



Foothills Fire Protection District

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 | 6:30 p.m.

Rainbow Hill Station, 28812 Rainbow Hill Rd., Evergreen, CO 80439

The meeting was open to the public and available via Zoom

*The minutes are intended to reflect the discussions that occurred and the decisions that were made.
They are not intended to be a transcription of the meeting.*

I. ATTENDANCE & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. Verbally identify present board members and Chief for the record (Director Graf, Meeting Chair)

BOARD MEMBERS: Stephanie Graf, Dan Hartman, Dave Stajcar, Dick Shaw, Rob Johnson

FFR FF: Chief Rod Cameron, Deputy Chief Vaughn, Ted Abariotes, Steve Garran, Kurt Giesler, James Hunter, Hanako Wyles; ZOOM: Lt. Adam Goldman, Justin Doty, Jennifer Darr, Lt. Tom Darr, Lt. Ken Tillis, Lt. Kira Brannan

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Ronda Cameron; ZOOM: Dave Hammond

- B. Pledge of Allegiance – (Deputy Chief Vaughn)

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- A. Amendments to Agenda (Director Graf, Meeting Chair)
Move Alpine Rescue presentation to follow Agenda Approval;
Add missing component to April board meeting minutes
Add Strategic Plan presentation by Deputy Chief Vaughn
Motion to approve amended Agenda Dir. Hartman/2nd Dir. Stajcar 5/0
- B. Alpine Rescue Presentation by Kharis Eppstein and Jacob Smith;
Reviewed current 20 year lease that is due to expire in 2028, and request for 20-year extension to 2048.
1. Discussed concerns regarding the need for a new septic system; liability insurance; training room access and usage; parking and adjacent property issues.

2. Agreement to keep Alpine informed about the septic system status and to begin work on MOUs for water and training room use prior to possible lease renewal.
 3. Discussions on lease renewal will continue in subsequent meetings.
- C. Approve Meeting Minutes from May 20, 2025 Regular Board Meeting (Director Graf, Meeting Chair)
Motion to approve Dir. Stajcar/2nd Dir. Hartman 5/0
- D. Discussion of addition of a letter to April minutes. The letter has been recovered, but only with 10 of the 11 signatures. Letter will be added to the April 15 minutes.
- E. Director Updates – *Each Director gives an update on 2-3 things they have been working on to advance the District's needs since the previous meeting*
1. Dir. Graf updates: Ambassador program update, four interested participants have been identified, the first meeting is scheduled for July;
 2. Dir. Hartman updates: Spoke with president of Lookout Mountain Water District regarding their issues and difficulties with hydrant supply; wrote a letter to a property owner in Cody Park regarding a possible site for a 60,000-gallon cistern; spoke to attorney regarding upcoming exclusion hearing scheduled for July;
 3. Dir Stajcar updates: Paradise Hills will be flow test hydrants; he also has reached out to a new possible supplier for SCBA packs and bottles.
 4. Dir. Shaw updates: working with Mt. Vernon board to add a Storz connector to the swimming pool for possible water supply; looking for possible Ambassador and Firefighter members in Mt. Vernon and Riva Chase;
 5. Dir. Johnson updates: Spent time devoted to new secretary duties, including minutes, agendas, etc. Also worked with the Chief, staff and Nancy Southorn to get past meeting minutes published on the website.

III. LEGAL MATTERS

- A. (Dir. Hartman) An executive session to discuss the settlement offer for Engine 537 that was on the agenda for this month will be rescheduled to the July meeting.

IV. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- A. (Dir. Stajcar) Reviewed payment of claims, addressed questions, and clarification on election budget. The budget was \$30,000, actual spending about \$20,000.
- B. (Dir. Stajcar) Audit is progressing, with minor issues syncing QuickBooks. The auditor is reviewing transactions, focusing on vacation and comp time accrual.

V. DEPARTMENT MATTERS

- A. Prevention Updates (Chief Cameron) - Jeff Velasco has been in investigations training with Aurora Fire. Evergreen is no longer assisting with inspections.
- B. The Division of Fire Protection and Control (DFPC) is helping with plan reviews.
- C. Several home assessments are being conducted.
- D. Training Updates (Asst. Chief Alpine) - Provided in Board Packet
 - 1. Recent training included a rescue workshop, hazmat JPR renewals, and wildland training with Genesee and Indian Hills.
- E. Grant Updates (Chief Cameron) - Began to apply for a National Volunteer Fire Council grant sponsored by State Farm but did not qualify due to annual revenue. Successfully received a grant from the Civic Foundation for Stokes Basket and handles.
- F. Fleet Updates (Chief Cameron)
 - 1. Two interviews scheduled for fleet position. Preventive maintenance performed on three main engines. Evergreen not accepting outside work until after January 1, 2026.
- G. Station Updates (Chief Cameron)
 - 1. Everything good, nothing new to report
- H. Chief's Report (Chief Cameron)
 - 1. Wildland Gear Grant and Distribution
98% of wildland gear from the disease and safety grant has arrived and is being issued. Plan to donate old gear to smaller departments.
 - 2. Interagency Collaboration and Wildland Team
Discussion of forming an I-70 Corridor wildland team, reviving previous collaboration. Meeting with Arvada Fire on June 26, 2025, to discuss automatic aid and redraw map lines.
 - 3. Recruitment and Academy
Pop-up recruiting event scheduled for June 28, 2025, in Idledale. Four potential recruits for the next academy; one completed application received.
 - 4. Retirement and Sale of Engine 534
Engine 534 officially retired and passed the pump test. Plan to list on govdeals.com; direct sale preferred to avoid auction fees. Estimated high-side value is \$6,000, with auction fees of 20-30%.
 - 5. SCBA Replacement
Fifteen SCBAs and fifteen bottles needed to bring all equipment current. Two bids received; awaiting further bids.

I. Member Updates (Deputy Chief Vaughn)

1. Electric Vehicle Fire Incident and Hazmat Response

detailed a significant electric vehicle (EV) fire involving a Ford Mustang with a lithium battery. The fire required approximately 15,000 gallons of water, involved thermal runaway, and created hazardous runoff. The incident led to coordination with the Colorado Division of Public Safety and Health, Jeffco Hazmat Team, and highlighted the need for new policies and procedures for EV fires.

a) Hazards of EV Fires and Protective Measures

Discussion covered the dangers of lithium battery fires, including hazardous smoke (lithium smoke, wood hyphen, cyanide), risks of exposure even through gear, and the need for mass decontamination.

2. Incident Statistics and Department Performance

Statistics for the first five months of the year: 1,500 shift hours, approximately 240 calls (with 231 reported), 12 fires, and 953 firefighter responses, averaging four firefighters per call.

J. Recruiting Updates

1. Auxiliary Presentation (Ronda Cameron, Auxiliary President)

Provided an overview of the Auxiliary, detailing its 13-year history, activities and functions; highlighting this year's pancake breakfast success which had a plate count of 1,464, and raised \$30,232 in donations

VI. OLD MATTERS

A. Update on Strategic Plan (Deputy Chief Vaughn)

Provided background on the strategic plan, noting that in 2024 the board tasked the chief and officers with recreating the plan. The process included reviewing past plans, focusing on actionable goals, and establishing a framework starting with a mission and vision statement. The Strategic Plan presentation is available on the Foothills Fire website.

VII. NEW MATTERS - None

VIII. COMMUNITY FEEDBACK - None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion to adjourn Dir. Hartman/2nd Dir. Stajcar. Pass 5/0 Time: 8:53 pm.*

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING July 15, 2025 6:30 PM

PRESIDENT DIR. STEPHANIE GRAF Stephanie Graf **DATE** 12/16/2025
VP DIRECTOR DAN HARTMAN Dan Hartman **DATE** 12/15/2025
TREASURER DIR DAVE STAJCAR David Stajcar **DATE** 12/16/2025
SEC. DIRECTOR ROB JOHNSON Rob Johnson **DATE** 12/15/2025
ASST. SEC. DIRECTOR DICK SHAW Dick Shaw **DATE** 12/19/2025



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