

Emery County Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 17th, 2025

Location: 75 East Main Street, Castle Dale, Utah

Box Conference Room

In Attendance: Ben Lehnhoff (Chairman), Stoney Jensen (Elmo), Nancy Livingston (Cleveland), Chase Majors (Huntington), Tracy Addley (Orangeville), Randy Kenney (Ferron), Nosh Arrian (Castle Dale), Scott McClaughry (Emery), Jamie Baird (Member at Large), Jeramy Jorgensen (State Lands), (BLM), (UFRA), Jeramy Jorgensen (FFSL), Commissioner Jordan Leonard, Natalie Olsen

1. Approval of the October 20th, 2025 meeting:

Stoney made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Nancy. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discuss/Approve/Deny UFRA Comments and Business:

No one was present.

3. Discuss/Approve/Deny Forestry, Fire, State Lands Comments and Business:

Jeramy: Reminder for those part of the participation commitment program to make sure you get access to the UWRAP system. Jeramy can come around and show you how to put your information in so it can be tracked.

A few changes have come down from the NWCG. We did the S212 class year for chainsaw. They have closed that and have an S112 now. It's a two day, four hour class each day online and a two day field program. He will send the information out. We can look at scheduling times.

Fire season is officially over. Jeramy is no longer on call 24 hours a day. Give Jeramy a call if you have a fire.

Jeramy has the PC statements for 2026 for those part of the PC program. He will send those out tomorrow. There have been some changes you will see when you get them. Look at some days next year for the RT130 program. Maybe we can do a couple over here.

4. Discuss/Approve/Deny BLM Comments and Business:

Cody: If there are any training classes you want, reach out to the BLM or Jeramy. If you have task books and you go on incidents make sure to get with Cody or Jeramy and they will put you on the training assignments.

5. Discuss/Approve/Deny Mineral Lease Money for 2026:

Nosh: He went to the meeting this past month. Fossil Rock filed for a hardship and got approved so the Mineral Lease money is going into the negative. When we start getting the mineral lease money, we will need to pay what we are in the negative before we start getting paid again. vThe best recommendation we got in the meeting was to not plan on any mineral lease until at least July. We do have money in the bank to last us a bit, but if we don't see anything after a year we will have to go to plan B.

Commissioner Leonard said we are trying to get ahead of the problem. There are PILT funds, that if approved in Commission meeting tomorrow, will be distributed to districts to get you by for about 6 months and keep you going until at least July.

6: Discuss/Approve/Deny Tentative Budget for 2026:

Ben went through the budget. When he adds up all the things the district has to pay, total expenses were \$221,100.00. We will have to take \$121,100 out of savings to break even. That won't leave us any money to buy the district anything for the year. Nosh made a motion to approve the tentative budget for 2026 with a second from Stoney. Voting was unanimous.

7: Discuss/Approve/Deny Review of Budget and Mineral Lease money for 2025:

This was discussed in line item #5

8. Discuss/Approve/Deny CWPP Agreement:

We did not budget for the cost of the CWPP. The quote that was given was over \$50,000. The deadline is at the end of the year. Nosh made a motion to table this until we get another quote with a second from Chase. Motion was unanimous.

9. Discuss/Approve/Deny Retention and Recruitment Payout:

Ben put this on because if we don't get any money next year we will have to do something different with this.

Chase made a motion to approve the 2025 Retention and Recruitment payout based on the stipulation set forth by this board with a second from Stoney. Voting was unanimous.

10: Discuss/Approve/Deny Getting 3rd Party to Review Plans for Nuclear Power Plant:

This is a Nuclear test plant that is being put up by Orangeville. They want us to approve the fire plans. Ben called the State Fire Marshall and they didn't want to touch it. Ben passed the fireplan out to everyone. After much discussion it was decided that the district needs to get a little more information. Chase made a motion to table this to get the information of the fire code, if it has adequate GPM for fire protection under classification of buildings with a second from Buzz. Everyone was in favor, Motion passed.

11: Discuss/Approve/Deny Nominees for Board Members:

Ben is retiring from the Fire District at the end of the year. It was asked if anyone wanted the job? Nosh nominated Stoney Jensen. Chase asked if we have paperwork stating what the chair and vice-chair do and what the requirements/responsibilities are? Nosh will email the information. Chase made a motion to table this item until we have further information with a second from Randy. Everyone was in favor, motion passed.

12: Discuss/Approve/Deny Test on Masks:

The previous contract has expired. Commissioner Leonard said if there are items necessary to ensure the safety of the community and our fire fighters, appropriate funding should be secured by the district. Every Fire Chief provided the number of masks needing service. It was agreed that Ben will contact LN Curtis to obtain a quote.

13: Discuss/Approve/Deny DEF on the Trucks:

Because the District is low on funds it was decided that if the individual departments want to take the DEF off their old trucks (no trucks with warranty) the departments can, with the approval of their city. Chase made a motion to allow cities, at their discretion and with Board approval, to modify the diesel exhaust systems on apparatus's purchased by the District, excluding any apparatus that currently has a lien or remains under warranty.

All modifications would be at the department's expense. Nosh seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor, motion passed.

14. Discuss/Approve/Deny County Training Committee:

February 21st is flash over in Castle Dale at the Fair Grounds. The training committee is going to meet on November 19th to try and lock in some training for next year.

Jeramy from the Emery County Sheriff's Office reported that Ardell with the State Fire Marshal's Office is coordinating training on lithium battery fires. The training will be offered at no cost, and Ardell is willing to come down on a Saturday to cover all aspects of lithium-related hazards and best practices. Attendance is encouraged for anyone who feels the information would be beneficial, with Fire Chiefs strongly recommended. It was also noted that having the Commissioners attend would be valuable. The sooner you have the meeting the better. We will have the class in the training building at the Sheriff's Office. January 17th will be the date. Time will be emailed once Jeremy talks to Ardell.

15. Discuss/Approve/Deny Motion to Pay the Bills:

Chase made a motion to pay the bills with a second from Buzz. Everyone was in favor, motion passed.

16. Citizens Concern:

Preston Wilson with the Emery County Sheriff's Office said he did not get on the agenda but asked if the Fire District would donate a Becker to the Sheriff's Office for a Hazmat vehicle. It will be put on the agenda for next month.

17. Chiefs Round Table:

Ben: Green River had their Initial Fire Tac Training in Green River. There were roughly 18 people that went through it. It was a great turnout.

18. Adjourn:

Chase made a motion to adjourn with a second from Randy.