**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
COLORADO RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JUNE 9, 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

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
Matt Mikowski, Lieutenant (Via Video Conference)
Kevin Alvey, Battalion Chief (Via Video Conference)
Bill Smith, Lieutenant
Jonathan Baker, Lieutenant

Board Member Absent:
Addy Bristol, Vice President

Treasure Milton-Baker moved to excuse Vice President Bristol from the meeting. Secretary Miller seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:
None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Minutes of May 12, 2026, Regular Board Meeting
b. May 2026 Financial Reports
c. May 2026 Accounts Payable Reports

d. May 2026 Lexipol Policy Review

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 informed the Board that the Certificates of Participation financing is progressing toward a tentative June 30 closing. He discussed the status of the title insurance required for the transaction and the internal lot line dissolution the Town is requiring before the renovation and expansion of Station 61 can commence. He advised the Board that his real estate partner, Elizabeth Woodward, has been handling the issues related to these matters. Attorney Ross also reviewed the status of the 2026 legislation enacted by the Colorado Legislature. .

FIRE CHIEF REPORT:

Fire Chief Sackett reported that recent red flag warnings, high temperatures, drought conditions, and recent fires supported the decision to implement fire restrictions. He noted that fire danger indicators have increased significantly, with some areas reaching above the 90th percentile. The District is also working on alternative training methods to conserve water and participated in countywide Public Service Announcements related to wildfire preparedness and evacuation planning. He closed by thanking the membership for their dedication and hard work over the past month.

NEW BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

a. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-06-01 Approval of Supplemental 2025 Budget

Secretary Miller made a motion to approve Resolution CRFPD 2026-06-01 adopting the Supplemental 2025 Budget, appropriating the revenues, and approving the expenditures set forth therein, for the Colorado River Fire Protection District. Treasurer Milton Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Fire Chief/IT: Review and Consider Radio Grant Resolution No. CRFPD-2026-06-02

IT Director Gredig reviewed Resolution No. CRFPD 2026-06-02, requesting Board approval to accept the mini-grant awarded by the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District for completion of the Bendix King VHF radio upgrade project. Director Haderlie made a motion to approve the resolution, and Secretary Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider approving Station 61 Certificates of Participation Documentation

Chief Sackett and Attorney Ross reviewed transaction documents that had previously been approved at the April Board meeting and are now finalized and ready for use. The documents included the Site Lease, Lease, Preliminary Official Statement and Notice of Sale. No action was required, as this was informational only. The Board was also informed that the District received an A+ rating from S&P Global Ratings.

d. Fire Chief/Administration: Review and Consider approving the PNC Bank Lease Purchase Agreement for a New Engine

Chief Sackett reviewed the PNC Bank lease purchase agreement for the new engine. Because the final documents were still pending legal review, Secretary Miller made a motion to authorize Chief Sackett and President Lambert to finalize the documents after review by legal counsel. Treasurer Milton-Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS/FOLLOW-UP ITEMS:

a. Fire Chief/Operations: Continued Review and Consideration of Additional Line Personnel Staffing Action Item

Chief VanSlyke reviewed the continued consideration of additional line personnel staffing. After further review of staffing levels, overtime costs, and current vacancies, staff recommended adding two additional line personnel, increasing total line personnel staffing from 42 to 44. The additional positions are intended to provide staffing flexibility, reduce reliance on overtime, and support employee health, safety, and work-life balance. The estimated annual cost is approximately $125,000 per position, with anticipated reductions to the overtime budget.

Treasurer Milton-Baker made a motion to approve Option 3, authorizing the hiring of two additional employees to increase staffing levels to 44 line personnel. Secretary Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WILDLAND/SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATES:

Wildland & Support Services Division Chief Pigati reported that wildland operations were very busy in May, with crews deployed to Florida, New Mexico, Pueblo, and San Juan. Approximately $750,000 has been billed year-to-date for 2026. He also provided updates on fleet and building maintenance, including final inspections for new apparatus, ongoing station maintenance, and the sale of a Type 3 engine for $305,000. The District is reviewing options to purchase an additional Type 6 engine for the wildland division, with more information to be brought to the Board next month.

EMS/OPERATIONS UPDATES:

EMS/Operations Division Chief Van Slyke provided an update on staffing, recruitment, and training. He noted that Firefighter/Paramedic Steven resigned to pursue a full-time Physician Assistant program and wished him well. He also reported that there was a strong applicant pool for the paramedic assessment center. Two members were selected for CMU's paramedic program, , Crews completed multiple required trainings over the past month.

PREVENTION UPDATES:

Prevention Division Chief Moon provided updates on community risk reduction and recent incidents. He noted ongoing "Ready, Set, Go" presentations for senior groups in the valley, including New Castle and Rifle, to help residents better understand evacuation preparedness. He also reported on a recent lightning-related structure fire that was quickly handled by crews, as well as continued participation in community education events, including police department bike rodeos.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/DATA UPDATES:

IT Director Gredig provided an update on ongoing communications and technology projects, including continued work on the workstation conversion and preparing the new Battalion Chief truck for service. He also reported that overall 911 call volume is showing a slight decrease in 2026.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE UPDATES:

Administrative Director Tillman reported that she spent significant time working on the Supplemental 2025 Budget. She also noted that Administrative Support Assistant Valencia assisted with public information efforts, including social media updates, and helped with scheduling and coordination for upcoming community and District-related events.

LOCAL 4951:

Local 4951's representative, Lieutenant Bill Smith, reported that the membership fully supports Chief Staff's hiring initiative and thanked the Board of Directors for their support. He also noted that progress continues on the wage study and GIS analysis, with data being submitted and results expected soon

DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS:

Fire Chief Sackett shared good news, including a citizen thank-you recognizing Lieutenant Stewart and Firefighter/EMT Perry for their professionalism, kindness, and compassion during a medical call. Engineer Cahalan was also recognized for his leadership in coordinating hazmat training, and the recruitment and retention committee was thanked for their successful efforts, including strong applicant numbers and positive ride-along feedback.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Secretary Miller commented that he would like to see more media coverage and recognition of the Wildland Division's efforts and the work they do. He also stated that he is very proud of each member and their contributions.

Treasurer Milton-Baker commented that the New Castle crews do excellent work and deserve more recognition for their efforts. She encouraged them to keep up the good work and expressed appreciation for their service to the community.

Director Haderlie commented that she appreciated staff reviewing the staffing numbers and encouraged them to return to the Board if strong candidates are identified who may be too good to pass up. She noted the importance of flexibility in the hiring process to avoid missing a good fit for the organization.

President Lambert commented that the Station 61 groundbreaking is a significant milestone for the District and the Town of Silt. He noted the importance of the project and stated that it is something the community and District can be proud of.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no other business coming before the Board, Chairperson Lambert adjourned the meeting at 7:48 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: 7/14/26 ______________________

Date: 7-14-2026 ______________________ Audria Milton-Baker