

MESA COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 17, 2026

At 7:00PM Wayne DeGesualdo called the meeting to order. Wayne DeGesualdo, Eric Talley, and Chad Wallace were present for the board, Murray Thiessen and Dave Upchurch had an excused absence.

Also present were public member Rich Phillip, Chief Balke and Administrative Assistant Stacy Cox, along with volunteer members of Mesa County Fire Authority.

Wayne DeGesualdo led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wayne DeGesualdo said an opening prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Wayne DeGesualdo asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes from last Board Meeting, all agreed they did. Chad Wallace made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Eric Talley seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Bank Signatures- Missed a couple of signatures on two different pages for updated bank information. Board members signed the pages need.

Sale of two Vehicles-

Sold two vehicles through the auction team. 1985 Ford Econoline 4x4 Bid \$7,500.00 Commission \$750.00, \$50.00 title fee received \$6,700; 1979 general water Tanker: Bid \$15,500, Commission \$1,550.00, \$50.00 title fee, received \$13,900; Received check for \$20,600. 10/90 Split less \$100 title fee 90/10 Split for commission. Check was deposited into vehicle savings account.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurers Report

Stacy Cox presented the treasurer's report. We are at 13.4% through the year and income from tax revenue is at 0% from Lands Ends and 0% from Central Orchard Mesa but COM Income shows 71.55% due to the repayment of the lone of \$161,661.50 for the tender. Income is 32.85% for the year between the sale of vehicles and loan repayment. Total expenses for the year are sitting at 3.89% for the year. Rich suggested that some of the moneys in the CDs and Alpine account be moved, so they are less than 250K. Explained as public funds accounts, they are protected to 102% of total value regardless of the amount in the account. Eric Talley made a

motion to approve the treasurer's report, Chad Wallace seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Chiefs Report

Chief Balke advised will be on deployment for High Path IA and Colorado Conference for one week each.

Sitting at 49 calls for the year.

Recruitment and Testing is taking place now. Have brought on eight new volunteers- three of which are EMTS but not yet on protocol.

Will start the Fire Academy the 2nd week of March for 12 people.

Need to look at a plan for apparatus replacement, create a phase plan where we do a two for one. These need to be planned out as stock engines are 18-24 months from the time they are ordered, and custom orders take 4 to 5 years.

Will need to adopt current Wildfire Resiliency Codes by April, Stacy has sent a draft to the lawyers for review. Wayne DeGesualdo asked if everyone is adopting the same code advised not quite but close.

Advised the Frank is pulling back to focus on his health and his business, and Cory Schreiner is the 3rd party who is helping with code inspections.

Image Trend Call Reports

Stacy Cox advised unable to pull the Image Trend Reports, Chief Balke said every agency in the area is having to rebuild their reports due to the upgrades to the system.

Advised there were eight calls in the last four weeks when MCFA did not have anyone to respond.

Community Events/Meetings:

March 7th Republican Caucus

March 8th Community Meeting

March 16th Community Meeting

March 28th Community Meeting

March 29th CMU Bike Race through the District (**covered by GJFP**)

Lands End Hill Climb in August

Other Matters before the Board:

Wayne asked how the pay structure is going. Chief Balke said not great as we still don't have enough staff but working on it.

Need to create a plan for replacement of PFAB Free turn out gear,

Public Comment:

None

Adjournment of meeting

Chad Wallace made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric Talley seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion carried. Meeting adjourned


Next Board Meeting is March 24, 2026, about 7:15 pm following the LEFPD meeting at 7:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stacy Cox
Administrative Assistant
Mesa County Fire Authority



ATTEST



ATTEST