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New Hiawatha Fire Chief Appointed

(KNZA)--A familiar face is returning to the position of Hiawatha fire chief.

The City Commission Monday evening voted 4-1 to appoint Gary Shear to complete the two-year term of Don Koontz. Commissioner Bill Collins cast the lone no vote.

Following his appointment, Shear was sworn in by City Clerk Vivian Constable.

Shear served 22 years as fire chief before retiring from the department in 2010.

City Administrator Mike Nichols says firefighters asked Shear if he would be willing to lead the volunteer department again and he agreed. Firefighters met October 6th and voted to nominate Shear for appointment to the position.

Koontz resigned last month after being appointed to the position in May. He remains with the department as a fireman.

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