

**FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 26, 2026**

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
Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Norman Sturm, Board Member

Board Members Absent: Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Thomas Tucker, Board Member

Staff in Attendance: Mark Savage, Chief
Billy Seamans, Deputy Chief
Diana Mercier, Billing Supervisor
Steven Rodriguez, James Vincent Group

Others in Attendance: Fry Fire District personnel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

Mr. Huish led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mr. Sturm 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 present to address the Board.

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

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

a. Associate's Degree Recognition for: Captain Austin Nash and Captain Adam Short

Chief Savage recognized Captain Adam Short for successful completion of his Associates of Science in Fire Science Technology. Captain Short was given two chiefs coins, one for his wife.

Captain Nash was not present at the meeting due to a scheduled vacation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Board Meeting on April 28, 2026.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting minutes of April 28, 2026. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Review, discussion, and possible action on the monthly financial report for May 2026.

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting a summary of the financial reports for May 2026 and year to date. Tax revenue was under budget for the month. The non-tax revenue was under budget due to wildland. Expenses for the month were under budget. Our year-to-date tax revenue was under budget, our non-tax revenue was over budget due to ambulance, wildland, and interest revenue, and our total expenses were under budget. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to accept the May 2026 financial reports. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.

Motion carried.

COMMAND STAFF'S REPORT

Chief Savage provided Board Members with the following monthly report:

Our Type 3 Engine is currently deployed to California with Captain Sayler and Captain Bocook, Engineer Vidinski and Firefighter Zatarain. This is one of our earliest out-of-state deployments. The crew is currently in a preposition assignment near Idyllwild – increasing the strategic capacity in anticipation of potential wildfire activity. Today is their fifth day, leaving them another week and a half of work if the deployment is not extended.

We are continuing to make progress with Canyon Vista Medical Center's (CVMC) implementation of the new DEA rule which will impact our medication control and resupply procedures. Last week's meeting saw a significant shift with CVMC now committed to providing support with restocking medications used on 'emergency' calls for patients treated and transported to the ER. Previously they had taken the position that we would need to manage all of our medications on our own.

The May 31 deadline for implementation is now flexible as they have been unable to provide us with clear instructions or adequate information required to complete the state application. We will continue working with CVMC to obtain the information we need to apply for an EMS

Agency Registration through Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS), followed by a subsequent application to Federal DEA for a similar EMS Agency Registration.

AZDHS requires an affidavit from our Administrative Medical Director, which CVMC is working to provide. We anticipate making some changes in the way we dispose of expiring medications, which may create some inventory management and control hurdles for us.

We are continuing to explore other options if CVMC is unable or unwilling to continue supporting us.

Operations and Staffing – Chief Savage has been accepted to the 2026 Flinn-Brown Civic Leadership Academy. This professional development course will begin in early August and run through mid-November. Chief Savage is excited about the opportunity to expand his network and is hoping to increase the visibility of fire districts at the state level. Chief Savage has been nominated to run for the Secretary / Treasurer position with AFDA. If elected, this would give us an Officer position on their board and would open the Area 2 (Cochise, Graham and Greenlee) seat to another fire district representative.

Deputy Chief Mauzy received the dates for his first National Fire Academy's EFO class which will be in late November through early December. He will bring back knowledge and ideas that are immediately applicable to our operations.

Caden Hicks successfully completed his NFPA 1582 physical and is up and running online. We completed another full-time Firefighter selection process; with the addition of Kennedy Cruz, who accepted the position today, we will be back up to full staffing this month. Our hiring panel has noted significant improvements in our recruitment pool over the past several cycles.

Deputy Chief Mauzy is continuing to provide exceptional training. This month saw Lieutenant McKearney, Engineer Vidinski, and Firefighter Iniguez complete advanced search and rescue training with Northwest Fire District. They are rolling out the training to all District personnel this week during our quarterly Company Performance Reviews.

Facilities – The Station 143 project is continuing to move ahead. Today's progress review was positive with the concrete footings, pad, and apron expected to be poured this week. Thanks to Deputy Chief Seamans for continuing to stay on top of the project.

Deputy Chief Seamans stated Shive Hattery and Marsh Construction are moving fast and they are on schedule. Concrete footers will be poured tomorrow and seven days later they will lay the foundation of the back pad. Interior and exterior walls will be going up soon. Construction has uncovered a few issues including the grounding rods for the tower on site are not sufficient, and some electricity and piping were not to code.

Apparatus and Equipment – The Type 3 engine under construction with Rosenbauer is continuing to progress. We are hopeful they will be able to schedule a final inspection visit within the next few months and are hoping that we will be able to take delivery prior to the end of this year's fire season.

Demers is still waiting on a chassis to begin work on an additional ambulance that has been ordered.

The Tender retrofit specification should be going out for bid soon.

Captain Nash received all the new Zoll supplies and is coordinating District-wide training for personnel on the new Zoll cardiac monitors this week. After training concludes on Friday, the monitors will be deployed to our units, and we will start working with Phillips to coordinate the return of their loaner monitors and a refund of the money we spent to purchase the monitors that were never delivered.

Grants – The Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program is open. Chief Savage discussed with Chief Prince (Palominas Fire District) submitting a regional application for a pump testing trailer.

We are on the cusp of submitting our AmeriCorps application. If approved, this project will provide a crew of 8-12 full-time volunteers from mid-September through mid-December to support hazardous fuel mitigation work on Ft. Huachuca, in Ramsey Canyon, and on the Coronado National Forest. We are collaborating with the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch, CNF, and Ft. Huachuca to provide project work. The crew comes at no cost to us other than equipment, supervision and training. Our goal is to use them to support our seasonal fuels crew which we anticipate rehiring in October.

Captain Bocook received tentative approval from Senator Kelly's office on a Congressionally Directed Grant application that would provide funding for some significant upgrades to our training facility including expanded capacity for live-fire evolutions as well as a training tower. This request is also supported by the City of Sierra Vista Fire and Medical Department and Cochise College.

SEACOM – Budget work for Southeastern Arizona Communications Center (SEACOM) continues with meetings scheduled over the next few weeks. We have a special meeting scheduled for this Thursday to discuss a pending personnel matter.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. 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.

Update provided by Deputy Chief Seamans during the Command Staff's Report.

No action taken on this item.

- b. Review, discussion and possible action regarding FY2027 Annual Budget.

Steven Rodriguez went over a few changes since last month's budget presentation. Our tax rate remains the same. Ambulance revenue and interest revenue increased slightly to stay in line with the trends. Salaries and wages decreased slightly. The savings were applied to the increase in workers' compensation. Steven Rodriguez presented projections with an assumption of an annual 4% increase in assessed value for the next five years.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adopt the tentative FY2027 Annual Budget. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion carried.

- c. Review, discussion and possible action regarding adoption of 2024 International Fire Code and Amendments including Wildland-Urban Interface Appendices.

Board Members were provided with a copy of the proposed revisions to the International Fire Code (IFC). Deputy Chief Seamans is working with the County, City, and the State Fire Marshal's Office on updating the IFC from the 2018 edition to the 2024 International Fire Code for adoption with local amendments and adopting the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Code.

Deputy Chief Seamans requests Board approval for posting notification of the public hearing scheduled next month with adoption planned the following month.

The Codes are not retroactive and will be enforced moving forward once they are adopted.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to approve posting of the public hearing for adoption of the 2024 International Fire Code and Amendments including Wildland-Urban Interface Appendices. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion carried.

- d. Review, discussion and possible action regarding purchase of replacement mobile-data terminals for apparatus.

Board Members were provided a copy of the quote for replacement of the mobile-data terminals for apparatus from CDW to replace aging units. The state contract total is \$26,498.30

Mr. Andersen made a motion to approve the purchase of replacement mobile-data terminals for apparatus. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0.
Motion carried.

REQUESTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no requests from board members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:03 p.m. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

DATED THIS 27TH DAY OF MAY 2026.

Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board