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Dexter Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting of the Board of Directors In person August 19, 2025

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

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

Absent:

Staff: Chief Wooldridge & Haley Meshnik

Guests: None

Public Comment: None

Minutes: The Board reviewed the Board Meeting minutes of July 15, 2025. Director Larry Severance moved to accept the corrected minutes. Director Larry Swartz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Correspondence: None

Chief's Report: Chief provided his report.

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

- Staffing: New hires doing great. 3 candidates interested in resident positions.
- Responses: 43 Calls in July. 31 in district and 12 were mutual aid.
- General Updates: State is at 6 declared conflagrations
- Applied for 3 grants for medical bags, 2 sets of turnouts, and exercise equipment.

Unfinished Business:

Summer Projects: New Flagpole Order:
25ft pole arrived and ready to mount.

Signage:

Chief Wooldridge engaged the board in a discussion about new Dexter Fire Station signage. The board agreed and a discussion ensued.

New Business:

Operating Levy Renewal

Chief Wooldridge explained to the board that he would like to start communication with the community reminding them about the current \$1.00 levy and its upcoming expiration in May of 2026. He wants to make it clear that there are no reasons or plans to raise the levy amount at the upcoming election. He plans to ask the community for the same amount because he thinks we are financially healthy with the current \$1.00 per assessed valuation, which supports our ability to maintain 24/7 staffing. His focus will be to keep the 24/7 coverage, so the district does not have to revert back to not being able to respond after 5pm. He added that the district currently does not have any volunteer responders in district who could aid in after-hour responses. The board agreed to renew the levy next year at the same amount and not increase it. The Chief will work on more communication with the community.

Surplus Equipment Approval

Chief Wooldridge shared with the board that he would like approval to surplus items that are not in use. Items are the following: very outdated radio equipment, a Pepsi machine, popcorn maker, a fridge, and a chest freezer. The board was in agreement that they could surplus the listed items not being used by the district.

Larry Severance moved to approve the surplus of the radio equipment, Pepsi machine, popcorn maker, fridge, and chest freezer and dispose of as needed. Rich Stronach seconded the motion. Motion passe unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be on September 16th at 4pm.

Adjournment: Director Rich Stronach motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:23 pm. Director Tim Strinz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Executive Assistant
Haley Meshnik