FRY FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 28, 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 Thomas Tucker, Board Member (electronically)
Board Members Absent:	Robert McMurtrie, Board Member
Staff in Attendance:	Mark Savage, Chief Diana Mercier, Billing Supervisor Steven Rodriguez, James Vincent Group
Others in Attendance:	Friends, family, and co-workers of the award recipients

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. Paramedic Alycia Babich – Paramedic Patch Presentation

Chief Savage recognized Paramedic Alycia Babich for successfully completing the Cochise College Paramedic Program and passing the National Registry test to become a Certified Emergency Paramedic with the State of Arizona.

b. Senior Captains Jared Haros and Michael Kean – Oath and Badge Presentations

Chief Savage administered the Oath of Office to Senior Captains Jared Haros and Michael Kean and presented them with badges.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Regular Board Meeting on June 23, 2026.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to accept the Regular Board Meeting minutes of June 23, 2026. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

Steven Rodriguez from James Vincent Group (JVG) gave a PowerPoint presentation reflecting a summary of the financial reports for June 2026 and year to date. Tax revenue was over 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 June 2026 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:

Chief Savage met with Steve Abel, Interim Fire Chief for the Palominas Fire District. They discussed opportunities to continue to improve our working relationship, and a pending update to our automatic aid agreement.

Almost all of our personnel have completed their station and shift moves to their new bid spots.

Our Type 3 Engine is currently deployed on wildfires in the State of Oregon with Senior Captain Adam Short, Captain Jon Sayler, Engineer Chavez, and Firefighter Ian Zatarain. Thanks to our local monsoon activity, we have been able to authorize open burning now that our local fire season is effectively over.

Deputy Chief Mauzy will be finishing up this week with the joint Fire Officer 1 and 2 program that has been running with SVFMD. This should result in the certification of seven new fire officers for the fire district. Next month will see our personnel completing night drills.

Deputy Chief Mauzy was successfully submitted a request to the National Fire Academy for an off-site class and we will be hosting a 2-day Strategy and Tactics class here in December.

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. We successfully applied for and received approval from AZDHS and DEA to register as an EMS Agency. We coordinated a Teams meeting with representatives from the DEA in Phoenix to answer local questions regarding the implementation. Our new processes have been implemented, and we are live with CVMC. During a meeting today with Scott Avery, CEO of CVMC, he advised we were one of six agencies who had successfully navigated the process to date.

Chief Savage reached out to Representative Ciscomani's Office and Senator Elect Gail Griffin to ask for support with Federal H.R. 2766 that recognizes Fire Districts as local government for purposes of grants and federal funding.

Operations and Staffing – We hired Nolan Brown as a full-time Paramedic to replace Andrew Krebs who resigned to work closer to home. Andrew Krebs will continue to serve as the St. David Fire District Fire Chief. Nolan Brown successfully completed the Pima College Paramedic Program and is working through his initial onboarding paperwork. After completing a few weeks of initial training, Nolan Brown will roll onto C-Shift and into our FTO program in mid to late August. He completed most of his paramedic ride time hours with the FFD under Andrew Krebs.

We will be coordinating a promotional process for Engineer / Paramedics in the next few months. We will also be opening this opportunity up for lateral candidates in an effort to capture some additional tenure and experience while we continue to develop some of our younger employees.

Chief Savage was confirmed as the new Secretary / Treasurer with AFDA and will be replacing Jim Morgan who recently retired. The August meeting will most likely be cancelled, but Chief Savage anticipates Levi Garner with Sunsites Pearce Fire District being elected as the new Area 2 Representative for Cochise, Graham and Greenlee counties.

Chief Savage has also been elected to serve as the Chair for the AZDOHS Southern Region Advisory Council. This area includes Cochise, Pima, Santa Cruz, and Yuma counties.

Facilities – The Station 143 project is continuing to move ahead. The addition is almost completely framed, most of the exterior walls and roof sheeting are on and it is really starting to look good. Thanks to Deputy Chief Seamans for continuing to stay on top of the project. We are still working on formal quotes for the additional work discussed last month including re-grounding the radio antenna and running appropriate electrical power to the pump house.

Apparatus and Equipment – Deputy Chief Seamans, Senior Captain Kean, and Mr. Kaiser will be traveling to South Dakota next week to perform the final inspection on the Type 3 engine Rosenbauer has been building. We are hopeful that will allow us to take delivery prior to the end of this year's fire season, within the next month or so.

Demers is still waiting on a chassis to begin work on an additional ambulance.

The Tender retrofit specification has finally gone out to bid with proposals expected to come in over the next few weeks.

Captain Nash has located all of the Phillips equipment, and we will begin working with them to coordinate the return of the loaner monitors as well as a refund of the money we spent on their equipment over the next few weeks.

Grants – The AmeriCorps application we submitted last month has been approved. The grant should provide a crew of 10-12 full-time volunteers from September 15 through December 15 to support hazardous fuel mitigation work on Ft. Huachuca and in the Ramsey Canyon Firewise / Coronado National Forest area. We will also be collaborating with the Appleton-Whittell Research Ranch, to provide some additional project work. The crew will come at no cost to us other than some equipment, supervision, and training. Our goal is to utilize them as a force multiplier for our seasonal fuels crew which we anticipate rehiring in October.

SEACOM – The JPA Board approved a $7,500.00 credit last month for the repeater that we replaced. Deputy Chief Seamans has been working with SEACOM and Ft. Huachuca to coordinate an Intergovernmental Service Agreement for after-hours dispatching and provide addition support to the Garrison on Fort Huachuca.

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.

Chief Savage stated construction is moving quickly and they are making strong progress.

No action taken on this item.

b. Review, discussion and possible action regarding an update to the Automatic Aid Agreement with the Palominas Fire District.

Board Members were provided with a copy of the Palominas Fire District Automatic Aid Agreement Draft for review. Mr. Matura added some language to the indemnification clause. The incident command and communications section was also updated to provide consistency in Operations and Suppression, Emergency Medical, and the Incident Management level.

The Agreement will be sent back to Mr. Matura for review and input prior to continuing the conversation with Chief Abel.

No action taken on this item.

c. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Absence with Relief (Shift Trades) Policy.

Chief Savage stated the policy has been updated to reflect our current maximum consecutive overtime hours. It also clarifies expectations for trade-time worked beyond the originally anticipated hours.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adopt the updated Absence with Relief (Shift Trades) Policy. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion carried.

d. Review, discussion and possible action regarding Workers' Compensation Policy.

Chief Savage stated the updated Policy better reflects our current practices regarding employee pay while incorporating Administrative Directive 25-002 from last year that states an employee injured on duty who elects to leave work must receive immediate medical care for a formal medical assessment. The Policy also clarifies the return-to-work clearence process.

Mr. Sturm made a motion to adopt the updated Workers' Compensation Policy. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
Motion carried.

e. Review, discussion and possible action on FY2026 year-end balance transfers.

Steven Rogriguez provided a review of the proposed end-of-year balance transfers. The recommendation is to move $150,000.00 from the General Fund to the Capital Fund and move $1,500,000.00 from the County account to the LGIP account. A discussion followed.

Mr. Andersen made a motion to approve the FY2026 year-end balance transfers. Mr. Sturm seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0.
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 6:55 p.m. Mr. Andersen seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.
DATED THIS 29TH DAY OF JULY 2026.

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Eric Andersen, Board Clerk
Fry Fire District Board