

**KIOWA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
February 14, 2024**

The Board of Directors for the Kiowa Fire Protection District met in a regular scheduled meeting on the 14th day of February 2024, with the roll call of members as follows:

Lee Montgomery	Present
Andrew Koldeway	Present
Karen Hart	Present
Debbie Ullom	Present
Mitch Sturm	Present

The Board of Directors convened at 6:03 pm.

Approval of Agenda:

Mitch Sturm made a motion to approve the Agenda for February 14, 2024. Andrew Koldeway seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Approval of Minutes:

Karen Hart made a motion to approve Kiowa Fire Board Directors meeting minutes of January 10, 2024. Mitch Sturm seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Correspondence:

Letter from Kiowa Fire Chief Gerry Lamansky in support of reappointing Robert L. Tibbals as attorney for Kiowa Fire District.

Approval of Checks:

Andrew Koldeway made a motion to approve Kiowa Fire District check #8800 through #8809 and all ACH disbursements, as reviewed by the Board. Karen Hart seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Public Comment:

Michelle Johnson, Kim Welk and Mike Welk joined the Board meeting via Zoom but had no comment.

Public Hearing:

None

Report of Officers, Professional Consultants & Committees:

Fire Chief Gerald Lamansky submitted his Chief report on the following items:

Call Volume: For the past month there were 52 calls. YTD calls for 2024 are 52. In January 2024, the volunteers logged 618 shift hours. For the 52 responses, there was an average of 2.1 responders per call. Additionally, 36 training hours were logged. Call volume 30% increase from 2023.

2023 Annual Report: Chief Lamansky submitted the 2023 Annual Report for Kiowa Fire District that he prepared.

Staffing: Chief Lamansky reported that Adam Erway was selected for the full-time firefighter/emt position that was budgeted for 2024. Adam has been a volunteer with Kiowa Fire District since 2021.

Monthly Summary Report: The Board had no questions regarding the Chief's report that was submitted.

Admin/Finance Officer Geri Scheidt came before the Board to discuss the following items:

District Boundary Map: The Kiowa Fire District boundary map was filed with the Elbert County Assessor and DOLA on December 29, 2023. On January 2, 2024, the Assessor sent acknowledgement of receipt of the boundary map and on February 7, 2024, DOLA sent acceptance of the filing of the boundary map. This boundary map is posted on the District's website.

2024 Budget: Geri reported that the 2024 Budget, Mill Levy Certification and Budget Appropriation was filed with DOLA on January 19, 2024 and DOLA accepted the filing on January 30, 2024. Additionally, the mill levy was certified to the Elbert County Board of Commissioners on January 10, 2024 and receipt of the certification was received on January 11, 2024. The 2024 budget book is posted on the District's website.

2024 Transparency Notice: Geri reported that the 2024 Transparency Notice was filed with DOLA, Elbert County Commissioners, Elbert County Assessor, Elbert County Treasurer, Elbert County Clerk & Recorder and Town of Kiowa Town Administrator on January 15, 2024. The Transparency Notice is posted on the District's website.

Farmers State Bank CD Renewal: Geri reported that Farmers State Bank is unable to match or negotiate the current rate on the Kiowa Fire District CD which is 5.1%. The renewable rate on a 6-month CD is 4.63%. Colotrust daily dividend rate for the month of January 2024 was between 5.33 and 5.59%. Andrew Koldeway made a motion to move the CD with Farmers State Bank into the Colotrust Account. Mitch Sturm seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

DocuSign Account: Geri discussed the option of a District DocuSign account in an effort to reduce the amount of paper and increase efficiency for signing documents. The cost of a

DocuSign account would be \$300 for one user and 100 envelopes. This item was not budgeted for 2024 and will be discussed for the 2025 budget.

Monthly Summary Report: The Board had no questions regarding Geri's monthly summary report that was submitted.

Attorney Bob Tibbals came before the Board to discuss the following items:

Bob asked the Board to approve for the Fire Chief to contact Senator Pelton to support a fire services bill that would approve asking taxpayers for a local sales tax at a rate determined by the Board, or other fees, which would increase a revenue source for fire districts; remove the exclusion that fire districts cannot charge sales tax, fees, rates, tolls, etc., and to remove the language that fire districts need to receive approval from county or municipal governments to collect impact fees. There is no senate bill number on this proposed legislation as the bill is waiting for sponsors on the bill. The Board agreed for Fire Chief Lamansky to contact Senator Pelton regarding this legislation.

ECCA Board Representative Report:

Bob Tibbals reported that ECCA is collecting the 911 fees at the increased rate and continues to improve antenna sites.

Volunteer Report:

No report.

Unfinished Business:

Quick Med Claims Accounts: Bob Tibbals is working on dividing the outstanding bills into various categories to define the basis of the claim against Quick Med Claims lack of collection on various ambulance billing accounts.

Attorney Appointment: The Board discussed retaining Robert Tibbals or accept the engagement letter submitted by Cockrel Ela Glesne Greher & Rhuland for attorney services for Kiowa Fire Protection District. Debbie Ullom made a motion to retain Bob Tibbals. Mitch Sturm seconded the motion. The roll having been called, Debbie Ullom-yes, Mitch Sturm-yes, Karen Hart-no, Andrew Koldeway-no, Lee Montgomery-yes. Motion carried.

New Business:

Ambulance Accounts: Outstanding A/R as of 1/31/2024 is \$78,977.31. The breakdown is: 0-30 days – \$45,063.25; 31-60 days - \$8,582.28; 61-90 days - \$5,576.50; 91-120 days - \$7,425.48; 121-150 days - \$2,945.00; 151+ - \$9,384.80.

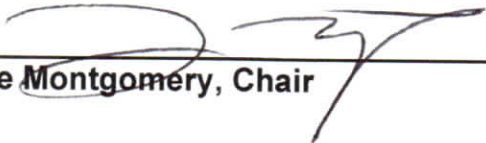
Finance Policy Review: Karen Hart reviewed the Finance Policy and discussed the issue of sales tax being paid on purchases when the District does not pay sales tax and that any new vendor account setup is completed by the Finance Officer.

Public Comment:

None.

No further business coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm with the next regular scheduled meeting to commence at approximately 6:00 pm on Wednesday, March 13, 2024.

MINUTES APPROVED:



Lee Montgomery, Chair



ATTEST: SECRETARY

BY: 

Secretary for the Board of Directors