

**KIOWA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 13, 2024**

The Board of Directors for the Kiowa Fire Protection District met in a regular scheduled meeting on the 13th day of March 2024, with the roll call of members as follows:

Lee Montgomery	Present
Andrew Koldeway	Present
Karen Hart	Present
Debbie Ullom	Present
Mitch Sturm	Absent-Excused

The Board of Directors convened at 6:01 pm.

Approval of Agenda:

Debbie Ullom made a motion to approve the Agenda for March 13, 2024. Karen Hart seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Approval of Minutes:

Andrew Koldeway made a motion to approve Kiowa Fire Board Directors meeting minutes of February 14, 2024. Debbie Ullom seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Karen Hart made a motion to approve Kiowa Fire Pension Board meeting minutes of February 14, 2024. Andrew Koldeway seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Correspondence:

Letter from the Town of Kiowa regarding consideration of 2024 Sponsorship for community events. Sponsorships range from \$1,000 to partners-in-kind (volunteer/items/prizes).

Approval of Checks:

Karen Hart made a motion to approve Kiowa Fire District check #8810 through #8813 and all ACH disbursements, as reviewed by the Board. Andrew Koldeway seconded the motion. The roll having been called, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and so ordered.

Public Comment:

Kim Welk joined the meeting via Zoom.

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 49 calls. YTD calls for 2024 are 101. In February 2024, the volunteers logged 367 shift hours. For the 49 responses, there was an average of 2.1 responders per call. Additionally, 38 training hours were logged. Call volume 39% increase from 2023.

Kiowa School Impact Fees: Chief requested a decision from the Board if impact fees should be assessed to Kiowa School in the amount of \$8,194.00 for a 6,886 sf single story modular building that will house 4 classrooms. Discussion was: Debbie did not want to charge the school district the impact fees. Karen Hart stated that the District charged the County impact fees on the new Road & Bridge facility and did not feel the District should pick and choose who pays impact fees or does not pay impact fees, but consider a reduction of the impact fees to the school district. Karen Hart made a motion to reduce the school impact fees by 50%. Andrew Koldeway seconded the motion. Debbie Ullom "abstained". Motion carried.

Dollar General Development: Chief reported that he has been contacted by Capital Growth Buchalter if the District would like to sell/subdivide 2 acres of land the fire district owns at 731 Hwy 86 (where the Training Center is located). The Board agreed to have Dollar General submit a proposal to the Board for consideration.

Hydrant Testing: Chief sent the Kiowa Water/Wastewater Authority a letter that they will need to assume the responsibility of annual hydrant testing. No other Fire District in the County performs this testing and defers hydrant testing to their respective water districts. KWWA will be responsible for submitting the hydrant testing reports to the Fire District.

Part-Time Staff Payroll Budget: Chief is requesting additional funding in the part-time payroll budget line item for 2024. The request is due to reduction in volunteer hours and coverage for vacation. The Board will review the request.

Fee Increase: Chief requested approval to increase fees for blood draws at the Sheriff's Department from \$150 to \$250 and to add a \$250 fee for assisting the Elbert County Coroner on lift assists. This increase in fees would be parallel to other fire districts in the County. The Board agreed to place these fee increases on the April Board meeting agenda.

Mutual Aid Agreements: Chief reported ongoing difficulty in maintaining coverage in the Kiowa Fire District to respond to calls in the Elbert Fire District and North Central Fire District due to their lack of personnel. The Board discussed the issue and requested Attorney Bob Tibbals to research the possibility of terminating the mutual aid agreement with these districts or splitting the fire and medical in the agreements. Bob will have a report for the Board at the April meeting on this matter.

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:

Website/Email Addresses: Geri reported that work has started on the new District website. The Board agreed to request 15 fire district email addresses.

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:

Legislation: Bob is unable to locate any advancement on the legislation proposed by TJ Steck for 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.

ECCA Board Representative Report:

Bob reported that ECCA is moving forward with the plan to update the antennas in Elbert County for better radio coverage.

Volunteer Report:

No report.

Unfinished Business:

Quick Med Claims Accounts: Bob Tibbals reported that he is finishing up the demand letter to Quick Med Claims and is working with Diane at WIBS Billing in preparing an affidavit regarding the billing issues.

New Business:

Ambulance Accounts: Outstanding A/R as of 2/29/2024 is \$86,255.59. The breakdown is: 0-30 days – \$45,812.96; 31-60 days - \$12,341.25; 61-90 days - \$5,754.31; 91-120 days - \$6,814.00; 121-150 days - \$3,688.48; 151+ - \$11,844.59.


Geri reported that she is working on a spreadsheet of accounts that are 151+ days in arrears. This report will be ready for the April 17th meeting and will be for the 1st Quarter of 2024.

Public Comment:

None.

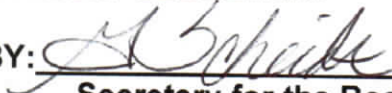
No further business coming before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm with the next regular scheduled meeting to commence at approximately 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

MINUTES APPROVED:



Lee Montgomery, Chair

ATTEST: SECRETARY

BY: 

Secretary for the Board of Directors

