

FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
November 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Huish called the Regular Meeting of the Fry Fire District Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members in Attendance:

Joseph Huish, Board Chairman
Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Thomas Tucker, Board Member (electronically)
Norman Sturm, Board Member (electronically)

Board Members Absent:

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk

Staff in Attendance:

Mark Savage, Fire Chief
Diana Mercier, Billing Supervisor
Billy Seamans, Deputy Chief
Steven Rodriguez, James Vincent Group (electronically)
Jared Haros, Captain
Jorge Alba, Lieutenant (retired)
Casey Anders, Firefighter

Others in Attendance:

John Price, Shive-Hattery Architects
Thomas Yazzie, Shive-Hattery Architects
Kiel Prudence, Marsh Development
Jason Marsh, Marsh Development
Friends, family, co-workers of award recipients

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mr. Huish led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. McMurtrie gave the invocation.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Huish reminded board members that they shall declare any conflict of interest. No board member declared a conflict at this time.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. Huish opened the call to the public at 6:01 p.m.

There were no members of the public who requested to address the Board.

Call to the public closed at 6:01 p.m.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

- a. Firefighter Mathias Slattery – Firefighter Oath and Badge presentation.

Captain Jared Haros recognized Firefighter Mathias Slattery for completing the one-year probationary period and presented him with his Firefighter Badge. Captain Haros thanked the Slattery family for their support and sacrifice. Firefighter Slattery's badge was pinned on by his father, John Slattery. Chief Savage administered the Oath of Office.

- b. Lieutenant Jorge Alba – Retirement Plaque presentation.

Chief Savage recognized Lieutenant Jorge Alba for over twenty years of service, with two different fire departments. Fry Fire District hired Jorge Alba three years ago as one of the first Lieutenant/Paramedics for Station 161 in the town of Huachuca City. Chief Savage presented Retired Lieutenant Jorge Alba with a plaque and Firefighter Casey Anders presented him with a personalized quilt from the firefighters.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Regular Board Meeting on October 28, 2025.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting minutes of October 28, 2025. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Review, discussion, and possible action on the monthly financial report for October 2025.

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting a summary of the financial reports for October 2025 and year to date. The non-tax revenue was over budget due to ambulance, interest income, and the sale of apparatus. Tax levy revenue was under budget for the month. Total expenses for the month were in line with the budget. Our year-to-date tax revenue is over budget, our non-tax revenue is over budget, and our expenses are over budget. A discussion followed. The board reviewed the warrants for the month. Mr. Huish asked if the overpayment received for wildland fire fighting was rectified. Chief Savage stated that DFFM is still working on the numbers.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to accept the October 2025 financial reports. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage provided Board Members with the following monthly report:

Operations and Staffing – Chief Savage participated in the ACC Accreditation process at Canyon Vista Medical Center (CVMC) during which the hospital was reaccredited as a cardiac receiving center. Chief Savage also attended the Veteran’s Wall recognition ceremony at CVMC. CEO Scott Avery is continuing to make progress improving the level of care they provide.

We are wrestling to keep staffing full with one Firefighter remaining on light-duty due to injury and another few vacancies. We will be running a Lieutenant testing process later this week and another full-time selection process in mid-December.

Deputy Chief Mauzy is continuing to do an incredible job coordinating training. This month included live fire training in our burn rooms at Station 143. This training included Sierra Vista Fire and Medical units and officers. Chief Mauzy also coordinated a shift-friendly Driver / Operator class over the past month which will be finishing this week. Unfortunately, his Standards of Cover class through the NFA was rescheduled to next spring due to the recent government shutdown.

Palominas Fire District – We received payment-in-full from PFD for our legal fees. Deputy Chief Seamans will be adding Chief Prince to the Palominas FD response plans, which should take some of the burden off our duty chiefs.

Fort Huachuca Fire Department – There is no word on the new FHFD Fire Chief, perhaps this process was also complicated by the shutdown.

Facilities – Deputy Chief Seamans is continuing to work through some of the Station 142 repairs. The new HVAC unit had to have LPG orifices installed as it came with factory CNG parts. Chief Seamans will provide an update on the Station 143 project and discuss the ongoing work with SSVEC, Shive-Hattery Architects and Marsh Development under new action items related to the renovation of Station 143.

Apparatus and Equipment – There is a request to purchase a replacement chassis for R1421 on tonight’s agenda. This will replace a 2007 F550 extended cab chassis with a 2025 F350 chassis.

The replacement Philips Cardiac Monitors, approved under a congressionally directed spend grant, will be discontinued. Philips failed to meet FDA licensing requirements and they are abandoning the Tempus Pro project in the US. Captain Austin Nash is evaluating other cardiac monitors.

Grants – As of yesterday, the FEMAGO site is back up and running.

We have received no feedback regarding our grant request to the Arizona Governor’s Office of Highway Safety to support the purchase of additional stabilization equipment and extrication tools for Station 141.

Our Fuels Crew is continuing to make strong progress in the Ramsey Canyon and the Dead Bear Draw neighborhoods. This month has seen them continuing to treat high-risk areas along our forest interface margins. The 2025 HFI Grant Cycle has recently opened and has a January submission deadline.

The Cochise County CWPP update is finally here and will kick off next Tuesday morning.

Chief Savage believes the FY2023 EMPG reallocation request has been approved. We should be reimbursed for the DC141 truck and lights in the amount of approximately \$35,000.00.

SEACOM – Director Wilkins continues to improve operations and staffing at SEACOM. We anticipate continued improvements in operational support. The next few months should see Dispatchers continue to follow us to assigned tactical channels during critical events. Additional channels were provided by Arizona Grants to Cochise County Sheriff's Office and will provide our responders with clear access and dedicated incident dispatchers.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Review, discussion and possible action regarding an Amended Agreement with T-Mobile modifying the monthly rents and annual rate increase percentage.

T-Mobile would like to renegotiate their current lease agreement to reduce their monthly costs from \$2,548.52 to \$2,293.66 (a difference of \$254.86) and reduce the annual escalation rate from 15% to 12%. They cite market alignment and the potential to relocate to another site. Chief Savage will review the terms of the current contract and provide more information to the Board next month.

Item tabled until the next Regular Board Meeting.

- b. Review, discussion and possible action regarding design work and capital improvement planning with Shive-Hattery Architects and Marsh Development for Fire Sta. 143. This item may include direction to execute contracts for construction, and direction moving forward with plans, phasing, adopting a fee schedule and gross maximum price.

John Price with Shive-Hattery Architects presented the Board a Cost Reduction Addendum to bring the numbers back down to what was originally discussed and approved. Mr. Price provided a recap on the phases of the project, and summarized items identified within the addendum that were altered or removed to reduce costs. Mr. Sturm asked if we would continue using the current appliances. Chief Seamas stated we have a current replacement plan for the major appliances.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to proceed with the finalization of the design for the Station 143 remodel as presented to the Board from Shive-Hattery. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion carried.

- c. Review, discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of a new F-350 crew cab chassis.

Chief Savage stated we would like to replace a 2007 F-550 extended cab chassis with a 2025 F-350 crew cab chassis. The new crew cab would be used by the fuels crew during the off season, and as a backup rescue truck the rest of the year. Although the truck is not on the capital plan, Steven Rodriguez stated we have a strong enough fund to make the purchase.

Mr. Tucker made a motion to proceed with the purchase of a new F-350 crew cab chassis. Mr. McMurtrie seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion carried.

- d. Review, discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of a new air trailer predominantly funded by AFG.

Chief Savage stated we have one non-compliant bid, one compliant bid, and one bid expected tomorrow.

Item tabled.

- e. Review, discussion and possible action regarding the Fire Chief's Annual Evaluation*.

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to enter executive session. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Executive Session entered at 6:50.

Regular Fire Board Session resumed at 7:30

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to accept the Fire Chief's Annual Evaluation and extend the retention incentive policy to the Fire Chief. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.

Motion carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from Board Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McMurtrie made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:32 p.m. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

DATED THIS 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER 2025.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board