

.3POLK COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO.1
Board of Directors
August 13, 2026
6:00pm – Central Station
Location: 1800 Monmouth St., Independence, OR 97351

Also Virtually at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83280363029?pwd=NGRDdTVMOHJNMIRQR3ZSV055Um1wZz09>

Meeting ID: 832 8036 3029 - Passcode: 801072

President Jeff Hamilton (absent)	Chief Ben Stange
Vice President Cord Von Derahe (absent)	DC Neal Olson (absent)
Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer	DC Frank Ehrmantraut
Director Curtis Cole	DC Troy Crafton (absent)
Director Dan Miller	Office Administrator Stephanie Hale
	Office Assistant Anne Schuyler-Moon

CALL MEETING TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Anyone wishing to address the Board please sign the sheet on the back table with your name and topic that you would like to discuss. If you are online, please use the raise hand feature when it comes time for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes but the Board welcomes additional information in writing. Typically, a speaker's comment is taken under advisement to allow time for the Board to review an issue, however, the Board may ask a speaker for additional information or may convey to the speaker some information that addresses their comment.

Meeting minutes will be recorded and kept for 60 months.

Open for public comment on any of the agenda items.

Director Dan Miller – Motion to take the agenda as a whole.

Director Curtis Cole – Second

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – Discussion?

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – Medical supplies and oxygen in budget? Already spent 33%

Chief Stange– That is Stryker contract, ongoing preventative maintenance, billed annually

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Motion passes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1) Board Agenda
- 2) Approve July 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- 3) Financials:
 - 3a. Approval of Disbursements for July 1-31, 2026
 - 3b. Finance report for the month of July 31 2026

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Crash Involving Medic 480
 - a. Chief Stange– We have one member off of work.
 - b. Previously expressed concern about insurance process but it is going extremely well.
 - c. We received a value for a replacement ambulance. We bought a very good ambulance, very safe and that safety costs. That was recognized.
 - d. Matt Connery noted the salvage was worth more and we offered to buy it for \$3500.
 - e. New ambulance WILL end up costing more because of cost increases.

- f. It is written that the new ambulance is not in service but we were waiting to see if we need a separate claim for cots. Found out yesterday it is fine to continue usage.
 - g. Need to replace the stair chair.
 - h. OHA has all the paperwork, just waiting for the go-ahead.
 - i. Intern who was in the medic, injured and transported– today was her first shift back to complete her internship.
- b) Billing for Treatment, No-Transport EMS Calls
 - a. Chief Stange– The Board Policy 13.8 was updated last December. Allowing us to bill for refusal call.
 - b. Bill insurance but not balance bill the patients.
 - c. Preliminary numbers for first 6 months–received over \$82,000 for first six months.
 - d. 70% of these payments are from different Medicaid programs.
 - e. Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – Was this part of original model?
 - i. Chief Stange–Yes. It had been broken down, it is not a surprise but it is a demonstration that when we put this together, there was a specific intent and it is aligning.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Audit Contract for Service Agreement
 - a. Chief Stange –Received different quotes and stuck with previous auditor – RedW
 - b. Went pretty well last year, year before more tough
 - i. They were behind year before, but everyone was, and they did well last year.
 - c. Has a proposal and says ready to go.
 - d. Recommendation to use RedW
 - e. **Director Dan Miller** – Motion to accept contract for RedW
 - f. **Director Curtis Cole** – Second
 - g. **Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer** – Discussion?
 - h. **Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer** – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Motion passes.
- b) Purchase of Community Paramedic Vehicle through RHTP Grant
 - a. Says action request but not this month.
 - b. We received grant for community paramedic.
 - c. Resource Navigator with our community paramedic work together
 - d. We will do the same thing as our last staff vehicle which was purchase through Gresham Ford and outfit through Wireworks
 - e. Only reason not asking to approve is we haven't received a final contract or clarity on reimbursement.
 - f. Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – What is Resource Navigator?
 - i. Chief Stange– A person who works for the county that has access to programs at Family & Community Outreach to help community paramedic and patient be paired with helpful services. That position is part of the grant.
- c) Resolution 2026-05 Transfer Funds to Equipment Reserve Fund
 - a. Recommendation in Resolution 2026-05 is to transfer to Reserve Fund so when we are ready to sign something we can make that purchase.
 - b. Stephanie has been in communication with Dept of Revenue and how it affects supplemental budgets. We have assurances that we don't need it.
 - c. **Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer** – I make a motion to pass Resolution 2026-05
 - d. **Director Dan Miller** – Second
 - e. **Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer** – Discussion?
 - f. **Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer** – All in favor, none opposed, carried – Motion passes.

CHIEFS REPORT:

- a) Safe Streets and Roads of All Update
 - i. Quarterly Reports – we didn't know what we needed at first, they said to send us stuff and see. Anne has been compiling and creating systems. We sent exactly what she had and they said it was exactly perfect.
 - ii. Requires \$600,000 in-kind and we will mostly do that through time. About \$17,000 to keep pace. May we had \$20,000 and June we had \$21,000. So we are meeting and slightly exceeding.
 - iii. Starting to make some small purchases, going through some procurement processes.
 - iv. Hired EMS Coordinator to coordinate classes because we'll provide them for other organizations.
- b) Conflagration Update
 - i. July 14th – 1st task force East Evans. Got back Tuesday
 - ii. Then sent new crew to Sisters and pivoted North. They got back the last day of July 31st
 - iii. Aug 6th we were asked to do a preposition in Douglas County and 24 hours later they were deployed and they got back about 5hrs ago
 - iv. We've hardly had a shift go unfilled. Fully staffed despite those folks being gone.
 - v. Gives us confidence to know that everyone is stepping up.
 - vi. Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer – Are we doing more mutual aid or is that holding steady?
 - 1. Chief Stange – I think we would do about the same mutual aid. Regardless if they had people on those mobilizations we would have gone on these fires.
 - vii. It familiarizes our crews with one another, opportunity to learn new tactics.
- c) Testimony for Oregon Government Ethics Commission
 - i. Tomorrow morning Chief Stange will testify how some of the interpretations of some of the rules are impacting our boards.
 - ii. One thing that is referencing is the crash and the inability to communicate with the board members even though they may be met with press calls etc.
- d) Water Usage Changes from Previous Year
 - i. Our July water bill was \$2700 and this year is \$1900
- e) Salem Hospital Stroke Alerts
 - i. Over 60 stroke alerts to Salem Hospital
 - ii. About 1/3 did end up having some sort of stroke activity
 - iii. Of those 60 patients, 100% of the time the doctor agreed with the assessment and assessed them.
 - iv. Discussion about stroke alert process in hospital system.
- f) Hood to Coast
 - i. Only a few weeks away // Friday 28th & Saturday 29th
 - ii. Two teams
 - iii. Harmony Alvarez and Allison Wells leading the teams. Doing so much work.
 - iv. Noted improvement in metrics through Strava app. Comradery and also impressive runs from the start of training to now.
- g) Notable Incidents
 - i. We've had so many calls hard to pick notable.
 - ii. Discussed Oakvilla Fire – lot of resources there. Helicopter etc.
 - iii. Oakdale Fire, Stange was asked to potentially evacuate Falls City
 - iv. Lightning storm caused 4 fires in our response district. ODF had 50+

- v. In July we had 13 vegetation fires
- vi. Two days ago, high risk grass fire, trying to protect a mobile home and at same time we had a kitchen stove fire in town
- vii. Two CPR calls this week where we've had return of circulation on them

TOPICS FOLLOWING THE PREPARATION OF AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Director Curtis Cole – No. Good job on conflagration.

Director Dan Miller–Good job Anne for setting the standard on the grant.

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer–Same.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: According to ORS 192.660 (d) and (h). Meeting will reconvene without any decisions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Secretary Mike Lippsmeyer adjourned the meeting at 6:33pm, went into Executive Session, and reconvened meeting at 6:51pm and adjourned meeting at 6:51pm.

Minutes by Anne Schuyler-Moon