

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
June 11, 2026

Open Meeting

Dir. Michael Vietzke opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Chairperson Michael Vietzke, Dir. Robin Adams, Dir. Rex Lesueur, Dir. Jeremy Johnson, and 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 would like to open a public hearing under New Business in accordance with the adoption of the 2026–2027 Budget Resolution.

Open Forum for Public Comment

None

Employee Recognition:

None

Review and Approval of minutes from May 7, 2026, Board of Directors Regular Meeting.

Financials

Chief Holsey reported that Caselle training is underway and that bank reconciliations have been brought up to date.

Chief Holsey further reported that this month's financial review provides an overview of the district's budget, including both revenues and expenditures. Tax receipts have been received above projected amounts. He also noted the potential obligation to return a portion of Deschutes County taxes, which may impact revenues from Klamath County.

Additionally, Chief Holsey reported that the district is nearing the end of the OSFM capacity grant. Beginning in FY2027, funding for two positions currently supported by the grant will need to be absorbed into the general fund. He emphasized the need for careful financial planning to manage this transition.

Chief Holsey also noted that the district is in the final year of one of its operational levies. Planning for renewal will be necessary, with consideration of placing the measure on either the May or November ballot.

Revenue Overview

Chief Holsey reported that La Pine Rural Fire Protection District tax revenues are slightly over projection at 101%. Ambulance revenues and miscellaneous income continue to be received and are reflected in this month's totals. Overall, EMS revenue and total income are slightly above projections, with total income at 104%.

Expense Overview

Chief Holsey reported that overall expenses are currently trending in line with budgeted amounts. Personnel services and overtime are also tracking as projected. He noted that any anomalies within specific line items will be addressed individually; however, overall expenditure categories remain within budget limits. Currently, no contingency transfer is necessary.

Monthly Expenses Paid

May 2026 Financials

We move to approve:

Check #35406 to check #35427 for \$15,111.47;

and check #35429 to check #35453 for \$99,325.49;

EFT payments equaling \$212,525.24;

And Direct Deposit payroll payments equaling \$165,236.37

for total monthly expenses paid of \$492,198.57

Motion: Dir. Adams

Second: Dir. Johnson

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5 – 0.

Management Reports

Union Report

None

Chief's Report

Chief Holsey reported that Jeremy Mendola will be joining the district as Deputy Chief and Andy Salata as Finance Director, with anticipated start dates of mid-June and early July, respectively. Emily Kline joined the career staff in May, bringing total line staffing to 30.

Dir. Vietzke asked about the debris piles on Vandervert Road and whether anything could be done to require the property owner to burn them during the next debris burn season. Chief Holsey explained that a warrant would be required to enforce cleanup or burning of the piles, noting that the associated expense and personnel commitment would exceed the benefit of pursuing enforcement.

Chief Holsey highlighted ongoing community efforts to improve defensible space, including significant work at Wagon Trail Ranch and a successful Newberry Regional Partnership demonstration event. An update was also provided on a potential Pierce Telesquirt apparatus donation, which will enhance ladder and waterway capabilities once received and equipped.

The district has been awarded a \$2 million grant for seismic upgrades to Station 101, with additional funding and debt service discussions forthcoming.

The SB 454 committee continues to meet, focusing on rural fire district funding, EMS billing, and GEMT program changes.

Chief Holsey and Chief Daugherty attended the OFCA Spring Conference. Additional activities included training events, committee participation, and coordination with OSFM. EMS statistics for May were not available at the time of reporting.

Chief Holsey also reported ongoing coordination with OSFM on development and pre-application projects, along with continued walkthroughs of new structures.

Bargaining efforts with Local 3387 regarding the battalion chief position are ongoing.

Maintenance issues persist at multiple stations, including bay doors, generator alarms, water system updates, and septic repairs, with some long-term improvements anticipated. Capital projects continue to progress, including Caselle implementation, copier replacement, radio installations, and equipment acquisition discussions.

Chief Holsey reported that several grants are currently active, completed, or in progress. The AFG grant application cycle is open, while the HRSA grant has entered administrative closeout. A \$190,000 state direct spending grant has been fully expended, with all equipment delivered. The district has also been awarded a seismic grant and received additional funding through a Deschutes County grant to support a wildfire prevention specialist, as well as an SDAO award for electrical work. Some reporting requirements, including CARES/GEMT, remain outstanding. Chief Holsey noted that fewer grant opportunities are expected due to the short legislative session, and while the OSFM capacity grant closeout timeline has been extended, the district was not awarded the OSFM seasonal grant this cycle.

Correspondence/News

The Chief presented items listed below for Board review:

- Radio Service Agreement
- Deschutes County 911 Radio Service Agreement
- Deschutes County 911 MDT service Agreement
- HGAC Contract
- Oregon Department of Forestry FEPP contract
- FSA Bank Account

Old Business

Chief Holsey presented updated DC Work Agreement Policy and the Non-Exempt Administrative Work Agreement Policy for Board review.

New Business

Public Hearing – Budget Committee

Chairman Vietzke opened the public hearing for the Budget Committee at 9:52 a.m. to receive public comment. Hearing none and with no further discussion, the public hearing was closed at 9:54 a.m.

A resolution was presented to adopt the FY 2026–27 budget as submitted, with a correction to the second-to-last sentence on page two of the first paragraph to accurately reflect FY 2026–27.

Motion: Dir. Adams

Second: Dir. Lesueur

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 5 – 0.

Additional items discussed included the award of a \$2 million seismic grant for Station 101 and the potential need to take on debt service, ongoing considerations for retention and repair of the 5th medic unit, continued evaluation of the fuel tank project, and a proposed change to the order of business on meeting agendas.

Special Meetings and Workshops

- June 2, OSFM FDBC Training in Prineville
- June 8th Assisting with Three Rivers School Field day
- June 10, COFCA Meeting Redmond
- June 11, Board Meeting
- June 18 SB 454 Committee
- June 19 Daugherty/Engberg retirement 1300 at American Legion

Good of the Order

None

Next Regular Meeting

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

Regular Board Meeting Adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully Scribed and Submitted
La Pine Rural Fire Protection District

Sandi Mickel

Date Presented to the Board: July 9, 2026