

DeSoto Fire District #2
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
March 10, 2025

Call to Order

Donnie Fisher called the public meeting to order at 6:30 pm on Monday, March 10, 2025.

Present, in addition to the Chairman, were Terri Burford, Chad Burford, John Lindsley, and Fire Chief Kevin Coleman.

Public Comments:

No public comments.

Chief's Report:

- Insurance Quotes for Full-Time Employees:
Chief Kevin Coleman presented three mock-up quotes from BCBS for potential full-time employees, depending on what DFD2 decides to offer and the specific criteria for each employee (e.g., age, relationship status, dependents). He spoke with other districts in the area regarding their retirement benefits, with most using "Firefighters Retirement," which is 33.25% of base pay, paid by DFD2.
The board discussed and agreed that potential full-time employees should be at least a Firefighter 1/EMT to be considered. This will be further discussed at the next meeting to finalize insurance and the hiring process.
- Cascade System:
The Cascade system has been repaired, and all packs are now serviced and in good working order.
Donnie asked if the parish-wide water system could use the Cascade system when needed, which was approved by all members.
- Hydrants and PIAL:
Kevin Coleman reported that all hydrants are in good condition. He has been in discussions on additional ways to improve PIAL for DFD2.
- Chief Coleman is also addressing minor issues with the trucks.

Approval of Financials & Minutes:

- Financials for February:
Terri made a motion, and Chad seconded, with all in approval of the financials ending 2/28/25.
- Minutes from February Meeting:
Terri made a motion, and John seconded, with all in approval of the minutes from the February meeting.

New Business:

- Pooling Fire Districts for Insurance Benefits:
Terri is working with an attorney to explore the possibility of pooling fire districts together to improve insurance benefits. She will provide more information when available.

- **Closure of Bank Accounts:**
The board approved the closure of the Public Money Market account at Community Bank and the old account at Red River Bank.
- **Building Behind Fire Station:**
Kevin Coleman will talk to Joe MaGee regarding the building behind the fire station.

Old Business:

- **Bank Account Update:**
Donnie updated the board on the recent move of funds from Community Bank to Bonvenue Bank. \$2,500,000 was deposited into CDs, guaranteed at 4% for 13 weeks. Additionally, \$400,000 was deposited in a Public Money Market account at Bonvenue Bank at 4%. The money market account pays interest once a month, not daily compounding, so interest will be gained at the end of the month. Starting next month, \$100,000 will be transferred to the Community Bank checking account for monthly operating expenses, at the beginning of each month. Donnie asked Terri to think about putting the money that is maturing from Red River Bank into a LAMP account for six months to see how the money matures, this will be discussed in the April meeting.

Next meeting set for Tuesday, May 13th at 6:30pm

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm.