RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

West Metro Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Meeting
October 20, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District board of directors was called to order by Vice President Carolyn Wolfrum at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was held in accordance with the applicable statutes of the state of Colorado, at West Metro Fire Protection District's Administrative Office Building, at 433 South Allison Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado, and available remotely via Teams.

II. ROLL CALL

President Bill Clayton	Absent
Vice President Carolyn Wolfrum	Present
Secretary Don Sherman	Present
Treasurer Amira Watters	Present
Director Steven Haire	Present
Director Mike Williams	Present
Director Joe Zimmermann	Present

Also present were Fire Chief Jeremy Metz; Deputy Chief Gary Armstrong; Deputy Chief Steve Aseltine; Deputy Chief Todd Heinl; Ms. Adele Reester, Esq.; President Mike Mulcahy representing IAFF Local #1309; Mr. Bruk Mulaw; and, Ms. Jennifer Wheaton as recording secretary.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Vice President Wolfrum led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence to honor all fallen firefighters.

IV. REVIEW OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of September 22, 2026

MOTION: It was moved by Don Sherman and seconded by Amira Watters to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the board of directors dated September 22, 2026, as presented. The motion was voted upon and carried.

V. OATH OF OFFICE FOR ENGINEER MATTHEW ANDERSON (Matthew Anderson was officially promoted at the September 22, 2026 board meeting)

VI. CITIZEN AWARD

A. Presentation of Citizen Award to Autum Archuleta and Jerry Linenberger - Fire Chief Jeremy Metz

RECESS

At approximately 6:14 p.m., Vice President Wolfrum announced the board would take a 10-minute recess to congratulate the citizens and the newly promoted employee and would reconvene the regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 6:24 p.m.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Report of the Fire Chief – Fire Chief Jeremy Metz

1. CO-TF1 Update

   CO-TF1 deployed a 16-member mission-ready package to Hawaii in response to the 2026 hurricane. Activated on September 24, the team flew out on September 25 and returned on September 26, making it their shortest deployment on record.

   The final reimbursement funds for the 2024 Hurricane Helene deployment have been received. While $831,508.96 remains outstanding for the 2025 Texas Floods deployment, all balances for both the 2026 Texas Floods and 2026 Tropical Storm Bertha have been paid in full.

2. Whole Blood Program Update

   The program agreements are currently undergoing legal review. Chief Metz expects the final versions to be ready for board approval at the November 17, 2026 meeting, with program implementation beginning shortly thereafter.

3. IAFF Local 1309 Working Agreement

   The current one-year working agreement expires on December 31, 2026. President Mulcahy has written to the board negotiations committee to request consideration of an MOU ahead of the November 15 negotiations deadline. The board will address this topic in executive session later in the meeting.

4. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Urban Fire Forum

Chief Metz recently participated in a panel discussion on West Metro's Drone as First Responder Program at the NFPA Urban Fire Forum, highlighting the District's position as a national leader in this technology. The forum also focused heavily on ongoing initiatives to reduce firefighter exposure to toxic PFAS, or forever chemicals, and other emerging topics in the fire service.

5. Election Update

Chief Metz updated the board on the progress of the November 3, 2026 Coordinated Election, noting that all required deadlines with the two counties have been met. Chief Metz also discussed eligible electors who own property within the District but reside outside its boundaries; because they are registered to vote in Colorado, these individuals are eligible to receive a property owner ballot containing only Ballot Issue 7C. The District has since been made aware that some of these specific ballots were mistakenly associated with voters who do not own property in the District. Although the number of affected ballots is low, the District and the counties have already established a process to identify, intercept, and remove the erroneous ballots before they are included in the final count.

6. Wildfire Resilient Construction Report

A recent CU Boulder study reveals that constructing a wildfire-resilient home increases overall costs by just 0.1% to 0.6% compared to traditional construction. The primary exception is decking materials, which, according to the study, cost roughly 10% more. These findings significantly challenge previous reports, which estimated that wildfire-resistant building materials could spike home building costs by up to 130%.

7. Wildfire Collaborative Meeting

Douglas County Commissioner Abe Leydon presented the District with a certificate of recognition for its contributions to the Douglas County Wildfire Action Collaborative, acknowledging the partnership, leadership, and collaboration in the effort to safeguard Douglas County and its residents.

B. Finance – Finance Director Bruk Mulaw

1. August 2026 Financial Statements

Mr. Mulaw reviewed the August 2026 financial statements, which will be brought to the board for approval at the November 17, 2026 meeting.

C. Chief of Staff – Fire Chief Jeremy Metz

1. Chief of Staff Update

With space running low on the Colorado Fallen Firefighter Memorial, the Foundation is proactively preparing for future additions. A vendor has been selected to create and install a second memorial stone to ensure there is always room to honor Colorado's fallen heroes.

D. Administration – Deputy Chief Todd Heinl

1. Administration Update

Chief Heinl announced that following a request for proposals (RFP) process to evaluate records management technology platforms, First Due has been selected as the new operational system. Based on user surveys and recommendations, this platform will streamline operations by connecting system functions, eliminating duplicate workflows, enhancing information sharing, and lowering annual costs across key areas like inspections, incident reporting, and scheduling. The phased rollout is scheduled to launch in early 2027 with the fire prevention suite, expand to personnel and incident reporting by mid-2027, and conclude with staffing and scheduling in late 2027, with asset and inventory management potentially added in early 2028.

To ensure the District continues providing cost-effective healthcare coverage to its employees, the District recently conducted an RFP and comparative market analysis. The results show that the current plan remains the most economical option, costing 1.5% to 15.7% less than alternative plans. This cost advantage holds true even when factoring in an anticipated 7% premium increase projected for 2027.

The District manages its apparatus replacement planning by evaluating vehicle age and condition and working closely with the Fleet Maintenance Division to schedule purchases well in advance. This proactive approach ensures the timely replacement of critical emergency vehicles while effectively spreading out capital expenses over time. Under this long-term planning model, the District anticipates the arrival of two ambulances in November that were ordered back in 2023. Looking further ahead, new engines are scheduled to arrive in mid-2027, followed by two additional ambulances in late 2027 that were also ordered during the 2023 cycle.

E. Operations – Deputy Chief Gary Armstrong

1. Operations Update

All wildland deployments have returned. There are no active deployments at this time. A collaborative prescribed burn at Bear Creek Lake Park was

completed last week, effectively clearing over 100 acres of land. The operation was a team effort, drawing in over 60 personnel from six different agencies to manage the fire safely. Although local dispatch centers received numerous phone calls from the public regarding the visible smoke, the entire project was considered a great success in managing the park's ecosystem and reducing wildfire risks.

F. Life Safety – Deputy Chief Steve Aseltine

1. Comprehensive Project Report – Electronic Report

2. Chief Aseltine thanked those board members who attended the 31st Annual Family Fire Muster. The board will receive a full report on the event at the November 17, 2026, board meeting.

G. Other Matters

None.

H. Report of Legal Counsel – Adele Reester, Esq.

None.

I. Report of the President – Vice President Carolyn Wolfrum

Vice President Wolfrum congratulated the staff on the success of the 31st Annual Fire Muster, noting the fire and life safety activity stations that left a lasting impression.

J. Treasurer's Report – Treasurer Amira Watters

1. July 2026 Financial Statements

MOTION: It was moved by Amira Watters and seconded by Steven Haire to approve the July 2026 financial statements as presented. The motion was voted upon and carried.

K. Report of the Union – President Mike Mulcahy

IAFF Local 1309 members met with West Metro Firefighter Jarrod Leonard and his family to present them with a $65,000 check funded entirely by our community's generosity. These funds will go directly toward outfitting their family home for full accessibility, supporting Jarrod's continued recovery and rehabilitation.

President Mulcahy thanked the board and administration for supporting the membership's participation in the Labor Day weekend Fill the Boot campaign. Thanks to the public's generosity, the drive raised $60,000 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. These funds will directly support vital initiatives, including a specially equipped local camp designed to accommodate children and young adults living with neuromuscular diseases.

The Union Holiday Party and Awards Ceremony will be held on December 11, 2026. President Mulcahy encouraged the board to attend. A formal invitation will follow.

L. Report of Civil Service Committee – Secretary Don Sherman

Mr. Sherman reported on the October 13, 2026, Civil Service Committee meetings. One item of note is that Morgan Hinton-Moreno will succeed Kara Urland as the recording secretary of the Civil Service Committee Meetings. The next meeting of the CSC is scheduled for November 10, 2026.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Red Rocks Community College Affiliation Agreement – Deputy Chief Gary Armstrong

MOTION: It was moved by Joe Zimmermann and seconded by Mike Williams to approve the Affiliation Agreement with Red Rocks Community College and authorize Chief Metz to execute all documents associated with this agreement. The motion was voted upon and carried.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2027 Budget Presentation – Fire Chief Jeremy Metz

Chief Metz presented the 2027 budget, highlighting a reduction in property tax revenue driven by recent state legislative changes. Coupled with inflationary pressures, essential capital projects, and rising personnel costs, the District anticipates a $23 million deficit, which will be covered by reserves. Notable expenditures include a $450,000 line item to complete the purchase of Lifepak 35 cardiac monitors and $3 million for new SCBA air packs. Additionally, plans are progressing for the future Fire Station 18 at 7475 West 5th Avenue, funded by a $16.8 million carryover from 2026 and an additional $7 million allocation in 2027. The public hearing for the 2027 budget is scheduled for the November 17, 2026 board meeting, with final approval slated for December 1, 2026.

XI. BOARD BRIEFS

A. AEV Type 1 Medic Apparatus Purchase – Deputy Chief Todd Heinl

B. Pierce Type 1 Interface Engine Apparatus Purchase – Deputy Chief Todd Heinl

C. Pierce 100' Platform Truck Apparatus Purchase – Deputy Chief Todd Heinl

XII. OTHER MATTERS

A. Board and Civil Service Committee Holiday Gathering, December 16, 2026

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. IAFF Local 1309 Working Agreement

Executive session pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(e)(I), C.R.S. for purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding the Working Agreement MOU with the IAFF Local 1309.

MOTION: At approximately 8:12 p.m., it was moved by Amira Watters and seconded by Joe Zimmermann to enter into executive session pursuant to Section 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) C.R.S. for purposes of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding the Working Agreement MOU with the Local 1309.

MOTION: At approximately 8:28 p.m. it was moved by Carolyn Wolfrum and seconded by Amira Watters to resume the regular board meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District. The motion was voted upon and carried.

Vice President Wolfrum announced that no motions were made nor were any votes taken in executive session.

B. Executive Session (if needed)

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to be presented, it was moved Steven Haire and seconded by Mike Williams to adjourn the regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District board of directors. The motion was voted upon and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Recording Secretary: /s/s/ Jennifer Wheaton
/s/ Don Sherman