



PUBLIC NOTICE
MINUTES

**FLORISSANT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING**

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

6:00 PM – Regular Board Meeting

2606 US Highway 24, Florissant, CO 80816

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by: Jim McGovern at 6:00pm.
- Pledge of Allegiance – completed.
- Roll Call of Board Members: present were Jim McGovern, Paul del Toro, Mark Harter; LeAnne Spicer (Virtual); Rich Krochta (Absent / Excused)
- FFPD Firefighter Recognition: 11 FFPD wildland firefighters that supported June wildfires were present; the Board and audience showed appreciation for their service and sacrifice.
- Opening Remarks: Board Director Paul del Toro provided a statement with condolences for the passing of Toni Morre, and thoughts and prayers for Don Moore's recovery from their tragic car accident on July 11, 2026. The Board expressed deep sympathy for Toni's untimely passing, and prayers for Don's complete recovery and offer support during this difficult time. The Moore's passion for wildfire preparation and mitigation with community residents and organizations has been highly impactful.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Approval of Meeting Minutes: Monthly Board 6/17/2026 Minutes, and 7/2/2026 Special Board Meeting Minutes. Both sets of minutes have been reviewed and edited by the Board. Motion by Paul del Toro to approve the 6/17/2026 Minutes, second Mark Harter, Board approved vote 4-0. Motion by Paul del Toro to approve the 7/2/2026 Minutes, second by Mark Harter, Board approved vote 4-0.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Chief's Report (June 2026)

- 71 FFPD calls in June (32 EMS, 18 Fire, 21 Other), logged 212 volunteer hours, 230 training hours.
- Call volume continues at record pace with already at 70% of 2025 calls, on pace for 600+ calls in 2026. FFPD emergency response for June was 4.7 responders per call.
- There were no significant fire incidents in the District in June.
- Station 51 and the Fire Hall now have 24-hour emergency generator back-up capability.
- Vicky Collings and Mike Bukowski have completed the 6 month Paramedic classroom training, and now start the operational internship portion of their training.

- FFPD Summer Newsletter went out, receiving very positive feedback on content. Thanks to Paul del Toro and Terri Churchill (Fire Corps) for their efforts on the FFPD Newsletter.
- FFPD led the Donkey Derby Days Parade on June 27 with approximately 3,000 attendees present in Cripple Creek. FFPD support included Chief Buchan, volunteer firefighters, and two FFPD Board Directors.
- Fire Corps Report (Terri Churchill): FFPD Fire Corps has been focused on FLO-GEO (fka Heritage Days) for July 25. The FFPD Pancake Breakfast is on July 25 (7-11am). Preparing FFPD facilities for the July Pancake Breakfast; tables, chairs, cleaning station bays, food logistics for up to 1,000 people, roll-off dumpster.
- FFPD Risk Reduction & Mitigation (Jan Franke): In progress, 75% complete. FFPD slash chipping dates are scheduled for August (full) and October (some open spots still available). Sign up at mitigation.coordinator@florissantfire.com.
- FFPD had numerous wildfire deployments in June (Durango, Aspen Acres – Custer County, Ouray). FFPD has an excellent working relationship with SOCO during these deployments. FFPD received a letter of appreciation from Florence Fire Chief for response to KO fire and O Street fires on June 18; FFPD took command of the situation and put the fires out with no injuries and only 2 structure losses (Fremont County). These deployments provide essential fire fighting services to save communities, provides FFPD real-world training opportunities, and generates deployment revenue to FFPD, with 100% home district coverage as a priority.
- Evergreen Fire Department donated two vehicles to FFPD in June: Car 52 (Durango) and Utility 52. Both vehicles are in good operational condition for immediate use. FFPD greatly appreciates these donated vehicles.
- FFPD has 35 operations volunteers, 29 Fire Corps, 12 Wildland Fire Crew, total staffing is 76 people.

5. Old Business

- FFPD current Deployment Status (Firefighters, Apparatus, Coverage). FFPD has no current deployments as of today (7/15/2026), but is in ready-condition to support when called and expects to be a busy wildfire deployment summer.
- Update: Type 3 Fire Engine replacement (from Special Board Mtg on 7/2/2026). Chief Buchan went out to California to inspect the vehicle, it is being equipped and will be delivered to FFPD by the Pancake Breakfast (July 25). It is intended primarily as near-term deployment apparatus. Within 2-3 years (54 days of deployment), this vehicle will pay for itself. The vehicle chassis has low mileage (55,000 miles), it's getting a full engine rebuild with a 1- year full bumper-to-bumper warranty. To clarify some recent incorrect social media information by public comment, FFPD purchased this Type 3 fire engine for the price of \$119K (not \$400K).
- FFPD Audit Update and Draft Report. Treasurer LeAnne Spicer provided a summary of the final FFPD audit, received on July 14, 2026, conducted by the Biggs Kofford audit firm. This audit is required by the State of Colorado since our annual revenues and expenditures are over the \$1M threshold, as mandated by SB25-023. The audit firm noted the financial statements correctly

present the financial status of FFPD. Once fully signed, the audit will be posted on the FFPD website and on the DOLA website for full transparency and public access.

- Capital Reserve Draft Plan. The Board discussed the draft Capital Reserve Plan, which is intended to build savings for FFPD capital needs (vehicles, apparatus, equipment fire station). Treasurer LeAnne Spicer presented a draft spreadsheet that includes provisions for restricted and designated capital reserves, including, but not limited to, Capital Fund property taxes, grants, restricted donations, designated fundraising, asset sales, insurance reimbursements, capital outlay purchases, expenses related to capital revenue. The Board discussed the details, Treasurer Spicer will update the plan and draft policy for Board approval at a future FFPD Board meeting (possibly August).

6. New Business

- Approve Squad 52 grant purchases. This is an approximate 50-50 grant for a fully equipped EMTS vehicle. FFPD's portion to pay is \$43,441. Chief Buchan recommends Board approval for purchase of an EMTS vehicle with equipment (as identified in the Statement of Work). Once FFPD receives an actual purchase order, we can immediately sign the purchase order and proceed. Motion by LeAnne Spicer to approve purchase of an EMTS vehicle up to \$71,097.75 with communications equipment up to \$7,343.10 for a total of \$78,440.85; second by Paul del Toro. Board vote approved 4-0.
- Approve equipment purchases for Engine 54. Chief Buchan stated the operational need to equip replacement Engine 54 with Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (2x SCBAs), radios, Starlink feed, structural equipment, water cooler, utility cases, etc. Estimated cost is approximately \$10,000, which will come out of the fire equipment budget line item account 6441. Motion by Mark Harter for Chief Buchan to purchase up to \$10,000 in equipment purchases for Engine 54; second by LeAnne Spicer; Board approved vote 4-0.
- Approve Station 52 Generator purchase. A generator is needed to ensure full Station 52 operations during power outages. FFPD received a quote from White Rhino Electric for a Generac 10-28 kW air cooled generator for \$17,188.84, with 5-year warranty period, and rebate to FFPD CostCo account. This is similar to the previous purchase for Station 51 earlier this year. Motion by Paul del Toro to purchase this generator from White Rhino Electric for \$17,188.84; second by Mark Harter; Board approved vote 4-0.
- FFPD-FWSD Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); discussion and vote. Mark Harter presented this draft MOU which identifies the roles and responsibilities for FFPD and Florissant Water & Sanitation District (FWSD) to accomplish the FY27 CDS grant for up to 10 new fire hydrants in Florissant. Essentially, FFPD is responsible for interface with federal Govt for receiving grant funds for fire hydrant planning, engineering, and installation. FWSD is responsible for interface with Colorado School of Mines and the eventual engineering consultant for project integration. FWSD has already signed the MOU; FFPD Board agrees with

it and is ready to sign. Mark Harter made the motion to sign and adopt the MOU with FWSD; second by Paul del Toro, Board vote approved 4-0.

- City of Colorado Springs Letter of withdrawal from 911 Authority. The 911 authority serves approximately 1 million people in El Paso and Teller Counties with dozens of emergency response organizations. Colorado Springs Mayor abruptly announced he was removing Colorado Springs from the E911 partnership to save \$30M, which places huge risk and cost to supporting first responder agencies in Teller County. Today, the Colorado Springs City Council voted to reject the Mayor's decision, and they will discuss this at a special City Council meeting on Aug 10. The Teller County BOCC has already expressed their concern in an official statement to COS about the unreasonable risk and cost this places on Teller County first responders. Mark Harter made a motion that FFPD Board draft a letter to El Paso / Teller County E911 Authority expressing concern of this pending issue; second by Paul del Toro; Board vote approved 4-0.
- Discussion / Decision on 2026 Election Resolution & DEO (TC Clerk & Recorder). Teller County Clerk & Recorder requires an organizational resolution to inform them that FFPD is planning to submit a ballot initiative for the November 3, 2026 General election for capital and operational needs. The August FFPD Board meeting will identify specific resolution information regarding any revenue increase (Appendix A, TBD). The FFPD resolution also includes identification of Ms. Vicky Collings as the Designated Election Official (DEO). FFPD already has \$15,000 designated in the 2026 FFPD budget to cover this ballot initiative cost (the 2025 ballot initiative cost was only \$8,400). Paul del Toro read the proposed resolution, the Board discussed it and concurs moving forward with the resolution. Paul del Toro made a motion to adopt the resolution to inform Teller County Clerk & Recorder that FFPD will be having a ballot initiative on the November 3, 2026 election, with Vicky Collings as DEO; second by Mark Harter; Board approved vote 4-0.

7. Board Reports

- **Florissant First! Report:** The Board discussed an update of the Florissant First! flyer for distribution at the July 25 pancake Breakfast. Mark Harter will update this flyer and coordinate with the FFPD Board prior to release.
- **Secretary's Report:** Completed the June 2026 Board minutes; completed the 7/2/2026 Special Board Meeting minutes; drafted and posted July 2026 Board agenda. There were 2 CORA requests since the June Board meeting which were easily accomplished; there are currently no open CORA requests in progress.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer LeAnne Spicer summarized the FFPD Balance Sheet, Bank Accounts, Accounts Receivable, Assets, Liabilities, Budget vs Actuals, Property Tax Receipts. July will be our last large property tax deposit of the year. Monthly deposit amounts will drop off quickly after July. To date, FFPD has spent \$480K of the \$946K in the 2026 budget, which is on-

track for current budget expenditures; Capital Reserves has \$418K which on track but slightly below the target of \$500K.

- Committee Reports

- Budget: No activity this reporting period. FFPD Treasurer said that the Budget Committee will be meeting in August to start the initial CY27 budget.
- Technology: SIPA IT Grant board met in July, FFPD was not an award recipient.
- Water Resources: coordination with FWSD continues on the FY27 CDS Grant for proposed 10 fire hydrants. Florissant Water District is having serious water level issues, almost every subdivision has reported some dry well issues. FFPD vehicles require 15,500 gallons of water for emergency response posture. Teller County BOCC held a meeting with FWSD and State Water Commissioner on 7/14 to address issues. Chief Buchan sent out a request to FFPD subdivisions and POAs on 4/14/2026 for assistance in identifying rural water source information (water access, availability, cisterns, pond reservoirs), awaiting subdivision and POA responses. FFPD needs MOUs for subdivision access to water for 24 hours. (Magnuson, Forest Glen, B-Lazy M, Wilson Lakes,) DFPC needs these ASAP.
- Policy: No activity this reporting period.
- Capital Campaign: No new information. The capital campaign committee is exploring a strategic long-term capital campaign for continued FFPD investment and modernization. important aspects are organization, timing, community engagement. Looking at possible donation levels for Pancake Breakfast (posters, flash-drive scrolling screens).

8. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm. Motion by LeAnne Spicer, second by Mark Harter. Board vote approved 4-0.