



Chaffee County Fire Protection District

499 Antero Circle
Buena Vista, Colorado 81211

MINUTES

January 7, 2026, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

499 Antero Circle, Buena Vista CO

<u>Board of Directors:</u>	<u>Office:</u>	<u>Term Expires:</u>
Seat 1 – Thomas Navarrette	Vice President/Treasurer	5/2029
Seat 2 – Stuart Langrehr	President/Chairperson	5/2027
Seat 3 – Mary Brown	Director	5/2027 (Absent)
Seat 4 – Gregg Grant	Director	5/2027 (Absent)
Seat 5 – Brent Jewell	Director	5/2029

Staff:

Kira Jones	Fire Chief
Erynn Hickins	Administrative Assistant/Secretary to the Board

Legal Counsel	Dino Ross (via zoom)
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Langrehr called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM.

Chairperson Langrehr stated that he wants a policy regarding excused/unexcused Board member absences. Attorney Ross advised the Board that it cannot bind a future Board with such a policy, and that a subsequent Board would be free to change or rescind the policy. Discussion followed.

Director Jewell moved that, commencing February 1, 2026, any Board member who fails to notify either a Board member or Chief Staff in advance that they will not be attending a regular or special meeting shall be deemed unexcused from that meeting, unless the absence is due to a temporary mental or physical illness or injury. President Langrehr seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chief Jones requested that the Board consider adding to agenda item 6 d. "Add Chief Kira Jones and Captain Chris Stromer to the list of individuals permitted to access the TBK Safety Deposit Box."

President Langrehr moved to approve the agenda as amended. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES

- a. December 10, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes.

Following review, President Langrehr moved to approve the December 10, 2025, Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. December 17, 2025, Special Board meeting minutes.

Following review, President Langrehr moved to approve the December 17, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes with amendment to the spelling of "Session" on agenda item 2. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. ATTORNEYS' REPORT

Attorney Ross presented his report. Discussion followed.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Hiring 3rd Party Billing Company Fire Recovery USA.

Chief Jones provided an overview of the company and the district's need for a third-party billing company. Discussion followed.

President Langrehr moved to table the discussion until the February Board meeting. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Adjusted Minimums for Volunteers Who are Also Full-Time Shift Firefighters.

Chief Jones provided an overview of the issue. Board discussion followed.

Director Jewell moved to approve the adjusted minimums as presented by Chief Jones for volunteer firefighters who are also full-time shift firefighters to 25 CORE hours, a letter from the district of employment advising that the member is in good status, 25 hours of fire-specific training and instruction of one Chaffee County fire training course.

for Volunteers who are also full-time staff Firefighters. President Langrehr seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Discuss District's Policy Regarding Vacation Leave and Payout for Staff.

Chief Jones stated that Chief Staff's historical practice regarding the annual payout of vacation leave has not followed the Member Handbook. Board discussion followed.

Vice President Navarrette moved to establish District Policy, effective December 31, 2025, that all exempt and non-exempt employees: 1) will be allowed to carryover up to 80 hours of vacation leave from year to year, 2) will be paid at the end of a calendar for vacation leave hours that exceed the 80 carryover hours, up to a maximum of 40 hours, and, 3) shall forfeit all vacation leave hours that exceed 120 hours at the end of a calendar year. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Consider authorizing Chief Jones and Captain Chris Stromer to Access TBK Safety deposit box.

Following discussion, Director Jewell moved to authorize Chief Kira Jones and Captain Chris Stromer to be added to TBK safety deposit box authorized personnel, effective immediately. Vice President Navarrette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

Chief Jones and Administrative Assistant Hickins presented. Discussion followed.

Director Jewell moved to approve the financial statements as presented and all payments made in the month of December 2025. Vice President Navarrette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

8. STAFF REPORTS

Chief Jones presented the Staff reports. Discussion followed.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Resolution 2026-01 Establishing Minimum Square Footage for Residential Impact Fees.

Following discussion, President Langrehr moved to amend Resolution 2026-01, establishing Minimum Square Footage for Residential Impact Fees to increase the square footage from 300 square feet to 400 square feet. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

President Langrehr moved to approve Resolution 2026-01 as amended. Vice President Navarrette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Review and Approval of the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan.

Chief Jones and the Board discussed the current version of the strategic plan.

Vice President Navarrette moved to approve and adopt the 2025-2030 Strategic Plan as amended with title dates. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

10. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATION PERIOD

Chief Jones stated that this standing agenda item has been added to afford the Board and Chief Jones the opportunity to discuss anything relating to the district that a Board member may want to discuss. Discussion followed.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

12. POSSIBLE ACTION ON MATTER DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

13. ACTION ITEMS

None.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Langrehr moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 PM. Director Jewell seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL

We attest that the foregoing minutes, which have been approved by the affirmative majority vote of the Board of Directors of the Chaffee County Fire Protection District, are a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the date stated above.

Stu Langrehr, Board President

Erynn Hickins, Secretary to the Board