MINUTES
JEFFERSON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' BOARD MEETING

Date: *Jefferson Fire Station - Jefferson, OR*

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Board President Nuss.

FLAG SALUTE: Director Paresa led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE: Director Robbins, Director Nuss, Director Jones, Director Paresa, Director Knutson, Fire Chief Eckhardt, and Administrative Assistant Tammy Robbins, Training/Maintenance Officer Louis Gisler, City Liaison Walt Perry (Absent: None) Visitors: Daniel Fielders

REVISIONS TO AGENDA: Election of Officers has been added to this agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 16, 2026 - Regular Board Meeting

MINUTES: *Motion made to approve last meeting minutes by Director Jones, seconded by Director Robbins, to approve the minutes as listed above. 5-0 All in favor. Motion passed.*

FINANCIAL ASSETS as of June 30, 2026

▪ Check Register Balance	$ 87,914.63
▪ Local Government Inv. Pool	$1,465,803.92
▪ Petty Cash	$ 150.00
▪ **Total**	**$1,556,879.66**

Chief's Report: The seismic project is going well. July 30 there will be the walk around upstairs to see if anything needs to be fixed and after that the sleeping area will be open on July 31. The trailers will then go back. They are still anticipating the end of August for the whole project to be complete. They are currently waiting on the windows and then they will finish the siding. The doors came in today. The sheet rock and walls are complete. The are currently working on electrical wiring.

On July 1 we posted the firefighter/paramedic position. As of today, we have not received any applications. The position closes on July 31. The first of August is set for the hiring process.

There are currently a lot of active fires across Oregon. Some have resources, some do not, and there have been evacuations. We have had three conflagration requests. Marion County has sent 20 pieces of apparatus and 57 firefighters. This is not counting chiefs and their vehicles. On Wednesday of last week, we sent two vehicles and four individuals. We sent a brush rig with 2 firefighters to Milton Firewater and then they were sent to Sisters, then diverted to another fire in the Sisters area. Louis took a team down south to the Evans Creek fire that same day. They have been demobilized and are headed back today. In the meeting with the State Fire Marshalls, they have 4 teams from WA and CA helping as they are expecting 100-degree temperatures, wind, low humidity and expected lighting. The Evans fire is good for right now; however, they might need more resources for the Sisters fire.

Last week we found out we were awarded the fire house sub grant to purchase 22 radios for $25,400. We are working on the paperwork to get the funds. We will then need to make a resolution and order the radios.

We received the Siletz Tribal grant that will be used to purchase the second McGrath laryngoscope along with a a device for each engine that you can put into an electric vehicle that will kill the power. Director Robbins asked what port it's for since they have now made the port standardized for all new vehicles. Is it one that can be used on all. Chief will check on this.

The Willamette Valley Chaplains have dropped us and all Marion County agencies. They don't have the resources. We are currently working on finding another chaplain service.

CITY LIAISON: Walt stated it's been quiet. On Tuesday, August 4, the City is hosting National Night out. Taco's will be served sponsored by Roots and Brews. They are improving an item on the water plant to help lower our draw. It's called an XR system for excess recyclization. The funding is being received from the county, and the system won't be completed until late fall/early winter. The engineering and parts are ordered. The system takes the excess unused water and recycles it back into the system. It helps lower our draw along with only a 5-gallon loss instead of 20.

Director Robbins asked about the water park. Walt stated nothing new, it is currently tabled.

VISITOR COMMENT: President Nuss asked Daniel how the Volunteer breakfast did? He stated they brought over $3,000 from the breakfast and there were lots of donations. The number served was about the same as last year. Director Nuss commented that the sister of an employee at the post office won the scavenger hunt. There was great feedback about the hunt.

OLD BUSINESS:

a. Future Planning – Chief had met with crossroads and gave them a presentation on what the Fire District's needs are. Crossroads is willing to take us on as a project. He will meet with Michael the CEO soon. We are putting together an MOU to understand our goals and theirs. We are requesting a power load for the medic and thermal imaging cameras. Michael said since they are 501c3 they can hold money in an account and if anyone wants to donate, they can get a tax write off. We are looking at approximately 15 million dollars towards apparatus and a new station which Michael seems confident about receiving. If we receive the grant we would have to come up with 10%. Director Robbins asked if the donations are set up in a separate account. Chief will get the details regarding this. Director Robbins also stated if any of the board has questions to let Chief know before he talks to them. Chief also stated at some point he will have Michael meet with the board.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Elect Officers – Director Jones made a motion to retain the same officers seconded by Director Knutson. President Nuss stated he didn't want to be the President and felt someone else should have the experience. Director Jones stated due to health issues he didn't want to be president. Director Robbins and Knutson also did not want to be President. Director Nuss asked Director Paresa if he would be willing to be the President. Director Paresa said he could and President Nuss would be willing to be Vice President and walk along with Director Paresa. After some discussion, Director Jones withdrew is motion. Director Robbins made a motion to elect Director Paresa as President, Director Nuss for Vice President and Director Knutson would retain Secretary/Treasurer position, seconded by Director Nuss. Director Jones abstained from voting, as did Director Knutson. Director Jones would not state his reason for abstaining. Director Knutson commented that she respects all the board and is not comfortable voting as well with Director Jones abstaining. She abstained as well. All three board members voted Yes. 3-0 Motion passed.

ALARMS: (sent out with the Board Reports) Chief stated we are 36 calls down from last year but we are up for transports.

GOOD OF THE ORDER/DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS – Chief stated that the Fire District will have a booth at National night out. Please stop by. It starts at 5:00 p.m.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: **TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL-** The Accounts Payable and Projected Payroll for the month of June 30, 2026, is $713,443.63; General Fund Payable-$579,404.12, Payroll-$134,039.51 Grant Fund Payable-$0, Payroll-$0, Equipment Reserve Fund-$0

The Board reviewed the accounts payable. Motion by *Director Knutson seconded by Director Jones to pay the bills. All in favor. Motion carried.* 5-0

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: None

With no further business to be brought before the Board of Directors, *it was moved by Director Robbins seconded, by Director Knutson, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

David M Ness
Board President

Tammy Robbins
Administrative Assistant

8/18/26 Date