

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 10, 2026
STATION 64
775 CASTLE VALLEY BLVD., NEW CASTLE, CO 81647**

Chairperson Lambert called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:49 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Board Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Leif Sackett, Fire Chief
Dino Ross, Legal Counsel (Via Conference Call)
Scott Van Slyke, EMS/Operations Division Chief
Zach Pigati, Wildland/Support Service Division Chief
John Gredig, IT Director
PJ Tillman, Administrative Director
Orrin Moon, Prevention Division Chief
Kevin Alvey, Battalion Chief (Via Conference Call)
Jonathan Baker, Lieutenant (Via Conference Call)
Bill Smith, Lieutenant
Colin Mason, Firefighter/Paramedic (Via Conference Call)
Robert Cooney, Firefighter/EMT
Sierra Carroll, Training Battalion Chief
Kevin Carlson, Acting Battalion Chief
Matt Mikowski, Lieutenant (Via Conference Call)

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Minutes of January 13, 2026, Regular Board Meeting
- b. Minutes of January 27, 2026, Special Meeting
- c. January 2026 Financial Reports

d. January 2026 Accounts Payable Reports

Treasure 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 provided an update on the Certificates of Participation (COPS) process, reporting that Bruce Kimmel of Ehlers has been engaged for financial advisory services, and a kickoff meeting will be scheduled with Mr. Kimmel, bond counsel K.C. Vieo, Chief Sackett, Administrative Director Tillman, and legal counsel. The next steps include soliciting underwriter proposals and completing required documentation, including an extensive document and information questionnaire currently being compiled by staff. Attorney Ross also reviewed several legislative bills of interest, outlining their potential impact on District operations.

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Fire Chief Sackett reported that the Board packet includes new business items for consideration, including the purchase of a new side-by-side and trailer, adoption of an FMLD Traditional Grant Resolution for the Station 61 renovation, and adoption of an FMLD Mini Grant Radio Resolution. Old business includes a progress update on the Station 61 renovation/expansion. Fire Chief Sackett also reported attending the Colorado State Fire Chiefs Association Critical Issues Briefing with command staff, where key topics included artificial intelligence in the fire service, emerging concerns about electric vehicle fires and associated hazardous materials risks, and potential policy implications surrounding medical marijuana use as federal reclassification is considered.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

a. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider POs for Purchase of 911 Rescue UTV, Trailer, and EMS-R Rescue Slide

Fire Chief Sackett and EMS/Operations Division Chief Van Slyke proposed purchase of a UTV, enclosed trailer, and EMS rescue slide to improve patient access in remote areas, reviewing operational examples, potential response benefits, and impacts on apparatus wear and responder fatigue. Board members asked questions regarding call frequency, equipment life expectancy, maintenance costs, and long-term replacement planning. The Board voted to table further consideration of the matter until the next meeting, so that Chief Staff can provide additional data and financial analysis to support the request.

b. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider FMLD Grant Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-02-01 for Station 61 Four-Fold Doors

Fire Chief Sackett presented a proposal to apply for an FMLD Traditional Grant to fund the purchase of four-fold high-cycle bay doors for the Station 61 renovation. The total project cost is approximately \$238,000, with FMLD expected to cover 70% (\$166,000) and the District responsible for the balance. The doors were recommended due to their durability, minimal maintenance needs, and 1.5 million cycle lifespan, making them a long-term investment for the station.

Following Board discussion, Secretary Miller moved to approve FMLD Grant Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-02-01 for Station 61 Bi-Fold Doors. Treasurer Milton-Baker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

c. Fire Chief/IT: Review and Consider FMLD Mini-Grant Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-02-02 for Bendix Radio Upgrade Project

Fire Chief Sackett and IT Director presented proposed Resolution 2026-02-02 supporting an FMLD Mini Grant application for a radio upgrade project. The grant will fund up to \$30,000 toward the approximately \$34,000 purchase of new Bendix King VHF radios to replace aging wildland radios from the early 2000s that are increasingly difficult to service and repair. The upgrade will improve reliability and allow older radios to be moved to reserve status.

Following Board discussion, Director Haderlie moved to approve the FMLD Mini-Grant Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-02-02 for Bendix Radio Upgrade Project. Treasurer Milton-Baker seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS/FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

a. Fire Chief/Facilities: Station 61 Renovation Progress Report

Fire Chief Sackett updated the Board on the status of the design and engineering documents needed for the project and ongoing coordination efforts to schedule the initial kickoff meeting on the Certificates of Participation. Attorney Ross stated that he is working to expedite the process, and expects initial steps to be underway within the next week.

WILDLAND/SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATES:

Wildland & Support Services Division Chief Pigati stated that two tenders were successfully sold for a total of \$175,000, helping offset replacement costs. Building maintenance efforts

continue, including upgrades to the training room and ongoing facility repairs. The wildland division reported strong recruitment results, with 57 applicants testing for three positions, attributed largely to word-of-mouth and the division's positive reputation. The County Commissioners also recognized and praised the division's wildfire resiliency efforts.

EMS/OPERATIONS UPDATES:

EMS/Operations Division Chief Van Slyke reported the addition of new medications for pain management and smoke inhalation injuries. He also stated that Training Battalion Chief Carroll completed all protocol rollout trainings, and Acting Battalion Chief Carlson assisted with instructing.

PREVENTION UPDATES:

Prevention Division Chief Moon reviewed new subdivision and airport expansion projects, noting increased plan review activity and coordination with city planning for fire safety requirements.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/DATA UPDATES:

IT Director Gredig reported a slight decrease in January call volume, with recovery in February, and discussed ongoing software challenges.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE UPDATES:

Administrative Director Tillman reported activity levels slowed somewhat. Administrative operations continue, including preparation of meeting minutes and ongoing Board coordination. Administrative Assistant Valencia is developing new engagement strategies and promotional materials, including updated stickers and branding efforts, to enhance the District's outreach and visibility.

LOCAL 4951:

Lietenant Smith from the International Association of Firefighters Local 4951 provided a report on the Local's activities, including monthly meetings, membership achievements, and the start of an auxiliary.

DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS:

Fire Chief Sackett shared several positive updates, including successful mitigation projects, firefighter commendations, and community appreciation for the firefighters' efforts.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Treasurer Milton-Baker expressed appreciation to the department, noting that it is a privilege to be part of the organization.

Director Haderlie stated she looks forward to receiving additional data regarding the proposed UTV purchase to support an informed decision.

Secretary Miller thanked everyone for their continued work and dedication. He shared a personal connection to airport fire service operations, reflecting on past experience.

Vice President Bristol thanked the department for being open to discussion about gathering additional data to support informed decisions. She also expressed appreciation to the Local's representatives for their extra time and commitment in serving the membership while also performing their regular duties.

President Lambert expressed appreciation for the Wildland Division's recent efforts, noting their productivity, and commended the entire department for its hard work and dedication. He stated that positive feedback from the community reflects the department's strong performance and commitment to service.

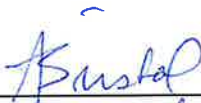
ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business coming before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 8:17 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: 10 March 26



Date: 10 March 2026

