

**Minutes for the
Diamond Valley Fire Special Service District and LBA**
To be held on Wednesday Aug 21, 2024, 7:00 pm
at 1651 W. Diamond Valley Drive (Fire Station) Diamond Valley, Utah

I. Call to Order: John Cazier

Invocation: Sandra Cox

Pledge of Allegiance: John Cazier,

Roll Call: John Cazier, Jenny Fairey, Sandra Cox, Brad Cox, Jim Hansen

Citizens present: Stephen Williams, Megan Williams, Lizbeth Snow, Betty Diller, Marlene Cazier, Jed Dalessandro, John Hennessy, Rob Kirby, Kade Beacham, Erik Phillips, Matt Hughes, Bodie Bowthorpe, Garrett Tryon, Skylar Marti, Rene' Fleming, Jeff Singleton

II. Public Hearing

III. Citizen Comments:

John: Explanation to the public why a new roof is needed. Emphasizes we get \$45,000 in tax income and no more. That amount is barely enough to run the station, and therefore leaves nothing for unexpected repairs like a new roof. He reviewed the bid amounts that have been received. We do have wildland money that has been earned in the past that has helped offset our costs, and we have been saving that money for several years.

Sandra- Feels like we need to have min of \$100,000 available in our savings account.

John- We aren't sure exactly how much the assessment per parcel will be. A rough guess is maybe \$50-60 but we haven't actually run the numbers for the amount we need so it could be higher. We are well below the national average and have been for several years.

Brad- said the national average of fire services is about \$400 per household per year.

MOTION: To open a public hearing by Jenny, second by Brad. Unanimous vote affirmative. Motion Passes.

Citizen-Where can you cut back to make this happen? As a citizen if we needed a new roof, we would either have to cut expenses or increase income. Have you explored ways to cut expenses?

John: We are already functioning on a budget far below our annual income.

Citizen- what about doing a fundraiser?

Board discussion-not sure we can do that as a government entity.

Jeff Singleton- Who owns the building?

John: The county technically, but we paid for it.

Citizen: Why wasn't it anticipated?

John: In some ways it was, but this is a structural failure that we could not have anticipated as the eaves are drooping.

John Kirby: What year was it built? (2004) On the \$45,500 you get, what can we do to help get you more money? We as a community need to work together to raise the money. Rather than assess a fee. What can we do to help?

Jenny: We could always use some more firefighters.

Chief Phillips: The money we use to cover basic operating costs comes from the county. We also apply for and get grants. We are here tonight to decide how we want to generate revenue for this repair, but honestly, there are some other things the station needs and we also have to purchase new radios in the very near future because the county is changing their system and most of our current radios won't work when that happens.

Sklyer Marty: Are we confident the repair company will put the correct underlayment on? Is the cheapest bid, not necessarily the best bid?

John: I drew a drawing of what we wanted to make sure we are all on the same page. 30lb felt is the correct paper. They used a synthetic underlayment previously, we don't know why. The new roofer will also use a new batton that is fully drainable so the water will no longer sit in puddles on the roof. We will also use a different nailing pattern to make sure the underlayment won't come apart. This roofing company is also willing to save the fascia and soffit to try and reduce costs.

Kade Beacham: Last year the fire board gave \$ to the water board for hydrants. Can they give any of that money back?

John: That wasn't the agreement

Jenny: I don't know that we ended up giving them any money since we didn't consolidate. I think the water board ended up just covering the cost of that project.

Jeff: Will the assessment money also cover any necessary equipment repairs?

John: No, just for the roof repair. There are certain conditions that have to be met to be able to charge a special assessment.

Megan Williams: What is the consequence of just trying to get through this year? Or using money from savings to pay for it and not do an assessment?

Jenny: If we use savings money and don't wait until next year, we won't have money to run a wildland program.

Marty: Is it possible we will find more costs?

John: We believe those that gave us bids did their best to give us an accurate quote, but that's possible with any project.

Kade: If you collect \$ on the tax rolls does that mean you won't have money for a wildland program?

Jenny: No because we have savings for that program.

Betty Diller?: When they wanted money for the playground, they asked for donations. Why haven't you asked for donations from the community?

Jenny: It really didn't occur to us as an option but it's an option maybe we need to explore.

Sandra: Due to this being a public building so things have to be done by approved processes both monetarily and with the repair itself. I think if Diamond Valley United wanted to organize a fundraiser and donate the money, they could. But being a government entity, I'm not sure we are allowed to solicit funds from constituents that way.

John: in the little black manual, it doesn't really list fundraising as an option.

John Hennessy: Do you have a schedule of the repair? You guys have the nicest station on SR18. I support you keeping your money in the bank. Get it fixed as soon as you can. I support you making an assessment.

John C: Any more questions or comments? I don't see any.

MOTION to close public hearing by Sandra. 2nd by Jim . Unanimous affirmative vote, motion carries.

IV Business

A John: We spent \$9500 on all new radios. Northwest lobbied for a grant to cover a reduced cost for all the rural stations since the new system is mandating the upgrade. Erik: Some expenses are being forced upon us. While \$10-15k doesn't sound like a lot, I think we should add that amount to the money we can assess. We have 2 choices to increase money and we have the radios as well as some equipment repair needs.

B. Sandra Payables/Income:

Rocky Mountain Power \$215, ? \$304, Radio checks \$6830, ? \$1365, \$1075 for the yearly maintenance on the generator. Recertification fees for UVU, Wildland pay for June and August fires. Pay scale is the same as last year.
Property tax distributions for May, June, July, Aug 2024. Snow and Nelson \$554. Morgan Tanner needs to be paid for the computer.

MOTION: to ratify the email vote for funds transfer \$20,000 for building payment by Sandra, 2nd by Jenny. Unanimous vote, motion carries.

C. Minutes Approval–Jenny

MOTION: to accept minutes for May and June 2024 by Jenny, 2nd by Jim. Unanimous affirmative vote, motion carries.

D. Workers Comp Audit

MOTION: to table for the next meeting by Jenny, 2nd by Brad. Unanimous affirmative Vote, motion carries.

E. Chief Discussion

- I. 3 more new trainees. They will front the money for their training, then we will reimburse them. The structure engine has a seal that's been replaced. Engine 112 has a seal being replaced.
- II. Getting some uniforms done because uniforms shouldnt have to come out of volunteer pockets. Think we should look professional. Up to now we have just had t-shirts. Pants are \$40-\$160. About \$405/pp Total \$6400-\$8400. Hats, 2 t-shirts, collared shirt, sweatshirt, belt, pants, boots.
Radios 20 handheld radios, 4 unit radios. Also ordered unit chargers for each truck so they can stay installed in the rig and charging all the time. Today I spent \$1300 buying the unit chargers . Sept 16th Jenny Wants to know if we can sell the fairly new radio in the new wildland truck and he said it's pennies on the dollar.

Now that we have a sams number, that opens us up to a few more grants. We need to start being proactive to get some of those.

F. Wildland Discussions

Erik: We need the board to make a decision. Either we are all in on wildland or we are all out.

Jim: Do we have the staffing?

Erik: Yes, Wildland people are seasonal. Engine bosses are more of a career path so we would want to hire them 4-6 months of the year. If that's the avenue you choose, we talk to some of these other agencies running successful programs and see how much they are paying, when they hire, how many guys, etc. To have a program, we would need a job flier for an engine boss, and a job flier for crew positions.

John: I think we need to commit to the wildland program. The program has always been profitable.

Brad: I think we owe it to the community to commit to it because that's why we bought the wildland truck. I think we should set the multiplier to the maximum amount so a board could incrementally raise the rates.

Erik: Recommendation: add \$22,000 to assessment to cover the radios and uniforms. Commit to the wildland program now so we can start getting a crew lined up for next year. Look into having a line of credit for our personnel salaries in case we don't get paid in time. 425 homes

John: I'm not sure that basic maintenance and repair items are allowed, but I'm pretty sure uniforms are not allowed in a special assessment. Maybe turnouts, but not an everyday type uniform.

Erik: Well there are plenty of other needs if not uniforms, our structure truck is sitting out there on 20 year old tires. We also need to get people to use their skills to volunteer at the station. Example power wash the front of the building, clean the station, etc. It's not just my station, it belongs to the community.

MOTION: to do a special assessment to cover the roofing and station repairs, and necessary equipment purchases if possible, up to \$60,000 by Sandra. Second Brad. Unanimous affirmative vote. Motion carries

John: Recommend we have another open house if necessary on September 11th if the public has more questions.

V. Adjourn

MOTION: to Adjourn to September 11, by Brad, 2nd by Jim. Unanimous affirmative vote, motion carries.

Next Meeting to be held Sept 18, 2024 (unless voted to hold at a later date) at 7 pm, at the Diamond Valley Fire Station

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Diamond Valley Fire Special Service District intends to impose a fee to collect funds to repair the roof of the Diamond Valley Fire Station. A public hearing will be held Wednesday August 21, 2024 at 7:00 PM at the Diamond Valley Fire Station for the purpose of hearing comments

**regarding the proposed fee and to further explain the details
associated with the repair.**

DVFSSD Minutes approval page for August 21, 2024

John Cazier _____ Term Expires 12-31-2025
Chair 435-705-0017
Johncazier71@gmail.com

Jim Hansen _____ Term Expires 12-31-2027
Vice Chair
801-598-1790
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Jenny Fairey _____ Term Expires 12-31-2025
Clerk 707-301-0553
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Sandra Cox _____ Term Expires 12-31-2027
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Brad Cox _____ Term Expires 12-31-2027
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Date Minutes Approved by board _____ Dec 18, 2024 _____