

**Upper Pine River Fire Protection District  
Board Meeting  
Minutes  
February 19, 2026  
3:00 P.M.**

The meeting for February 19, 2026, was called to order at 3:01 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 (present), Kim Ruggles (Secretary, present), Paul Kosnik (Attorney, present, via Zoom)

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda** - none

**Public Comment** – none

**Special Presentation**

- A. NV5 Update – Met with selection committee to finalize the ranking/scoring for contractors. Buildings by Design (BDB) was ranked number 1. Project schedule/timeline and commitment of the team was discussed with BDB, updated timeline was received and sent to NV5.

**Approval of Minutes**

- A. January 15<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting – Lisa made a motion to approve the January 15<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Finance Report**

- A. January 2026 Financials – Jesse made a motion to approve January 2026 financials. Lisa seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

**New Business**

- A. Consideration and approval of Resolution 2026-1 - A Resolution Declaring Official Intent to Reimburse Certain Capital Expenditures from the Proceeds of Future Tax-Exempt Obligations. Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-1. Jesse seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- B. Consideration and approval of Resolution 2026-2 To Pursue Financing for the Construction of Fire Station 61. Gary made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-2, Jesse seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- C. Consideration and approval of Construction Contract with Buildings By Design. Jesse made a motion to approve to enter a construction contract with Buildings By Design. Gary seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.
- D. SID (Special Improvement District) – Discussion on what a SID is and to form it, for the area of Vallecito flooding. How to form the district, per Paul Kosnik if 100% of parcels do not agree with the formation of the SID, then must go to an election. If a SID is formed, the District would need a loan to pay 12.5%, which in return the SID will pay the loan with the assessment on each parcel. \$626k is the community match. Table the approval the Resolution of Intent to discuss in Study Session on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 0800 with Special Board Meeting to follow.

**Old Business**

- A. Sales Tax Update – Captain Jeep reaching out to the State and Cortez with questions regarding collection and is still waiting for a reply.
- B. Station 1 Update – Contractor has been selected and working on the financing. Groundbreaking the first two weeks in April. Appraisal done with current Station 1 and will have the report by the next board meeting. Still waiting for the building permit from The Town of Bayfield. Press release from Congressman Hurds regarding the \$1million congressional funding we received. \$125k in grants will be received as well.

**Chiefs' reports**

Chief French presented his report to the Board.  
Chief Evans presented his report to the Board.

**Adjournment** – Lisa made motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:21pm. Jesse seconds. All in favor. Motion carried.

Submitted by

Kim Ruggles



Paul Black, President



Date

Attest:

SS//Kim Ruggles

Kim Ruggles, Admin