



LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

9414 South Spruce Mountain Road Larkspur, Colorado 80118

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2026

Present

Rodger Greer, President
Ed Chambers, Treasurer
Wayne Moore, Secretary via Zoom
Aaron Matthewson, Board Member
Tony Caterina-Excused
Tim McCawley, Fire Chief
Charles Walden, Deputy Fire Chief

Frances Esty, LFPD Accountant-Excused
Patti Nygaard, Admin. Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (limit 3 min. pp/limit 30 min. total)

- a. None

3. AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

- a. None

4. APPROVAL OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- a. May 13, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Chambers motioned to approve the May 13, 2026, regular meeting minutes and Mr. Matthewson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- b. June 1, 2026, Special Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Chambers motioned to approve the June 1, 2026, special board meeting minutes and Mr. Mathewson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Mr. Chambers gave the financial report from the treasurer's report, profit and loss summary and detail report.
 - i. May transferred \$410,000.00 from ColoTrust General Fund to Community Banks.
 - ii. May transferred \$239,250 from Capital Fund to Community Bank of Colorado checking account for the first lease payment for the three new ambulances.
 - iii. ColoTrust Total Funds Available = \$3,054,675.00
 - Restricted Funds = \$1,029,081.00
 - Reserved Funds = \$128,054.00
 - Total Income for May = \$1,148,475.00
 - Total Expenses for May = \$452,642.00
 - iii. Income Summary at 60% year to date.
 - iv. Expense Summary at 42% year to date.
 - v. Capital Account balance is \$901,026.00.

b. Mr. Chambers commented on line item categories that had gone over budget.

Mr. Mathewson motioned to approve the financial report and Mr. Moore seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. New Engine Purchase.

- i. Chief McCawley stated that we are in line for an engine. We are starting to assemble an apparatus committee. We are committing and in line for an engine and the cost is \$1.248 million with Front Range Fire Apparatus. The time frame is up to forty-eight months to receive a fire engine. Our current engines are having issues and are showing their age.

Mr. Mathewson motioned to approve the entry into a purchase agreement with Front Range Fire Apparatus for the purchase of a new fire engine and Mr. Chambers seconded. All were in Favor and the motion carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution 2026-006 Calling for a November 3, 2026, Special Election, Authorizing an Election and Appointing a Designated Election Official.

Mr. Chambers motioned to adopt Resolution 2026-006 Designated Election Official Appointment for November 3, 2026, and Mr. Mathewson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- b. Resolution 2026-007 Community Banks of Colorado Bank Signature Card.

Mr. Mathewson motioned to accept 2026-007 Resolution Community Banks of Colorado Signature card authorization and Mr. Chambers seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- c. Resolution 2026-008 Establishing and Implementing a Program to Charge Mitigation Rates for the Deployment of Emergency and Non-Emergency Services by the District for Services Provided/Rendered by/for Larkspur Fire Protection District.

- i. Chief McCawley stated that this is a company called Fire Recovery USA and we have done our due diligence. This company will help get auto insurance companies to pay for auto accidents, hazard response incidents, illegal fires, water rescues, back country rescues that happen in our district. We have submitted everything to our lawyer for approval, in which they did approve along with an addendum to the service agreement.
- ii. Chief McCawley stated we have the option to bill anyone but we will not send a tax paying citizen to collections ever.
- iii. Chief McCawley stated that Fire Recovery USA was a part of an EMS billing company and that businesses that have this company had favorable things to say such as quick in their billing process, they integrate into our records management system, they have a good return rate, they take 22% of what is collected but they don't make anything unless they make us money. Fire Recovery USA has 1200 fire departments that they are billing.

- iv. Mr. Chambers asked how the rates are established. Chief McCawley stated that rates are based on industry standards and what insurance companies will pay and what we can get on an hourly rate based on national standards. Our annual renewals and rate changes would happen in August. When a CPI increase happens, we will need to have board approval before the August board meeting.
- v. Mr. Moore asked what the anticipated impact would be on revenue. Chief McCawley stated that we do not know yet but the agencies that have used Fire Recovery USA have brought in anywhere from \$8,000 to \$20,000 per month.
- vi. Chief McCawley stated that this would help in the recovery cost of Interstate 25 auto accidents.
- vii. Chief McCawley stated that this will be a one-year contract that renews automatically and if we no longer want to use Fire Recovery USA then we need to give them written ten-day notice of cancellation.
- viii. Chief Walden stated that the Larkspur Fire citizens always talk about the accidents on Interstate 25 and those accidents are not Larkspur citizen in which it takes away from the response to Larkspur citizens. Larkspur Fire citizens want people on the interstate charged for the accidents that happen.

Mr. Mathewson motioned to approve Resolution 2026-008 Establishing and Implementing a Program to Charge Mitigation Rates and Mr. Chambers seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Mr. Mathewson motioned to approve the Addendum to Services Agreement to Resolution 2026-008 and Mr. Moore seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

8. REPORTS

- a. Union Report – Ryan Smedra, Union President
 - i. 1 new member to the Union.
 - ii. Officially in the grant process with CPFF and starting communication with IFF to assist with campaigning.
- b. Chief McCawley Report
 - i. Call volume is 451 calls, 104 calls in May with 56% EMS calls and an average response time of 11 minutes, 3 seconds. Chute time of 2 minutes, 15 seconds.
 - ii. Chief McCawley stated that we have changed our credit card payments company. New system is more efficient with a stand-alone device for tap to pay. Fire Marshal Jeff Hahn can take payments when he is doing inspections and Training Lieutenant Rusty Booth can send invoices.
 - iii. Staffing Update – Overtime is not going to get better since a person came off of light duty but another individual went onto workman's compensation. A paramedic is returning from paternity leave.
 - iv. Community Events – Junior Fire Academy is coming up, Spray Days is scheduled for August, Open House and Town Hall meetings dates are getting looked at.
 - v. Chief McCawley stated that the department is now moving to the education side for the election process since the tax payers had resoundingly said that 57 percent want to do the 3.97 mill levy and \$4.5 million bond. Next steps will be yard signs to support Larkspur Fire.
 - vi. Fitness Equipment – Did major purchase initially and completed but periodic purchases will happen.

- vii. Renaissance Festival – Operationally we do not provide support. Inspections have started and Jeff Hahn has taken over the EMS Coordinator for the Fair.
- viii. Wildfire Deployments – We are caught up on the billing.
- ix. EMS Billing – We are caught up on EMS billing and should see small amounts.
- x. Bank Accounts – Chief McCawley stated he was looking at addressing this topic during budget time which was October for the Edge account. Mr. Chambers spoke to this regarding making more interest and should we consider taking part of the general fund and moving it into Edge account since there are no fees to move it. Edge account you can move the money back into the Plus/Plus account in one day. There was conversation regarding the negative and positive aspects of the Edge account. Mr. Chambers stated that the Larkspur account has \$3.05 million dollars available, and he was thinking of putting 5% or \$150,000.00 into the Edge account and revisit it in a few months to see if everything is okay or move it back to the Plus/Plus account. The board would need to make a motion to move the money back into the Plus/Plus account.

Mr. Chambers motioned to move \$150,000.00 from our general account that is Plus/Plus and move it into the Edge account and Mr. Mathewson seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

- xi. Website Changes – Andy Lyon and Mitchell Stewart have been doing a great job making it new and vibrant. Huge uptick in Facebook and media in general.
- xii. Promotions and Awards – No additional promotions but we have been giving out awards such as great customer service and lifesaving awards.
- xiii. Deep Fire Predictions – Initial website items that Battalion Chief Campagnola brought up as an example.
- xiv. Exterior Lighting – Exterior was changed to red but should have been on a timer and switched since the neighbors were worried about the glare. Mr. Chambers stated that the red light is hard to see in the evening when you are walking outside of the building.
- xv. Facility Updates – Jeff Hahn spoke regarding Station 162 upgrades and changes to the Station 161 office and clothing closet, time frames and where we are at.
- xvi. Mr. Mathewson asked if the Douglas County fire restrictions have been lifted and Fire Marshal Jeff Hahn said they have been lifted. Office of Emergency Management recommend Douglas County to lift fire restrictions or not.
- xvii. Mr. Greer asked about the fire by the train tracks and Fire Marshal Jeff Hahn stated that it was some busted steel on the tracks that sparked the adjacent grass.
- xviii. Mr. Greer asked about the evacuation plan from the Renaissance Festival. Fire Chief McCawley stated that it is not going to change from the previous years and the plan is to open all lanes of traffic to leave except one lane to have emergency vehicles coming in.
- xix. Mr. Mathewson asked if we are fully staffed at four full-time individuals at both stations and Chief McCawley stated we are when individuals are cleared and not out on workman's compensation.
- xx. Mr. Greer asked about the run cards when both stations are fully staffed, and Chief McCawley stated the Battalion Chief Chad Campagnola is working this topic.
- xxi. Training Lieutenant Rusty Booth spoke regarding the training classes taking place at Larkspur Fire from all over the state. Rusty stated that he was asked to facilitate a Fire Officer II class for the state and Chief McCawley was asked to facilitate a Fire Officer III class for the state. Rusty spoke regarding the off-site UTV training and the off-site Fire

Academy wildland training plus brush truck training in Perry Park. Chief McCawley spoke regarding the Libby House, original station 161 to have discussion to possibly partner with the owner to use the space as a teaching space or other opportunities. Fire Academy graduation is Aug.7 at the Larkspur Church.

- xxii. Regarding the local training centers, Castle Rock Fire Training tower is still down since it requires \$81,000 in repairs. Chief McCawley stated that we committed \$5,000 from our training budget to put towards the use of the tower in the monies go towards the repair of the fire tower. Monument's tower is on hold right now, but when it opens the training openings will go to Colorado Springs College. Black Forest training structure is open, but Rusty believes it is not a safe building. Air Force Academy structure was also down for repair but hopefully will get repaired soon. Franktown Fire is running an academy right now, so we needed to adjust our schedule to be able to use their training trailer. State training trailer is \$590,000 and they come from Canada. Pricing for the parking lot and training pad is about \$300-\$400,000. We do have a water tap on that property so the cost for hydrants would be \$30,000.
- xxiii. AI – Rusty stated we are using for meeting minutes, Zoom summaries, Presentation program called Prezi and Pano which is an AI camera system which alerts for smoke to help determine if it is a fire and gives coordinates.
- xxiv. Firefighter Toby Veit has been tasked with tracking volunteer firefighter hours and letting the volunteers know about training opportunities.

c. Chief Walden Report

- i. Grant Update – FEMA grants all opened at one time and close on June 22.
- ii. Fire Grant – looking for training enhancements.
- iii. SAFER Grant – assume did not get the grant for firefighter positions. Will revise and submit again.
- iv. Fire Prevention and Safety Grant – Smokey the Bear has been a great outreach item and looking to get similar costumes of this nature. Lt. Ohlin looking to get donation money for smoke detectors plus other community outreach items.
- v. State Grants – Chief Walden stated we have submitted for grants but have not won any state grants.
- vi. El Pomar Grant – Submitted and there was never a decision but will submit again.
- vii. State Farm Grant – Still pending and never heard back.
- viii. Tagawa Grant – Still pending and never heard back.
- ix. Extrication Gloves – if do not get grant, BC Lamb will order as a PPE line item that is in our budget.
- x. Lightening Arrestors – Holding off on the lightening arrestors since we have submitted a claim for hail damage on our station 161 roof and it is over \$50,000.
- xi. Placement of Unmanned Aerial Drones – Station 161, we would pay an additional cost for the strengthening of the roof since the drone would need to be checked every month. Legislation to restrict the drones fell through so the sheriff's office is going to move away from the original contractor and have a new contractor that will come out to evaluate. This is only an exterior drone.
- xii. Striping on the new road – Contractor working with us for “no turns” on road or with a private vendor for \$3,500. The town said they would get signage for “no turns.”
- xiii. Risk Reduction Lawn/Garden in front of building – Demonstrate fire resistant plants and trees.

d. Admin. Report

- i. Special District Association Conference is happening Sept. 15-17 if interested in attending.
- e. Staff Report
 - i. Chief McCawley stated Patti is working hard on a new credit card platform called Kurv and she will be getting a new standing desk for her office.
 - ii. Chief McCawley stated that the shifts have been working really hard cleaning and taking care of the facility while all of the classes are happening. Also, a particular member ran on a difficult call and in affect wanted to help this particular family in which we bought dinner for the family. Our members are dedicated to our community.
 - iii. Chief McCawley stated that training officer Rusty Booth has been nominated as state training officer of the year by two different parties, Larkspur Fire and Windsor Severance. Rusty stated that he is getting placed as either the secretary or the president of the Colorado Fire Training Officer Association.
 - iv. Rusty Booth stated that Scott Griffith went to an electrical vehicle fires training class in Utah. He became a trainer and he is working with a state representative to bring that class back here.
 - v. Mr. Mathewson stated he will miss the August board meeting and the Fire Academy graduation.

9. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Chambers motioned to adjourn the regular session at 8:48 pm. Mr. Mathewson second. All were in favor and the motion carried.