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Dexter Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting of the Board of Directors In person February 18, 2025

Call to Order: Board Chair Bob Holland called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Directors Bob Holland, Rich Stronach, Larry Swartz, and Tim Strinz

Absent: Chief Wooldridge and Larry Severance

Staff: Haley Meshnik, Brandon Stevens, and volunteer Daniel Knower

Guests: None

Minutes: The Board reviewed the minutes of the January 21, 2025, Board of Directors meeting. Director Rich Stronach moved to accept the minutes as presented. Director Larry Swartz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Review and Bill Approval: The Board reviewed the financial statements and district bills. Director Rich Stronach made a motion to approve the financial statements and pay the districts bills. Director Larry Swartz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Chief's Report: Chief provided his report and was not able to attend the meeting due to a planned vacation.

Staffing: Chief Wooldridge reported that staffing has remained the same and volunteer hours have increased post the holidays. They have 5 volunteer applicants and are planning an April Firefighter 1 Academy.

Responses: January call volume: 29. 2 fire related (structure fire, wildland fire, rail vehicle fire and unauthorized burning), 16 medical related, 3 motor vehicle accidents, and 7 false alarm or no incident found calls, and 1 smoke/odor of smoke.

Grants: Chief Wooldridge reported that grant airpack order will be shipped at the end of this month

Apparatus: Tender 2115 have new tires.

Community: Upcoming district banquet.

End of Chief's report.



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Unfinished Business:

Audit: Accuity has informed us that the draft audit will be sent to us soon.

New Business:

Election of Budget Officer:

Director Larry Swartz moved to appoint Chief Wooldridge as the FY 25/26 Budget Officer. Director Rich Stronach seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Director Bob Holland requested the directors consider permanently changing the board meeting time to 16:00. Bob shared the importance of having their administrative assistant present at the meetings to help answer financial questions, as well as respect Chief Wooldridge's time.

Larry Swartz voiced his opinion in opposition, sharing that 16:00 could be hard for residents to attend if they are still working. Larry feels strongly that they need to keep it at the later time.

Rich Stronach shared that lately the board meetings have been smooth operating, but suggested in the event we have issues, we could change the time temporarily to accommodate more public attendance.

Bob Holland added that the public can contact us in many ways, if they have a concern, want more information, or want to provide correspondence in the board meeting. Tim Strinz shared that he was ok with the time change but added that he might have to miss a few meetings.

Director Rich Stronach made a motion to permanently change the board meeting start time to 4pm, the 3rd Thursday of the month. Tim Strinz seconded the motion. Larry Swartz opposed. Motion passed 3 to 1.

Volunteer Daniel Knower shared a summary of his time assisting the fires in California.

The pinning ceremony is scheduled for March 18th, 2025, at 16:00 with the board meeting to follow, at the Fire Station.

Adjournment: Director Rich Stronach motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:19pm. Director Tim Strinz second. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Administrative Assistant
Haley Meshnik