REDMOND FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2026

BOARD PRESENT: President Jessica Meyer, Vice President John Blanton, Secretary/Treasurer Earl Fisher, Member Gary Ollerenshaw, and Member Dick Knorr

STAFF PRESENT: Fire Chief Ryan Herrera, Deputy Chief Dustin Miller, Human Resources Manager Diane Cox, Chief of Training Tim Craig, Administrative Specialist Katie Annen, EMS Training Captain Luke Jerome, Battalion Chief Steve Fiero, HR/Payroll Specialist Jessica Jackson and Captain Kevin Broadsword appeared electronically

STAFF ABSENT: Fire Marshal Tom Mooney

PUBLIC PRESENT: Michael Miller appeared electronically

CALL TO ORDER: President Meyer called the meeting to order at 9:30 am

ROLL CALL: All present

AGENDA CHANGES: None

PACKET DOCUMENTS FOR INFORMATION:
Member Ollerenshaw asked about the status of the previous year's finance report, noting that it is now mid-September. Chief Herrera reported that the audit is currently in progress. CFO Jodi Burch will finalize the numbers soon and provide the completed report.

Member Meyer commented that staffing looked good for the month of August.

CONSENT AGENDA:
1. Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2026

Member Knorr noted one correction to New Business (Item 2, Paragraph 1).

Board Member Fisher made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as corrected. The motion was seconded by Board Member Ollerenshaw and approved unanimously with a vote of 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None

REPORTS: None

ACTION ITEMS: None

FIRE CHIEF COMMENTS:
1. Personnel

The district is at an all-time low right for long-term leave, with only two employees currently out. It has allowed the placement of a third staff member on 421 at times and has provided additional staffing at an outlying station.

2. Strategic Plan Update

Staff continue to advance on two major goals for the year: identifying alternative revenue sources and developing a Standards of Cover document. An RFP is being prepared for distribution to several qualified agencies for the Standards of Cover project. Estimated costs range from $50K-75K.

3. Grants

The district currently has six (6) pending grant applications totaling just over $6M. The most significant is the AFG grant, for which the district has received confirmation of compliance approval and is awaiting award notification. The AFG grant request totals $387K for vehicle exhaust capture systems at all district fire stations.

Member Blanton asked if any of the grant information is being shared with state officials. Chief Herrera reported that updates on the AFG grant were shared with Representative Bynum's office and that she provided a letter of support for the FEMA grant. The offices of Senators Wyden and Merkley were also informed of the district's FEMA application and AFG grant.

Member Blanton noted the importance of keeping representatives informed to support the grant process.

4. Recognition

All five (5) new hires successfully completed the FTEP process and received their standing orders, contributing to improved staffing levels. Additionally, Firefighter Maaike Godfrey successfully completed her probation.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Social Media Activity

Member Meyer addressed the increased response and activity related to social media posts. She confirmed that the Board would like to continue receiving information on fires occurring in unincorporated areas of Deschutes County and asked whether any members preferred to discontinue these updates. No objections were raised, and the Board agreed the information remains valuable for public awareness.

Chief Herrera supported continuing the updates, emphasizing the importance of transparency for taxpayers regarding district activities, including responses in unincorporated areas and instances when the district is unable to respond to other calls. He noted that while social media reactions are not always positive, the intent is not to encourage negative sentiment toward any group but to provide accurate information and highlight emerging trends within the district.

Member Meyer agreed, reiterating that the Board seeks communication on any increasing trends to support early identification and preventive actions. She clarified that the district is not targeting homeless camps, but rather monitoring and reporting trends.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Update on Fuels Reductions

Member Knorr reported that due to current time constraints, no appointments have been scheduled with city or county officials; however, he is continuing to work toward arranging those meetings.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Member Blanton wanted to recognize Deputy Chief Miller for his strong performance and appreciated his thoughtful communication during Chief Herrera's absence.

Member Fisher inquired about the upcoming Community Day event. Chief Herrera confirmed it will take place on Saturday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. And will feature activities, educational opportunities, vendors, a dunk tank, and possibly a simulation. When asked whether the event is being coordinated with the Senior Center, Chief Herrera noted there was likely coordination but could not confirm in Chief Mooney's absence.

Member Blanton also acknowledged recent positive media coverage of Bend Fire & Rescue's defensible space efforts and expressed appreciation for the similar work performed by district personnel.

BOARD PRESIDENT COMMENTS:

President Meyer commented on the 9/11 flags displayed throughout the district, noting their positive impact and remarking on the significance of the twenty-five (25) year anniversary.

She also expressed interest in exploring a Board Member Roles and Responsibilities training session provided by WHA. HR Manager Cox noted that SDAO offers regional training on the same topic and recommended confirming which option qualifies for annual best practices credit before deciding. She and President Meyer will discuss further to determine the best approach.

ADJOURN: Being no further business, Board Member Fisher moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Board Member Ollerenshaw and was approved unanimously with a vote of 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 am.

Approved:

Jessica Meyer, President	October 21, 2026 Date
Earl Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer	October 21, 2026 Date

Attest:

Katie Annen, Administrative Specialist	October 21, 2026 Date