

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
March 12, 2026

Open Meeting

Dir. Michael Vietzke opened the meeting at 9:02 a.m. and led the flag salute.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Chairperson Michael Vietzke, Dir. Robin Adams, Dir. Rex Lesueur via Teams, and Dir. Jeremy Johnson, Dir. Dan Robinette

Staff Present: Chief Erick Holsey, Assistant Chief Dan Daugherty, Office Manager Joyce Engberg, and Administrative Assistant Sandi Mickel

Staff Absent: None

Guests: None

Union Representative: Paul Stevenson

Approval of Consent Agenda

Changes to the Agenda

Chief Holsey requested that an Executive Session be added to the agenda

Open Forum for Public Comment

None

Employee Recognition:

None

Review and Approval of minutes from February 12, 2026, Board of Directors Regular Meeting.

Financials

Revenue Overview

The District is performing close to expectations, with several revenue categories trending positively. Tax receipts continue to arrive—slowly but steadily—and overall collections remain close to projections. A few key financial considerations remain on the horizon:

- Potential repayment of Deschutes County taxes, which may also influence revenue from Klamath County.
- The OSFM capacity grant is nearing its end, meaning funding for two positions will shift to the District's general fund beginning in FY 2027. Careful planning will be required to absorb this change.

Expense Overview

Overall expenses are currently tracking at or near budgeted levels. Personnel services—including wages, benefits, and overtime—are within projected amounts. Several individual line-item variances occurred this month none indicate a concern or need for corrective action at this time.

Overall Financial Position

Overall, the current profit and loss statement reflects a budget that is being managed responsibly and in full compliance with public budget law. Personnel services and overtime have stabilized and returned to normal expenditure patterns. Tax revenues continue to be received, and based on current trends, the District is on track to meet projected revenue targets.

Capital projects are now beginning to move forward, so activity within the capital fund will increase over the next several months as planned expenditures are executed.

Monthly Expenses Paid

February 2026 Financials

We move to approve:

Check #35225 to check #35249 for \$105,450.49,
Check #35251 to check #35254 for \$4,562.54,
And Check #35256 to check #35272 for \$27,622.90;
EFT payments equaling \$211,275.85;
for total monthly expenses paid of \$348,911.78.

Dir. Johnson abstains from approval of Integrity Auto credit via CBCharge totaling \$13,398.17, and Dir. Robinette abstains from approval of La Pine Ace Hardware payment of \$6.36.

Motion: Dir. Adams

Second: Dir. Johnson.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5–0.

Management Reports

Union Report

None

Chief's Report

It has been another busy month for the fire district. Administration has remained focused on capital projects and ongoing budget development. The Oregon State Legislature is nearing the end of its short session, and we are hopeful that several fire-service-related bills—particularly the GEMT bill—will pass and help support operational funding.

Operationally, crews continue to respond to alarms and provide essential services to the community. Unfortunately, monthly statistical reporting is delayed while work continues on the ImageTrend platform.

Budget formulation and development have been a major focus and will continue through adoption. Revenue and expenditure projections are being refined with particular attention to preserving the personnel services category and other critical line items such as contract services.

Summer and Joyce have played key roles in advancing the budget process, ensuring the draft is complete, accurate, and ready for presentation to the budget committee.

Legislative & Committee Work

The SB 454 Committee continues to examine fire district funding challenges, limitations, and structural barriers. The goal is to identify realistic solutions to the financial pressures facing Oregon's fire service.

This month, testimony was provided in support of several bills during the legislative short session, with a particular focus on written testimony for GEMT funding. The bill currently appears to have strong support and a positive outlook. If passed, it will help

ensure GEMT revenue continues into the FY 2026–27 budget cycle. While the program remains federally funded, there is still room for improvement in how much of that funding reaches fire districts.

Notable Activities This Month

- Participated in the GEMT Call to Action hosted by SDAO
- Attended the State of Oregon Budget Training session
- Participated in meetings related to the Battalion Chief position
- Attended SB 454 Committee meeting
- Conducted a budget development workshop with Summer and Joyce
- Met with Robin and Jeremy to review the Assistant Chief job description and establish a salary range

Correspondence/News

- Public Service Announcements were sent to media outlets and posted on the reader board as well as in the *South County Shopper*.
- Letter of Support for LCHC Wellness Center
- Newberry Regional Partnership – Sustainable Newberry County Grant Application

Old Business

Budget Development

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Capital Projects Update

Capital projects continue to progress:

- Chief Daugherty is managing a facilities project related to the Station 101 door system.
- Joyce is completing the phone system project and beginning the copier replacement project.
- This year has placed a strong emphasis on electronics and IT upgrades to ensure reliable logistical support for operations and mission readiness.

Administration also met with Summer to identify remaining capital projects and associated costs to help project the ending fund balance for next fiscal year's capital fund.

New Business

Items Presented for Board Review

No action is required at this time.

- Policy 200.27 – Medical Service Rates
- Policy 600.03 – Special Teams Policy
- Policy 600.04 – Responding Closest Resource
- COCC Paramedic Internship Agreement
- Update on Assistant Chief Replacement Process

Special Meetings and Workshops

- March 18, 2026, Meet with Local 3387 0900 Admin
- March 19, 2026, Chief in Salem SB 454 committee
- March 20, 2026, Chief in Eugene EMS roundtable
- Ops meeting TBD
- April 11, 2026, Wildfire Prevention Fair (we are cooking) LPHS

Good of the Order

None

Next Regular Meeting

April 9, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at Station 101.

Regular Board Meeting Adjourned at 9:55 a.m. and board members went into Executive Session: Pursuant to ORS 192.660 Personnel Issue.

Respectfully Scribed and Submitted
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District

Sandi Mickel

Date Presented to the Board: April 9, 2026