

**Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2025 @ 1600, Station 1**

Call to Order: 1604 hours by Rob Quinn

BOD Attendees: Rob Quinn (Vice President), Katy Fassett (Secretary), Nick Molé (Treasurer), Matt Struzziero, Marcus Taekla, Stasi York

Excused Absent: Bob Loveman (President)

Other Attendees: Chief Benson, Mike Palamara

Public Attendees: Paul Domich

Meeting Minutes: Stasi moved that the minutes of the August 11, 2025 meeting be approved. Seconded by Katy and approved; unanimous.

Reports

Treasurers Report: Nick Molé, reported on the preliminary September numbers. Cash continuing to fund dispatch, which we will be reimbursed for in the future. He transferred 250k from CSafe to checking to cover the anticipated output. Currently there is \$450,000 in checking and \$500,000 in CSafe. He feels that we are in a good position moving forward barring any unexpected events. Expense load should drop off in the middle of October when receivables are expected.

Rob asked if we need to amend the expenses for the budget. Nick confirmed that he adjusted the 2025 budget to compensate but can revisit in November.

Nick reported that he checked into credit card perks through Chase and that it is their policy not to grant them to a government entity. Matt will investigate other banks to see if there are any cash back offerings the department could benefit from. The Chase card we do have doesn't have an annual fee. Nick also acquired an increase in the credit limit from \$75k to \$100k.

ADA Compliance Committee: Paul presented the Open Records Act Resolution required by CORA for transparency. Matt moved to approve the Open Records Act Resolution. Seconded by Marcus and approved; unanimous. Paul reported that he would post the Resolution on the BMFPD website and transparency requirements from the State of Colorado will have been met. He has reviewed the BMFPD consolidated websites with the board, and they will be ready to go live when Square Space is completed.

Nick left the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

ERT Coordinator: Mike reported that financials through September 4 are negative \$355,000 with \$155,000 in capital expense. Unshown dispatch reimbursement is \$465,000. Projected total unshown expenses are \$135,000. The program is \$80,000 in the black, like last year. As anticipated, backlog is \$400,000, down from \$700,000 a few months ago.

There were five crew members that were treated and released for uranium exposure on the western front fire. Another member, who suffered injury and had a successful surgery, was back for full duty a month ago.

There was a discussion about how volunteers are prioritized over paid employees, and Mike confirmed that volunteers are given priority based on interest, qualification, and his desire to give them training opportunities.

Mike reported that there are no local fires, and that the smoke reports were illegal campfires. Nationally, BMFPD has participated in fifteen fires, with fifty-seven individuals out on assignments in five different states. Eight BMFD members have attained their wildland fire qualification, and nine-hundred-sixty-nine days of wildland experience has been acquired. 4333 is on its sixth trip to CA and has brought in \$160,000 in engine revenue. Mitigation revenue in district totals \$858,000. The crew has completed three-hundred-thirty Wildfire Partners chipping program projects, most within district, ninety shaded fuel brakes, and one-hundred-five property owners have received services.

Mike reported that current grants will take us through 2025 and part of 2026. The 2026 grant environment looks steady from the County. The Federal and State grants appear to continue to be there, but there are no guarantees.

Chief Update: Chief Benson reported that the transition to the new bookkeeper is going well. He is waiting until the last quarter to transition to the new payroll system.

Station 2 had some issues with the cooler that were resolved with repairs in the amount of \$2,300. Trucks are all running well. Pump tests for compliance will happen next week, and ladder testing is complete. He will be working with Mike to compile a list of apparatus needs for the 30-year capital reserve plan. He also suggested pursuing the 1b grant for funding on apparatus.

General insurance expires at the end of October. He has a call with another company and will report back. The renewal rate has not been reported, but he would like to get comps before renewing. He also had a meeting with Bob Olliver and Kathryn Besemer to hire a contract HR person to advise on the command side in 2026. He'll report back as he has more information. Rob recommended Colorado Special District Association (CSDA), who has referrals for HR contacts. Chief said we should investigate a membership to CSDA.

Chief received the assessment for 2026 and will send to the board. It appears that the assessment may be less than 2025, but nothing significant. Will have a preliminary 2026 budget by the October board meeting.

Meeting Notices and Scheduling

Next BOD meeting is at Station 2 on October 13, 2025, at 1600.

Adjournment: Matt moved to adjourn the meeting at 1806 hours. Seconded by Stasi and approved; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Katy Fassett

Approved _____ Date _____