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Dexter Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting of the Board of Directors In person January 20, 2026

Call to Order: Board Chair Bob Holland called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

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

Absent: Larry Swartz

Staff: Chief Wooldridge & Haley Meshnik

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The Board reviewed the Board Meeting minutes of December 16th, 2025. Director Larry Severance moved to accept the minutes. Director Rich Stronach seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Correspondence: The sewing group thanked us for allowing them to use the training room for a day.

Chief's Report: Chief provided his report.

**The Board reviewed the Fire Chief's Reports, which were attached as addendums and are available on file.*

- **Staffing:** All staffing has remained the same. Chief explained that he has rotated all the lieutenants' roles and responsibilities. They will rotate again and give each employee a taste of all the jobs within the station. Chief also shared that he rotated the residents and will do this quarterly so that they get to experience working with others.
Chief shared that we have currently sent two recruits to backgrounds and have about 20 volunteers. Chief is considering if we need to have a cap on volunteers because we are running out of lockers and we need to make sure we can provide gear and equipment for everyone. Chief shared that we do not have any in district volunteers and explained that our volunteers mostly come from Eugene Springfield, but some as far as Albany and Christmas Valley.
- **Responses:** 22 calls in December. Chief shared that the call volume is unpredictable and in comparison, they had a weekend in January with 11 calls.
- **General Updates:** We had a great 3.5-hour live fire training session from DPSST. Lowell joined in our training and they are excited about training with us once a month. Lt. Montes will be attending a career fair and looking into other recruiting options at the University of Oregon.

Unfinished Business:

Audit: Chief Wooldridge shared that we reached out to Accuity and they are still working on our Audits and say they can have them completed by February 27th. We have provided everything they have asked for and are just waiting for their draft audit for us to review.

Brush Engine Loan: Chief Wooldridge was happy to report that we paid off the Brush Engine Loan in full, with the recent reimbursement checks from assisting in the California Palisades Fire in 2025. We are now waiting for the title.

Levy Renewal Discussion Continued: The board began discussing the need to renew the current operations levy at the current rate. The Chief shared that we need the levy to keep the 24/7 staffing and to assist with apparatus replacement, and future equipment replacement needs. A discussion ensued on what questions the board thought the community would want to know as we prepare an FAQ. The board agreed that it was very important to inform the residents, update the website with FAQs, and mail out a postcard to make sure the public has the information they need and time to ask questions.

SDAO Conference: Chief Wooldridge shared that Bob Hollnad is attending this Conference in Seaside Oregon and this will help us get a 10% discount on our SDAO annual membership.

New Business:

Resolution 1-2026 Authorizing Ballot Measure to Renew Operations Levy

Director Larry Severance moved to approve Resolution 1-2026 authorizing a ballot measure to renew a fire-year operations levy at the current rate of \$1.00 per \$1000 assessed value per year, beginning July 1, 2027. Director Tim Strinz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be on February 17th at 4pm.

Adjournment: Director Rich Stronach motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 pm. Director Larry Severance seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Assistant
Haley Meshnik