

**Falcon Fire Protection District
Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting
August 19, 2026, Approved Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Kerby called the regular meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 1503 hours on Wednesday, August 19, 2026.

ATTENDANCE

James Reid, President – via conference call
Thomas Kerby, Vice President
Edward (Steve) Podoll, Secretary
Ray Hawkins, Treasurer
Dan Kupferer, Assistant Secretary – via conference call

ALSO PRESENT

Joan Fritsche, Legal Counsel
Trent Harwig, Fire Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
Jeff Petersma, Deputy Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
Jonathan Webb, EMS Division Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
Joe Cosgrove, Battalion Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
Curtis Kauffman, Fire Marshal, Falcon Fire Protection District
Rob Wilkerson, Fleet Mechanic, Falcon Fire Protection District
Gretchen Tetzlaff, Office Manager, Falcon Fire Protection District
Jonathan Huang, New Falcon Herald
Other members of the Falcon Fire Protection District

ABSENT

Corey Kirt, Battalion Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
David Smith, Battalion Chief, Falcon Fire Protection District
Twyla Kuemmerle, Administrative Assistant, Falcon Fire Protection District

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Podoll moved to approve the agenda as amended. Director Hawkins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Harwig informed the Board that Director Reid has requested to step down from his position as Board President due to other commitments, while expressing his desire to continue serving on the Board in another capacity.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Director Podoll moved to elect Director Kerby to serve as President of the Board and Director Kupferer to serve as Vice President of the Board, and to retain Director Hawkins as Treasurer and Director Podoll as Secretary, and Director Reid as Assistant Secretary. Director Hawkins seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Fire Fighter Timothy Wilkerson was sworn in as Driver Operator by Chief Harwig and badged by his daughter Bethany Wilkerson.

Trevor Yant was sworn in as Paramedic by Chief Harwig and badged by his wife Kathleen Gibbons.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Director Hawkins moved to approve the July 15, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Director Reid seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report

Chief Harwig reviewed July's Treasurer's Report with the Board. The Chief noted 58.3% of the 2026 fiscal year is complete in this Report.

Total General Fund Budget revenues received were 58%. Total General Fund expenditures across all categories were 53% of the budget.

The Ambulance Fund Budget transport fee collections were at 49%. Total expenditures were at 45%.

The Capital Improvement Fund revenues received were at 50%. The Total Capital Improvement Fund expenditures were at 47%.

The Rural Water Fund Revenues had no activity or expenditure for the month of July. Total Rural Water Fund expenditures were at 0% of budget.

Director Hawkins moved to accept July's Treasurer's Report. Director Podoll seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Staff Report

Deputy Chief Petersma reviewed the written reports for June which included the June incident counts of approximately 351 calls and monthly and year-to-date response times, mutual aid given and mutual aid received. Year to date, the District is at 2101 total calls, response times, mutual aid given and mutual aid received.

Director Hawkins inquired about the long-term EMS coverage plan for Ellicott Fire Protection District, noting that Falcon Fire Protection District frequently responds to both BLS and ALS incidents within the Ellicott service area. Deputy Chief Petersma advised that Ellicott Fire is actively working to hire additional paramedics and EMTs to enhance its emergency medical service capabilities.

EMS Division Chief Webb reviewed the July Transport Reports with the Board and advised that the crews transported 177 patients for the month, and the District collected \$103,201.88 for the month of June. The Cash Per Trip was \$583.06. The Total Patient Count year to date was 1022 transports with annual collections of \$702,499.92. Year to date Average Collections per transport was \$687.38. Average Collections per transport over the past 24 months including the Medicaid supplemental reimbursement are currently at \$802.37.

Chief Harwig advised that the District has not received notification of what the new Medicaid supplemental reimbursement amount will be. The District should know by the end of September.

Fire Marshal Kauffman provided a written Plan and Building Inspection Report for July for the Board's Review.

Attorney Report

Attorney Fritsche provided a written Attorney's Report to the Board.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Training Center Site

Chief Harwig informed the Board that YOW Architects has submitted a preliminary drawing, which remains under development and will require additional reviews and revisions. Chief Harwig also advised the Board that there is also a preliminary site plan which will also require additional reviews and revisions.

Director Kupferer advised that the development plan is in the works and should be submitted by next week.

Deputy Chief Petersma advised the Board that he has developed a list of training tower vendors and is in the process of finalizing it. A vendor will be selected after the interview process has been completed.

Chief Harwig advised the Board that he will meet with Deputy Chief Petersma to determine the estimated costs needed for inclusion in next year's budget. Chief Harwig stated that, hopefully, the District will identify the selected vendor and obtain final pricing before the budget process is completed.

Director Kerby advised the Board that the District is not required to proceed through a competitive bidding process for the training tower purchase, noting that it is comparable to purchasing a truck. Attorney Fritsche asked about the ground construction portion of the project, and Director Kerby stated that portion will need to be placed out for bid. Chief Harwig advised the Board that this will not be able to be completed until the development plan is further along and will be completed after the first of the year.

Wildfire Resiliency Code

Chief Harwig stated that the remaining paperwork needs to be submitted and is expected to be completed within the next couple of months.

NEW BUSINESS

2027 Budget Process

Chief Harwig advised the Board that the preliminary budget will be available for review at the October meeting.

2026 Pension Board Election

Attorney Fritsche advised the Board that one seat is up for election in November. Call for Nominations will go out next week.

Chief Harwig advised the Board that he does not have anything for the September meeting, which will be three weeks from today.

Director Hawkins moved to cancel the September 9th meeting, unless otherwise notified on Friday, September 4th. Director Reid seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Hawkins moved to adjourn the Board meeting. Director Podoll seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1348 hours.

I hereby attest to the accuracy of the meeting Minutes:

Edward Podoll, Secretary