

Record of Proceedings

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Adams County Fire Protection District, held at the District’s Station 11, at 1675 W. 69th Ave, Denver, CO 80229

Wednesday, August 19th, 2026

Board Members Present

Ken Lombardi	President/Chairman
Michael DeMattee	Vice President
Mario Molinaro	Secretary
Ken Ciano	Treasurer
Joe Domenico	Assistant Secretary

Also Present

Clinton Garner	Fire Chief
Jamie Wood	Deputy Chief, Operations
Thom Jeffries	Division Chief of Planning and Logistics
Christina Marchese	Executive Assistant to the Chiefs
Mike Eason	IAFF Local 2403, President
Michelle Ferguson	District Legal Counsel
Emily Powell	District Legal Counsel (virtual)
Lynea Hanson	Hanson Communication (virtual)

Call to Order

Secretary Molinaro called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The motion was passed unanimously.

Welcome the Audience

President Lombardi welcomed all in attendance.

Moment of Silence

President Lombardi called for a moment of silence for the 50 fallen firefighters from across the US to date in 2026.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Lombardi led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions of Deletions to the Agenda

Secretary Molinaro made a motion to move the Discussion of Sales Tax Diversification Exploration to the beginning of New Business. Treasurer Ciano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Secretary Molinaro made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from July 15, 2026. Treasurer Ciano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Previous Month's Financial Statement

Due to computer issues, Treasurer Ciano said the Board will postpone approval of the July financials until the September Board meeting.

Correspondence

Fire Chief Clinton Garner received a letter from North Metro Fire Rescue District (NMFR) expressing appreciation for the District’s assistance, specifically Engineer Mike Eason's assistance with Lieutenant Telling’s Celebration of Life. Before the Board meeting, NMFR

staff presented Engineer Eason with a plaque and a Phenix Leather helmet in recognition of his assistance.

Chief Garner received a thank-you card from retired District Battalion Chief Rick Busch expressing his gratitude toward the District and the Board for the celebration of his retirement and “send-off” after his 33-year career with the District.

Chief Wood received a card from the family of a deceased individual, expressing their gratitude to the first responders for their efforts to assist their family member.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

New Business

Discussion of Sales Tax Diversification Exploration

Attorney Powell from Ireland Stapleton and Lynea Hanson from Hanson Communications attended to participate in the discussion regarding the exploration of sales tax diversification. The District is exploring a one-cent on \$100 sales tax on the November 2026 ballot. Chief Garner stated that Brooke Peterson, District Finance Director, and Christina Marchese, Executive Assistant to the Chiefs, have been actively involved in these discussions.

After further discussion, Assistant Secretary Domenico made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-005: A Resolution to Enact A Sales Tax in the Adams County Fire Protection District for the Purpose of Maintaining Adequate Levels of Fire and Emergency Services to the Community. Treasurer Ciano seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Secretary Molinaro made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-006: a Resolution setting forth certain procedures concerning the conduct of an election on the ballot issue described in Resolution 2026-005. Treasurer Ciano seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Swearing in of Battalion Chief Dave Carpenter

Chief Garner swore in District Captain Dave Carpenter as Battalion Chief before his family, District colleagues, and the District Board of Directors. Battalion Chief Carpenter's wife pinned his new badge.

Swearing in of Captain Ben Ramos

Chief Garner swore in District Lieutenant Ben Ramos as a Captain before his family, District colleagues, and the District Board of Directors. Captain Ramos's wife and daughter pinned his new badge.

Swearing in of Lieutenant Joshua Thurmond

Chief Garner swore in District Firefighter Joshua Thurmond as a Lieutenant before his family, District colleagues, and the District Board of Directors. Lieutenant Thurmond's wife Hannah's mom pinned his new badge.

Welcoming of the NAFA 17 Graduates

Chief Garner brought all NAFA 17 graduates to the front of the room and welcomed them to the District family. Chief Garner mentioned that although he swore them in at graduation, he swore them in again, so District Board and members could witness it. Welcome to the District Family: FF Bucknam, FF Cannady, FF Holton, FF McDonald, FF Montgomery, and FF O'Brien.

Chief's Report

Chief Garner told the Board that the Annual Compliance Report has been submitted and that the District passed. He also mentioned that both West Metro Fire and Aurora Fire are looking into getting Darkhorse Emergency, a software platform that provides decision and analytics

platforms, standards of cover, and community risk assessment. He also stated that South Adams County Fire is currently implementing Darkhorse.

Chief Garner told the Board that the District is developing two budgets for the 2027 fiscal year. One will be prepared anticipating sales tax revenue from a successful ballot measure, and the other will reflect District revenue if the measure fails.

Planning and Logistics Chief Jeffries told the Board that AJI is in the process of moving out of 909 E 68th Ave and is working with legal to finish dissolving its lease with the district.

Emergency Manager Chief Schuman attended and told the board he recently met with NMFR Chief Daugherty, ACSO Sheriff Claps, and Adams County about funding for the Adams Broomfield Hazmat team. The meeting discussed an increase in funding from Adams and Broomfield Counties for the hazmat team. Chief Schuman also said he wants the trust to own all the team's assets.

Operations Chief Wood attended and was asked by President Lombardi when Station 10 will reopen. Chief Wood said the district hopes to have Station 10 open in late September/early October 2026.

Union Report

President Mike Eason of Local 2403 attended this evening's meeting. President Eason said the union will contribute up to \$50,000 towards efforts to support the passage of the sales tax ballot issue, with an additional \$15,000 from the Colorado Professional Firefighters to help pass the measure.

President Eason stated that the Local is looking to do more fundraising next year by bringing back a car show.

Attorney Report

Attorney Ferguson stated that Attorney Powell has been assisting the District regarding the upcoming Sales Tax Diversification. Attorney Powell will discuss with the Board, the ways the District can educate the public on the sales tax diversification ballot measure.

Attorney Ferguson stated that her team is closely monitoring a lawsuit recently filed by a developer against an area fire district regarding impact fees. She stated that she will inform the Board of any developments, as many fire districts around the state have impact fees in place, including the District.

Report from the Board

President Lombardi – nothing to report

Vice President DeMattee – nothing to report

Secretary Molinaro – thank you to everyone who came out and supported Assumption's Annual Bazaar; the community appreciated it

Treasurer Ciancio – thank you to everyone for all your hard work

Assistant Secretary Domenico – nothing to report

Adjournment

With no further business before the Board, Secretary Molinaro moved, and Assistant Secretary Domenico seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm.



Ken Lombardi, President



Mario Molinaro, Secretary