



## **Durango Fire Protection District**

### **Minutes of the DFPD Board of Directors Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026, 8: 00 a.m. | 103 Sheppard Dr, Durango, CO. 81301**

#### **Call to Order**

President Karen Barger called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:01 a.m.

#### **Roll Call**

Board members present: Karen Barger (President), Rob Farino, John Dezendorf, Samantha Gallagher, Tina McCallum, Lyle McKnight, David Stokes, Legal Counsel Bud Smith

DFR Staff members present include Chief Randy Black, Deputy Chief Michael Krupa, HR Director Megan Kunch, Finance Director Eric Baker, Battalion Chief Drew Duvall, Emilia Mejewski, Howard Smith, Johnny Rooney

#### **Agenda**

No other additions, deletions or revisions.

*A motion was made to approve the agenda, then seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- October 28<sup>th</sup> 2025 regular board meeting minutes –

*A motion was made by Rob Farino to approve the minutes, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.*

- March 27<sup>th</sup> 2026 regular board meeting minutes –

*A motion was made by Samantha Gallagher to approve the minutes, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.*

## Public Comment

No public comment.

## Announcements/Presentations

No announcements

## Reports

### Oral Report: Chief Black

- New ladder truck should be done in a few weeks, sending crew to do final inspections.
- Sent 3 people out on the final on the ambulance. There will be some fixes. In 4 – 6 weeks should be ready
- Station 4 docs, estimator is out getting bids. 11<sup>th</sup> of May should have the first cost estimate for the station. Once received we will sit down with the finance committee
- Remodel for station 1 & 15 – still in progress.
- No word on congressional spending – yet.
- Staff – New Community Educator
- Interviews for the EMS Educator
- Few applicants for the Deputy Fire Marshal App
  - Will remain open
- Division Chief Position
  - 7 applications
- Congrats to Rob as LPC Emergency Manager
- Wildland is out working mitigation projects
  - Fully staffed
  - Mitigation work is some of the best things we can do with this drought
  - Hoping to educate the public – creating 1-pagers and videos/graphics on socials

- Also publishing with Visit Durango for visitors to understand the conditions in our area and where to stay updated on fire bans
- 2 structure fires
  - Edgemont Highlands
    - 2 structures caught on fire, almost could've had a third. Fire was also creeping up some ponderosa pines
    - Due to mitigation the fire didn't creep up the trees
    - Our crews did a great job stopping the fire quickly
  - Florida x Holly
    - house fire – whole side of house on fire
    - Quick attack – most of the fire was on the exterior

#### Oral Report: Bud Smith

- Pushing the city to educate the public that is annexing their property to learn and understand the process. Paying taxes to the city also contributes to the fire department.
- The city should be providing packets to individuals that want to annex property taxes.

#### Written Report: Finance Director, Eric Baker

- 2026 Financial report received by the Board.  
*A motion was made by Rob Farino to approve the minutes, seconded by Lyle McKnight. Motion carried unanimously*

#### Written Report: Fire Marshal, Stephen Rinaldi

- Report received by the Board.

### **New Business**

1. Petition for exclusion
  - Petition properly filed

*Tina McCallum made a motion to approve the petition, seconded by Samantha Gallagher. Approved unanimously to remove from fire district.*

**Old Business**

No old business.

**Executive Session**

*No executive session*

**Adjournment**

President Karen Barger adjourned at 8:48 a.m.

Signed:   
Karen Barger, President 

Date: 5/26/2024

Attest: 

Taylor Arnold, Executive Assistant & HR Generalist