement Plan – No report.

1 Year Plan: Interest rates are going up again.

Other: 2025 Election – Two nomination forms have been received, and if we receive any more by close of business on Monday, March 3, we will have an election.

NEW BUSINESS:

Purchase Requests: Doug would like to purchase 4 sets of turnout gear at a cost of \$3,000 each for a total of \$12,000. We will be refunded by a grant for this gear. Also one set of multi-mission gear at a cost of \$1,200, and T-shirts at a cost of \$150 per person. Dan Miller made a motion to approve all the purchases requested mentioned, Cresta Pene seconded, and the board agreed.

Other: Doug reported there is a problem with the Delta County Sheriff, who doesn't want the fire fighters to conduct traffic control any more on vehicle accidents. Kathy Welt gave Doug some information on Club 20, and Niki Carpenter reported there is a federal bill being worked on to merge BLM and the forest service.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Future fire board meetings:

April 14

May 12

June 9