

**Upper Pine River Fire Protection District
Board Meeting
Minutes
January 15, 2026
3:00 P.M.**

The meeting for January 15, 2026, was called to order at 3:02 pm by Paul Black.

Board Members Attendance – Paul Black (President, present), Lisa Bourque (Vice President, present), Jesse Larson (member, present), Lew Web (member, absent), Gary Karner (member, present)

Staff Present – Chief Evans (present), Deputy Chief French (absent), Kim Ruggles (Secretary, present), Paul Kosnik (Attorney, present)

Executive Session – Lisa made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Jesse seconds. All in favor. Motion carried. Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. Sec. 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) and 4(g), for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiations; and for the purpose of consideration of documents protected by the mandatory nondisclosure provisions of the Colorado Open Records Act, C.R.S. Sec. 24-72-204(3)(a)(IV), regarding trade secrets, privileged information, and confidential commercial, or financial data, furnished by or obtained from respondents to the District's request for proposals for construction of the new Station 1. Executive Session ended at 4:48pm.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda - none

Public Comment – none

Special Presentation –

- A. NV5 Update – permit update, nothing new to report. Still waiting for comments from the Town of Bayfield. Completed the interviews on January 12th. Not announcing the rankings, Buildings by Design and FCI until the next board meeting on February 19th.
- B. Chris Cowan, Esp. Ltd. – Regarding class action suit/anti-trust against fire truck manufacturers due to making the cost of the trucks to double in price. Manufacturers: Oshkosh, Pierce, Rosenbauer.

Approval of Minutes

- A. December 11th Regular Meeting – Jesse made a motion to approve the December 11th regular meeting. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- B. December 18th Special Board Meeting – Lisa made a motion to approve the December 18th Special Board meeting. Jesse seconds. All in favor. motion carried.

Finance Report

- A. December 2025 Financials –Gary made a motion to approve December 2025 financials. Jesse seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

- A. Financing options for Station 1 – was pursuing USDA monies but will look at private financing due to USDA not being responsive and possible government shut down on January 30th. Holliman Group and MCM are the private financing companies we are looking at and with 45 to 90 days to finalize the financing. Appointment with the Tribe

to talk to their tribal investment fund to see if that option works for us. Interest rate will be a little higher. Private financing will operate like a lease purchase so there are no issues with TABOR.

Old Business

- A. Station 1 Update – 2 bids received. Target date to break ground March 1 – April 1. Reference checks being done with NV5 and will go to the board for approval at the February board meeting. No update on the Town for building permit.

Chiefs' reports

Chief French presented his report to the Board.

Chief Evans presented his report to the Board.

Adjournment – Jesse made motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:53pm. Lisa seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Submitted by

Kim Ruggles



Paul Black, President



Date

Attest:

__SS//Kim Ruggles_____

Kim Ruggles, Admin