

# 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. 69<sup>th</sup> Ave, Denver, CO 80229.

Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## Board Members Present

Ken Lombardi	President/Chairman
Michael DeMattee	Vice President
Mario Molinaro	Secretary
Ken Ciancio	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
Michelle Ferguson	District Legal Counsel
Bianca Ciancio	Director of Financial Services
Mike Eason	IAFF Local 2403, President

## Call to Order

Secretary Molinaro called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. 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 in honor of the 63 fallen firefighters from across the US who have died in 2025 to date.

## 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 accept the agenda as presented. Treasurer Ciancio seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

## Approval of Previous Board Meeting Minutes

Secretary Molinaro made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting Minutes from August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Vice President DeMattee seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

## Approval of August 2025 Financial Statement

Treasurer Ciancio informed President Lombardi that the Board has elected to table the discussion and approval of the August 2025 financials until the October 2025 Board meeting, due to the ongoing discussion regarding the 2025 Budget Amendment.

## Correspondence

The District received a thank-you card from a family in Meeker, CO, expressing their gratitude to the wildland team for saving their property and the beloved family pet, Tommy the Donkey.

The District recently sent President Eason's mom, flowers to support her in recovery.. She sent the District a very nice thank-you card.

The District received a thank-you letter from Fire Chief Pepper Valdez of Mountain View Fire Rescue, expressing his appreciation for ACFR during the recent passing of their engineer, Eric Losh.

## Public Comment

There was none at this evening's meeting.

## New Business

### Swearing in of newly promoted Captains - Joe Anderson II and Jesse Gonzales

Chief Garner swore in newly promoted Captain Joe Anderson II in front of the Board, his colleagues, and his family. Captain Anderson's mom pinned his badge for him.

Chief Garner swore in newly promoted Captain Jesse Gonzales in front of the Board, his colleagues, and his family. Captain Gonzales's wife and daughters pinned his badge for him.

### Swearing in of newly promoted Lieutenant Dannie Rio

Chief Garner swore in newly promoted Lieutenant Dannie Rio in front of the Board, his colleagues, and his family. Lieutenant Rio's youngest son pinned his badge for him.

### Introduction of new Accreditation Manager, Cristyn Merry

Chief Garner introduced Cristyn Merry, ACFR's new accreditation manager, to the Board and the rest of the Department.

## 2025 Budget Amendment Discussion

Director of Financial Services, Bianca Ciancio, presented an Amended 2025 Budget for the District to the Board. Director Ciancio mentioned that a few changes needed to be made to the 2025 budget to address additional expenses not anticipated when adopted in the fall of 2024.

Treasurer Ciancio made a motion to open the public hearing regarding the Amended 2025 Budget. Assistant Secretary Domenico seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. Attorney Ferguson stated for the record that the notice for the hearing was published in the Thornton Northglenn Sentinel on September 18, 2025. President Lombardi asked for public comment. There were no public comments. Chief Staff confirmed that neither

the District nor legal counsel had received any written comments prior to tonight's meeting. Treasurer Ciancio made a motion to close the public hearing on the Amended 2025 Budget. Vice President DeMattee seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Attorney Ferguson informed the Board that the budget amendment, along with its supporting documentation, must be filed with DOLA and requires a formal resolution. Her office can prepare this Resolution, but the approval should reflect it will be done in Resolution form. Assistant Secretary Domenico made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-10, which amends the 2025 budget by appropriating revenues and approving the expenditures set forth therein for the Adams County Fire Protection District. Vice President DeMattee seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

### Discussion regarding Board of Directors stipend for 2026

Board of Directors Member Stipends were discussed during budget discussions for the 2026 Budget. Director of Finance Ciancio wondered if the stipend could be increased. Attorney Ferguson mentioned that the State Statute determines Board member stipends for all Title 32 Special Districts, and the current limit set by the Legislature for meetings is \$100, and no more than \$2,400 per calendar year. Attorney Ferguson indicated that she would confirm the statute's definition of "meeting" is those meetings open to the public, as opposed to committee meetings. As such, the Board member stipend will remain the same in 2026, as they are currently receiving the maximum per meeting.

### Chief's Report

President Lombardi asked Chief Garner about the District's use of drones. Chief Garner informed the Board that the drone was recently used during the hazmat incident on I-25 and 84th, providing personnel with a close-up view of the contents from a distance. He mentioned that the District has certified pilots on every shift. In this incident, they were able to activate the thermal flair imaging, which was subsequently shared on social media. Chief Garner mentioned that Arson Chief Investigator Means is exploring the purchase of a drone for investigative purposes to assist both the investigators and the District.

Chief Garner stated that the District is transitioning from its current health benefits broker and to Highstreet. They have a lot to offer the District and provide a more personal touch. He also stated that the District is staying with Gallagher for vehicle, property, and general liability insurance.

Emergency Manager, Division Chief Schuman, stated that, with the help of Firefighter Hamilton, the District has secured a piece of 9/11 steel that will be on display at Station 11. He stated that they are working on logistics to transport it to the station and plan to have an unveiling in 2026, which would coincide with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack.

Deputy Chief Wood stated that the department is exploring collaboration with the Adams County Sheriff's Office on developing a SWAT medic program. There are numerous moving pieces involving many people, and parties are at the exploration and feasibility stage of discussion. Any program is unlikely to be in place until 2027.

## Union Report

Union President Eason stated that the union and Chief Staff are working through the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), which will be in effect for a two-year period from January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2027. President Eason stated that once the CBA is complete, it will be presented to the Board and the District members.

Union President Eason stated that Lt. Rio was in charge of the MDA fundraising collection for 2025. The District collected \$8,100 for MDA.

Union President Eason mentioned that he will be visiting the stations over the next month to discuss the Heart and Cancer Trust and explain what they have to offer to the line staff.

## Attorney Report

Attorney Ferguson stated that her written report covers all the projects that she and the rest of her team are working on for the District, which finally seems to be slowing down.

Attorney Ferguson stated that Dino is drafting the amendment to dissolve the fleet services agreement between North Metro Fire Rescue and Adams County Fire Rescue, anticipated to occur at the end of 2025. We anticipate this Amendment will be presented for Board approval at the next meeting.

There were no questions from the Board.

## Report from the Board

President Lombardi – there are numerous projects underway behind the scenes; keep up the great work.

Vice President DeMattee – nothing to report.

Secretary Molinaro – nothing to report.

Treasurer Ciancio – nothing to report.

Assistant Secretary Domenico – Investigator Ryder Robison, congratulations on your hard work at the ACSO Academy

## Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, on a motion by President Lombardi and a second by Secretary Molinaro at 7:10 p.m.



Ken Lombardi, President



Mario Molinaro, Secretary