

Emery County Fire Protection District Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, February 17th, 2025

Location: 75 East Main Street, Castle Dale, Utah

Box Conference Room

DONE!!!

In Attendance: Nancy Livingston (Chairman, Cleveland), Stoney Jensen(Elmo), Chase Majors (Huntington), Steph Crabtree (Green River), (Orangeville), (Ferron), Nosh Arrian (Castle Dale), Scott McClaughry (Emery), Jamie Baird (Member at Large), Rudy Sandoval (BLM), Paul Sullivan (UFRA), Jeramy Jorgensen (FFSL), Commissioner Jordan Leonard, Natalie Olsen

1. Approval of the January 12th,2026 meeting:

Nosh made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Steph. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Paul:

- Multiple classes scheduled in Castle Dale and Huntington.
- Live fire flashover training scheduled for Saturday.
- Regional Fire School planned for May 1–2, including auto extrication, roof operations, ventilation, and CTC courses.
- Training statistics reported for 2025 indicated 5 requested classes and 4 delivered in Emery County (data only reflected two quarters). Members noted the number seemed low and expected additional data.

Firefighter Cancer Screening Program

- Information shared on cancer testing resources available through state-funded screening. 128 firefighters screened to date. Median age: 58.4, 13 cancers detected, all asymptomatic, 6 additional possible cancers identified, 103 other concerning health findings reported.
- Members encouraged participation, especially those with long service history.

Winter Fire School Report

- 1,130 registrations, 827 total students, 447 volunteers, 54 part-time, 326 career. 690 Utah firefighters and 41 out-of-state attendees

Additional Training Announcements

- Juvenile Fire Center class sponsored by NFA and UFRA in Washington County.
- NAFTD 25 Staff and Command course in Annapolis.
- ICS 300 refresher course April 22 (registration deadline April 3; limited to 30 students).

**Chief contact information updates were requested and circulated for completion.

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

Jeremy:

Training

- S-270 Basic Air Operations scheduled April 10–11 at Green River Fire Department (pending facility confirmation).
- Required for EMT Fireline certification but recommended for all firefighters due to aircraft safety knowledge.
R-2130 scheduled March 9 in Huntington (6–10 PM).
- Additional R-2130 sessions scheduled:
 - March 3 in Price (DNR building, 6–10 PM)
 - March 25 in Castle Dale (5–9 PM)

Future Training Planning

- Engine Workshop planned for mid-May (date pending).
- Possible centralized training in Green River or multiple regional sessions.
- S-112 chainsaw certification format updated (online + field training).
- Potential S-131 wildland training available if requested.

Administrative and Compliance

- DOT inspections must be completed and submitted when due.
- VIN or registration required for newly acquired engines for FBS system entry.
- MOU inspections will now require department personnel present to start pumps on Type 3, 4, and 6 wildland engines.
- State requesting red card pack tests and refreshers completed by May 1 due to anticipated busy fire season.

MOU Updates

- New state MOU in attorney general review; expected release within six weeks.
- Signatures will now require city managers or mayors rather than fire chiefs.
Liability language under review.
- Updated rate and equipment manual will accompany the new MOU.

Clarification provided regarding injury coverage and liability responsibilities during wildfire deployments.

Dispatch and Communications Updates

- The Moab Fire Center will continue operating out of Vernal for now.
- Radio frequencies and communication procedures remain unchanged from last year.
- Dispatch location remains under review, with possible future relocation discussed (including Price or potentially other locations).
- Departments should continue using the Moab frequency to reach dispatch until further notice.
- Members will be notified once final dispatch arrangements are confirmed.

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

Cody: Not present but Jeremy gave a few updates:

BLM representatives reported they will assist with upcoming RT-130 training and other training events, with engine captains participating.

- A new BLM engine captain has transferred from the Forest Service to the Price area.
- Cody Jones has been detailed into a Fire Operations Supervisor (FOS) position overseeing engines in the Vernal area and will not be regularly available on fires locally.
- Chris Mojica has transferred from the Forest Service to serve as a BLM engine captain.
- Race, formerly an assistant on Cody's engine, will serve as engine captain on that unit.

Members were advised they will see new engine captains responding to fires in the area this season.

5. Discuss/Approve/Deny OV Truck Given to GR for Back and Forth for Meetings:

Discussion centered on moving a county-owned truck from Orangeville to Green River to assist with travel to meetings and training.

- The truck has an assigned gas card.
- The vehicle would remain county property and would not be transferred in ownership.
- It may be used for fire-related purposes such as meetings, training, and firefighter transport.
- The air trailer will remain in Orangeville and will be hauled separately.
- A separate agenda item will be scheduled to discuss long-term air trailer placement and use.

Stoney made a motion to approve moving the air trailer truck to Green River for use at this time with a second from Scott. Voting was unanimous.

6: Discuss/Approve/Deny Report on Fire Truck auction and review of where money sale will be spent:

The Board received a report on the recent fire truck auction: Emery unit sold for \$38,800. The Orangeville unit sold for \$40,000. The blue truck was re-auctioned after nonpayment and sold for \$4,050 (payment pending).

Funds will be deposited into the general fund, with discussion indicating they will help cover truck payments and related expenses.

Stoney made a motion to accept the bids from the fire truck auction with a second from Chase. Voting was unanimous.

7: Discuss/Approve/Deny PC Agreement for 2026:

Discussion focused on requirements to meet the state participation commitment of approximately \$17,273.

Departments were instructed to submit proposed mitigation, prevention, preparedness, or training projects with estimated costs. Examples of eligible activities include: Mitigation work, Public education and prevention programs, Equipment purchases, New NWCG-compliant training (not refresher training), Non-grant funded fuel reduction or county projects.

Projects must not be grant funded to qualify. Departments were asked to submit proposals as soon as possible, with a deadline of the following Tuesday to allow submission for approval.

Failure to meet participation requirements could result in probation or loss of program benefits, including potential financial liability for wildfire response on private lands.

8. Discuss/Approve/Deny Valar Atomics:

Discussion was held regarding fire inspection and plan review responsibilities related to the reactor facility project.

- Fire chiefs were asked to review building plans and provide fire inspection input.
- State agencies declined to perform plan review and recommended third-party review. Responsibility may fall to the district or local fire authority due to lack of a county fire inspector.
- Discussion emphasized reviewing building fire code compliance rather than reactor design.
- Third-party review and coordination with county officials may be necessary..

9. Discuss/Approve/Deny 2026 CWPP:

Natalie reported that the Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan (CWPP) is still in progress and she expects to complete a draft by early the following week. The draft will be distributed to board members for review and input. She requested feedback and assistance as needed due to the technical nature of some sections.

Members expressed appreciation for the work being done and offered support if needed. Once finalized and approved, copies will be provided for additional review and approval.

10: Discuss/Approve/Deny County Training Committee:

The Training Committee reported the following updates:

- Regional training dates were moved from the end of April to **May 1–2** due to scheduling conflicts.
- The committee is working to schedule trainings at least **six months in advance** to improve coordination and planning with partner agencies.
- Updated training schedules have been distributed via email.
- Hunter was recognized for coordinating communications and training planning.

Additional clarification was provided that the **flashover training will be held in Castle Dale** and will consist primarily of Saturday instruction with classroom orientation prior to the practical component.

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

Stoney made a motion to pay the bills with a second from Chase. Voting was unanimous.

12. Citizens Concern:

No citizens were present.

13. Chiefs Round Table:

Chase: Departments were reminded to update firefighter records on the UFRA system, including service start dates and contact information, to support participation in the Utah Firefighter Cancer Initiative. Chase told everyone of a planned **Green River Energy Center** training and facility tour scheduled for March 20 for county first responders. He sent the contact information out to all the members.

Steph: Green River has an extra set of Hurst battery tools if one of the Fire Departments needs them. After discussion Ferron or Elmo could use them. Steph can bring them over.

Nosh: Radiation response training is being held up north on March 19th which Buzz will go to, return and report.

14. Adjourn:

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