Meeting Minutes: Flaming Gorge Fire and EMS District Board

Date: May 13, 2026, 6:00 PM

Location: Manila Fire Station

1. Welcome / Introductions Meeting called to order by Stephanie Rose (Board Chair). **In attendance:** Stephanie Rose (Board Chair), Steve Forbes (District Manager), Leonard Isaacson (Board Member), Gale Lamb (Board Member), Joseph Harrison, and Patrick Miller. **Virtual attendance:** Bret Reynolds (Board Member) and Corey Auger (Fire Warden). **Excused:** Woody Bair.

2. Updates

- a. Dutch John Fire (JayDee Guymon): Not present.
- b. Fire Warden (Corey Auger): Currently ramping up for fire season and processing Red Card recertifications. Reported that the State of Utah will station a Type 1 helicopter in Vernal for the season. He is currently working with the Dutch John Town Council to renew their cooperative agreement.
- c. Daggett County Emergency Manager (Leonard Isaacson): Reported on the Utah Emergency Management Association (UEMA) conference. Discussed the Governor's energy initiatives, including potential nuclear and geothermal plants, and the resulting need to prepare for lithium-ion battery fire risks and hazmat transport through federal grants.
- **d. General Manager (Steve Forbes):**
  - **Operations:** Noted the resignation of Fire Chief Jeff Gosar and the current interim leadership under Joseph Harrison. Reported 10 EMS calls over the last month, including an emergent stroke transport to Rock Springs.
  - **Administrative:** Full District transaction history has been sent for upload to "Transparent Utah". The District AUP is on track for completion by the end of the month. Insurance renewed with a $1,200 premium increase following payroll audits.
- e. Board Member Updates: Bret reported closing Jeff Gosar's District credit card. Stephanie Rose reported receiving a late payroll filing notice from URS. Steve clarifies that the letter was sent in error and should be disregarded, per an email received from URS.

3. Discussion and Consideration of Updates Related to the Fire Chief Position The Board discussed the transition following Jeff Gosar's resignation. Joseph Harrison has been serving as interim chief, effectively closing out long-standing projects like wildland boot orders. Patrick Miller was introduced as a candidate with extensive experience as a professional career firefighter and training chief. The proposed plan involves Miller serving as interim chief to provide leadership and mentorship for Joseph Harrison who will be assistant chief.

- **Motion:** Designate Patrick Miller as interim fire chief.

- Leonard MOTIONS; Stephanie SECONDS.
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

4. Discussion and Consideration of Fire Inspection Services The Board discussed the lack of a certified fire inspector post-resignation of Jeff. For immediate needs regarding County short-term rentals, an agreement was reached for Corey Auger (representing Uintah Fire District) to perform inspections and bill Daggett County directly. Long-term, the District aims to have its own certified local inspector. **Takeaway:** No motion required; the County will cover the costs for current inspections.

5. Discussion and Consideration of Capital Investment in PPE for Fire Personnel The Board reviewed the urgent need for new turnout gear, as current sets are six years past their 10-year expiration date. There was discussion whether this purchase could be made out of the capital projects fund. Consensus was that the need is urgent, warranting immediate action, our current budget can accommodate the purchase without violating statute, and revisions to the budget will be made in the coming months when it is opened again as has already been planned.

- **Motion:** Approve the purchase of PPE for firefighters in an amount not to exceed $60,000.
- **Leonard MOTIONS; Stephanie SECONDS.**
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

6. Discussion and Consideration of Procurement Policy Summary Steve Forbes presented a simplified summary of the District's procurement policy. The Board requested modification of a "clawback" clause to ensure the full policy remains the governing document in any conflict.

- **Motion:** Approve the procurement policy summary with the added amendment regarding the full policy taking precedence.
- **Bret MOTIONS; Leonard SECONDS.**
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

7. Correspondence Steve Forbes noted receiving a project update notice from Williams/Northwest Pipeline regarding a future pipeline project in Clay Basin.

8. Review and Approve April 22, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes

- **Motion:** Approve the minutes from 4/22/2026.
- Leonard MOTIONS; Gale SECONDS.
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES**.

9. Financial Report The Board reviewed the current financial position and budget reconciliation.

- **Motion:** To accept the financials as presented.
- **Leonard MOTIONS; Gale SECONDS.**

- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

10. Payroll

The Board reviewed the payroll requirements for the period.

- **Motion:** Approve the processing of payroll as presented.
- **Leonard MOTIONS; Stephanie SECONDS.**
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

11. Expenses

Board reviewed general expenses and the expenditure report. Bret will transfer $30,000 from PTIF to Checking to account for payroll and planned expenses.

- **Motion:** Approve the expenditure report.
- **Gale MOTIONS; Leonard SECONDS.**
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.

12. Calendar Review The Board noted upcoming meetings, including a rural EMS leadership council meeting on May 28th regarding a potential grant, which Steve will attend on behalf of Casey.

13. Closed Session

- **Motion:** Enter closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues at 7:26 PM.
- **Bret MOTIONS; Gale SECONDS.**
- **Roll Call Vote:** Stephanie Rose (Aye), Gale Lamb (Aye), Leonard Isaacson (Aye), Bret Reynolds (Aye).
- **Action:** Motion **PASSES** unanimously.
- **Closed Session Adjourned:** 7:33 PM.

14. Adjourn at 7:34 PM.