

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AUGUST 11, 2026
STATION 64
775 CASTLE VALLEY BLVD., NEW CASTLE, CO 81647**

Chairperson Lambert called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

Dick Miller, Secretary
Alan Lambert, President/Chairperson
Adria Milton-Baker, Treasurer
Paige Haderlie, Director
Addy Bristol, Vice President

Others Present:

Leif Sackett, Fire Chief
Dino Ross, Legal Counsel (Via Video Conference)
Scott Van Slyke, EMS/Operations Division Chief
John Gredig, IT Director
Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief
PJ Tillman, Administrative Director
Zach Pigati, Wildland/Support Service Division Chief (Via Video Conference)
Kevin Alvey, Battalion Chief (Via Video Conference)
Matt Mikowski, Lieutenant (Via Video Conference)
Bill Smith, Lieutenant
Jerrod Merriam, Battalion Chief

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Minutes of July 14, 2026, Regular Board Meeting
- b. July 2026 Financial Reports
- c. July 2026 Accounts Payable Reports
- d. July 2026 Lexipol Policy Review

Treasurer Milton- Baker moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Secretary Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

LEGAL COUNSEL UPDATE:

Attorney Ross reported, with the completion of the COP financing and the financing of the new fire apparatus, legal work has slowed and he has no significant legal matters to report.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Chief Sackett reported that two FMLD grant applications are underway and provided updates on the Station 61 project, the September 19 Open House, and the upcoming 14-week Recruit Academy. He also noted that property valuations will soon be received for the budget process. He thanked CRFR personnel for their continued dedication and professionalism.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

a. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider Resolution for FMLD Traditional Grant

Chief Sackett reviewed a traditional FMLD grant application for updated battery-powered extrication equipment, including two combination tools. The equipment is estimated to cost just over \$100,000, with the District contributing approximately \$30,000 in next year's budget. The new tools would replace equipment purchased through grant funding in 2016–2017.

Treasurer Milton-Baker moved to approve Resolution 2026-08-01 supporting the application for a grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District and the completion of the CRFR extrication equipment upgrade project. Secretary Miller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

b. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider Resolution for FMLD Mini Grant

Chief VanSlyke requested Board support to pursue a 100% funded mini grant for three additional thermal imaging cameras for the reserve engine, ladder truck, and Battalion Chief vehicle. The estimated cost is under \$30,000.

Following discussion, Secretary Miller moved to approve Resolution 2026-08-02 supporting the application for a grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District and the completion of the thermal imaging camera project. Treasurer Milton-Baker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS/FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

a. Station 61 Renovation Update

Chief Sackett provided an update on the Station 61 renovation. Foundation work is underway, with steel erection expected to begin in early September. A topping-out ceremony is also being planned for later in September.

MONTHLY GRANT TRACKER UPDATE:

Chief Sackett presented a grant tracker update. The Board requested minor formatting changes. The tracker will be included in future Board packets.

WILDLAND/SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATES:

Wildland & Support Services Division Chief Pigati reported that wildland billing has reached approximately \$2.1 million. The new Type 6 brush truck is expected to arrive around October, within the contract timeline. Fleet and station maintenance remain ongoing, with HVAC replacement quotes expected next month.

EMS/OPERATIONS UPDATES:

EMS/Operations Division Chief Van Slyke provided an update, highlighting crews' successful response to a structure fire and a complex vehicle rescue near Rifle Mountain Park. He also recognized Firefighter/EMT Antonio Archuleta for earning his Driver/Operator Pumper certification and reported that the upcoming academy will include 11 participants.

PREVENTION UPDATES:

Prevention Division Chief Moon reported on a successful county fair, upcoming school safety inspections. He reported that Community Risk Reduction Specialist Maria Nechkash and C-Shift participated in Journey Home Animal Center story time and that preparations for the September 19 open house are underway.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/DATA UPDATES:

IT Director Gredig reported ongoing efforts to schedule demonstrations for new accounting software and continued work on technology and communications services.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE UPDATES:

Administrative Director Tillman reported ongoing work to streamline the 2027 budget template, along with continued efforts to improve payroll. She has started the onboarding process for the 11 new recruits.

LOCAL 4951:

Local 4951's representative, Lieutenant Bill Smith, reported that the Family Night Out BBQ and pool event was a great success, with plans to hold the event again next year.

DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS:

Chief Sackett shared a copy of a thank-you note recognizing crew members for standing by and supporting his mom during a hard time. Chief Sackett also expressed appreciation to Doug Richards for going "above and beyond" to quickly place the new engine into service.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Treasurer Milton-Baker expressed appreciation for the crews' continued dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving the community.

Secretary Miller echoed Treasurer Milton-Baker's appreciation and praise for the crews' dedication and service to the community.

Vice President Bristol expressed appreciation for the crews and staff, noting the positive feedback and recognition the department continues to receive from the community. She also shared pride in the department's progress, professionalism, and strong reputation within the fire service.

President Lambert thanked Channel 10 for helping keep the community informed and recognized the crews for their outstanding work and dedication throughout a challenging fire season.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business coming before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

APPROVAL:

The foregoing Minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Colorado River Fire Protection District, are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.

Date: 9/8/26

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Adrian Milton-Baker