

**Gunnison County Fire Protection District
Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 20, 2025**

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Dennis Spritzer. Meeting was held upstairs in the meeting room at the Fire House.

The following board members were present: Dennis Spritzer, Walt Cranor, Heath Smith and Paul Morgan.

City Accountant present: Not present.

Board Secretary present: Deborah Ferchau

Chief present: Hugo Ferchau

Deputy Chief present: Not present.

Captain present: Tyler Brown

Board Attorney: Not present

The following firemen were present: Rob Hughes and Kenny Tomlin, Captain.

Others: None

II. Minutes:

The minutes from the February 20, 2025 regular meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Cranor and seconded by Smith to approve the February 20, 2025 regular meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Financial Report:

Handed out by H. Ferchau, there is a new format on the front page that shows the combined cash accounts and the cash allocation reconciliation. H. Ferchau advised the Board that he and Cowan have added some new line items for better tracking. Brown stated that National Dispatch payment is moving through the system and the check should be cut soon and mailed out. Smith asked about the Part Time line item. H. Ferchau stated that is the line item for the volunteers. A motion was made by Cranor and seconded by Smith to approve the financial report. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Bills:

H. Ferchau handed out the bills packet to Board members prior to the meeting. Spritzer asked about the bill from Emergency Lighting, LLC in the amount of \$24,997.64. Brown stated that it was for the extendo beds for the officer vehicles. A motion was

made by Cranor and seconded by Smith to approve payment of the bills. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Correspondence:

None.

VI. Old Business:

- A. **Board Bylaws:** H. Ferchau stated that he has not been able to get with the Board Attorney.
- B. **Election – Mil Levy Increase/New Station (November, 2025):** H. Ferchau stated that they are trying hard to acquire property for the build because the phase approach makes the project cost significantly more. They have looked at several places and the best would be the District property across the street from the current fire house combined with the purchase of the old Dollar Tree. The Church is not selling old City Market lot, Marty Plotts is not willing to sell his lots next to the training facility and they have looked at the lot next to Bethany Baptist. Morgan asked when we are going to start pounding the pavement and educating. H. Ferchau said that they have scheduled the first big meeting with Neeman for 3/29/25 from 9am to 4:30pm at the Library with the Department and District Board. H. Ferchau advised the Board that they are thinking about scaling back the new build and keeping the current building for overflow or seasonal equipment and apparatus. Smith asked what is the back plan if we can't put the new station across the street. H. Ferchau stated Gunnison Rising or doing something smaller at CR 730 and H135 for ISO coverage.
- C. **Election – Board Members (May, 2025):** D. Ferchau reported that she had no more self-nominations than positions available at the February 28, 2025 deadline so the election has been cancelled. The required publications and postings have been made. Heath Smith retained his position and Tom Stoeber will be the new Board member. Oaths of Office will be signed at the May meeting.

VII. Chief's Report:

- A. H. Ferchau reported that there are some cool projects going on around town right now with the construction and renovation of school buildings, EMS building and Hurst. The Sawtooth project is also moving along and they have scheduled a grand opening for 4/4/25.
- B. H. Ferchau commented that FDIC is coming up in April. Rob Larson, Tyler Brown and himself will be attending.
- C. H. Ferchau recently attended a code conference and took Gus and Rod with him.
- D. Department elections are coming up and they will elect an Assistant Chief and Captain.

VIII. Deputy Chief's Report: (Brown reporting)

- A. Brown advised the Board that they are still working on the officer vehicles and learning the new software.
- B. Brown commented that the new vehicle lift is in and put together, bolted into the floor and Chris Greene will hard wire it in soon.
- C. Brown advised the Board that Hazmat is in service.
- D. Brown commented that the portable truck scales were purchased for \$4,800 instead of the budgeted \$7,000.

IX. New Business:

- A. Pension Board: Spritzer reported that there was a Pension Board meeting this week. Everything is in good order and status quo. No changes were made to the payment amount and there are no additional retirees.

X. Unscheduled Business:

- A. D. Ferchau advised the Board that the bridge on County Road 10 over the Gunnison River near the Way Camp will be closed for installation of new bridge decking from April 21, 2025 to approximately May 16, 2025.

XI. Adjourn:

- A motion was made by Cranor to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m.