

CRESTED BUTTE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
Mt. Crested Butte Fire Station 2  
Tuesday, October 7, 2025  
Approved: November 11, 2025

Attendance

Board Members Present: Jack Dietrich, Matt Halvorson, Ken Lodovico, Eric Tunkey  
Guests: Todd Goulding- Goulding Development Advisors  
Staff, Volunteers and Public: Sean Caffrey, Rob Weisbaum, Annie Tunkey, Jeff Duke, Ric Ems, Veronica Jarolimek

Changes to the Agenda

Meeting called to order at 5:15 pm by Board Vice Chairman Ken Lodovico

Election of Officers

Motion to elect Ken Lodovico as Chairman, Eric Tunkey as Vice Chairman and Matt Halvorson as Secretary by Dietrich, seconded by Halvorson. Motion passes unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Approval of the September Regular Meeting Minutes  
Approval of Monthly Financial Reports for September  
Motion to approve the consent agenda by Dietrich, seconded by Tunkey. Motion passes unanimously.

Fire Prevention Report

No written report as Wonnacott was on vacation. No questions from the board.

EMS & Fire Chief Report

Chief Weisbaum submitted his written report, noting that call volume was slightly up in September. He expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming move to the new station and for onboarding Jay Bettencourt as Training Captain in mid-October. Weisbaum states he has encouraged staff engagement in the FTO and FTEP with the goal of completing new recruit training by year-end. Operations staff continue progress toward Engineer and Fire Officer certifications. While certification coursework is underway, internal Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSA) requirements must also be completed. Major upcoming budget items include the purchase of new SCBA units—two quotes have been received, and a final decision will be made following budget adoption. Weisbaum noted satisfaction with the pricing, as both quotes reflect comparable equipment. A flu vaccination clinic is scheduled for Thursday, October 8.

Chief Executive Report

In addition to his written report, CEO Caffrey addressed the ongoing Fire Marshal investigation, expressing disappointment at the length of the process but emphasizing the importance of thoroughness. Chief Weisbaum stated the Employers Council report is expected by mid-October and will be sent directly to District counsel upon completion. Caffrey thanked Senior Staff for their support during the budget process and noted increasing excitement among members as the District approaches the transition to the new station. He commended the Fire Prevention team, Joe Wonnacott, Dale Hoots, and Chris Carver, for effectively managing their workload. The Ribbon Cutting and Dedication will be held by invitation on November 14, with a public Open House announcement to appear in the local paper.

## Public Comment

A letter from Andrew Gitin regarding the Volunteer Pension Board decision at the September meeting was included in the packet. The next regular Pension Board meeting is scheduled for February 2026.

## Old Business

Todd Goulding reported that the construction project remains on schedule and within budget.

- **Water Well and Supply:** Design and procurement have been the main focus. Well #1 was selected, supported by a 1,500-gallon cistern and two 300-gallon interior tanks. The purification system is ahead of schedule; water hardness remains slightly high and may require a softener.
- **Dry Hydrant:** Approved for use by the State Water Commissioner and can be utilized when the river water is not on call; an SOP will be developed for operational use.
- **Schedule:** Asphalt paving expected within the next week, weather permitting. Curb, gutter, and MEP trim are underway. SAR interior work includes installation of fixtures and finishes; HQ is progressing with flooring, painting, cabinetry, and millwork.
- **Utilities:** Water and power are the main delays; GCEA will complete final electrical connections on 8th Street next week, allowing for final system checks.
- **Landscaping:** Full installation will likely occur in spring 2026; erosion control blankets and irrigation are being installed now.
- **Training Building:** Expected completion by end of October with props installed in November.
- **Budget:** On track with contingency funds intact; potential cost savings expected from FCI. Primary risk remains weather delays.

Caffrey added that the CBSAR lease remains under negotiation.

### Crested Butte South Communications Tower

Final agreement documents with Western Slope Towers are included in the packet. Financial and transparency requests from the CBFPD board were included. The County Planning submission packets are also included in the board packet and will be submitted to the County by CBFPD.

## New Business

Caffrey presented a draft ambulance rate adjustment, noting that fees have not increased since 2019. The proposal includes a modest increase and continues the practice of insurance-only billing for local residents, which has fostered strong community goodwill. Public notice of the proposed rate change will be required before adoption. The Board expressed general support for the proposed rate structure and recommended establishing a routine review schedule for future adjustments. A formal vote is planned for the November Board meeting.

Following Chairman McCann's resignation effective October 1, the District has 60 days to fill the vacant Board seat. CEO Caffrey, Chairman Lodovico, and Annie Tunkey met with County Commissioner Laura Puckett-Daniels to identify potential candidates. The group will reach out to prospects and hope to have recommendations at the November board meeting.

Caffrey proposed the purchase of a maintenance vehicle for John Zeikus, allowing D-1 to return to the active fleet. The proposed vehicle, with minor hail damage, is priced at approximately \$65,000. Dietrich inquired whether the vehicle would serve as a commuter unit; Caffrey confirmed it would. Though not a budgeted item, the current cash flow allows for the purchase within this fiscal year. Vice Chairman Tunkey asked whether funds could instead be redirected to the Quint purchase; Caffrey clarified they could not. Chairman Lodovico expressed support, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a dedicated work vehicle.

Motion to approve the investigation and purchase of a work truck for the maintenance director and sale of D-9 by Lodovico, seconded by Tunkey. Yes votes by Lodovico, Tunkey and Halvorson. No vote by Dietrich. Motion passes.

## Public Comments

No public comments.

Unscheduled Business

Motion to adjourn at 6:11 pm by Lodovico, seconded by Dietrich. Motion passes unanimously.