

# RED, WHITE & BLUE FIRE DISTRICT

## Regular Meeting

### of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Time: 3:30 pm      Date: Thursday, September 25, 2025

Location: 316 N. Main Street, Breckenridge, CO 80424

#### 1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 pm by Director Dineen.

#### 2.0 Roll Call

X Austyn Dineen   X Britton Fossett   X Philip Gudlewski   X Randy Nations  
Excused MK Doré

X Chief Nelson   X Chief Hoehn   X Finance Off. L. Johnson      EMS Division Chief Levi  
X Training Division Chief Nordeen   X WL Division Chief Matt Benedict  
X Local 4325 President Tim Caldwell   X Noelle Valentine (Recording Secretary)

#### 3.0 Approval of Changes to the Agenda

No changes to the Agenda

#### 4.0 Approval of Consent Agenda

- August 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes
- August 2025 Claims Detail
- Approval of the August 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

M/S Directors Director Nations/Director Gudlewski to approve the regular meeting minutes from the August 28, 2025, regular meeting, as amended. Voice vote, unanimous. Motion carried.

- Approval of August 2025 Claims Detail  
Director Dineen and Director Nations inquired about larger claims. Chief Hoehn shared details about some of the larger claims and the division of claims to deal with personnel between SFE, RWB, and HCTC. Director Dineen inquired if there was a policy around these kinds of claims. Finance Officer Johnson shared that there was indeed a policy in place. Director Dineen inquired about page 18 and possible redundant charges. Chief Nelson responded that the charges were for additional awards ordered.

M/S Directors Dineen/Fossett to approve the August 2025 Claims Detail. Voice vote, unanimous. Motion carried.

#### 5.0 Discussion of financial and budgetary reports

- Review of the Variance Report and Income Statement

## **6.0 Citizen Comments & Matters of Public Hearing**

- Citizens' Comments  
No citizen comments before the board; in addition, there were no matters for the Public Hearing presented.

## **7.0 Unfinished Business**

- Collaboration Updates  
Board of Directors shared Director Dore's notes – She met with Dan Johnson from SFE and discussed ways to collaborate (ex. policies, training, framework sharing). Chief Nelson and Chief Hoehn met with Chief Ihnken and shared the District's framework for the annual retreat and discussed fire code updates. Chief Hoehn stated we are working on an Inter-Governmental Agreement with SFE for reserve apparatus.

## **8.0 New Business**

- 2026 Budget  
Board of Directors signed up for short meetings on the 2026 Budget.

## **9.0 Executive Session**

- No anticipated Executive Session

## **10.0 Staff and Committee Reports (as time permits)**

- Finance Division Updates –L. Johnson  
Director Dineen inquired about the reimbursement budget for '23-24. Finance Officer Johnson shared that we don't have a specific budget for reimbursement. Finance Officer Johnson, Chief Nelson, and Chief Hoehn reported that they have been working to fine tune the budget.
- Administrative Division Updates – Nelson  
Director Dineen inquired about the county's hiring freeze and staffing at the 911 dispatch center. Chief Nelson reported that the county is down 9 seats at the dispatch center, including two tech employees. He also shared that the 911 governance board sent a letter requesting to remove the hiring freeze over the dispatch center. Director Dineen inquired about the length of time before the 911 governance board would follow up on the letter and if the District was aware of any other organizations requesting an exemption. Chief Nelson shared that the Summit Housing Authority was another organization managed much like the Summit County 911 Center. Chief Hoehn stated that the Board of Directors does not currently need to take a formal step. Director Dineen additionally inquired about year over year trends in hiring at the dispatch center. Chief Nelson responded that funding remains a key aspect of maintaining dispatch employees. Director Dineen requested that the board be kept up to date on the issue so that the board had an opportunity to write a letter before the 911 governance board goes to the media. Chief Nelson reminded the board that Saturday is Safety Day.

- **Operational Division Updates – Hoehn**  
 Director Dineen applauded Chief Hoehn and Chief Nelson for their work with Xcel Energy and inquired if they had been approved. Chief Nelson updated that there were additional planning meetings and permitting to be finished. Chief Hoehn solicited feedback about the annual retreat with the most convenient date being Oct 15<sup>th</sup>. Chief Nelson added information about the District’s annual awards event being held on Nov 15<sup>th</sup> at Carter Park.
- **EMS Division Updates – Levi**  
 Chief Hoehn spoke on Chief Levi’s behalf - He has a site visit set for reaccreditation. The blood program is moving forward and employees are being trained next week. Director Fossett gave a shout out to the EMS crew who recently responded to an emergency at Breck Elementary.
- **Wildfire Division Updates – Benedict**  
 Chief Benedict reported that we are now out of fire restrictions. He shared that we’re going into a dry spell and that the District is preparing for pile burning. Director Fossett inquired if Blue River was also conducting pile burning. Chief Benedict confirmed that they were. He also shared that potential government furlough/layoffs would impact the pile burning on forestry land. On the mitigation front, Chief Benedict shared that there is work that can be done to better market the defensible space program. Director Fossett inquired if targeted marketing could be explored and the potential to communicate through the schools. Chief Benedict confirmed that targeted marketing will be revisited, and school communication could be explored through the Sound Off education program. Chief Benedict added that the workforce housing neighborhoods were a specific population the District is trying to reach. Director Dineen inquired if working with the Town of Breckenridge and connecting it to water/water systems was a potential strategy. Chief Hoehn shared that a new software is being used for mitigations. Captain Caldwell brought up that workforce housing residents lack the incentives to perform the recommended mitigations and suggested looking into grants. Chief Hoehn also shared with the board that the District is hoping to add 3 Wildland specialists. Director Nations inquired about the recent media around external sprinkler systems. Chief Benedict responded that several staff have attended a demo of a system and that while there are bugs to work out, they are effective.
- **Training Division Updates – Nordeen**  
 Chief Nordeen reported that the new Safety 4 vehicle is now in service. He shared that Captain Gooseen was deployed on a wildfire and has returned. Chief Nordeen also reported that he and Leslie have been working on the Training Center budget. Chief Nordeen also shared that he attended a special operations advisory group meeting and will continue to meet with them. Chief Hoehn added that the Training Center continues to be the best example of collaboration between RWB and SFE.
- **Accreditation Report – Kline**
- **Local 4325 Update – Caldwell**  
 Director Dineen inquired how the MDA boot collection does year after year. President Caldwell responded that it is fairly consistent. President Caldwell reported that the CBA is wrapping up their final meetings on Oct 9<sup>th</sup> and that they are currently cleaning up the language. President Caldwell also shared how the process has been positive overall.
- **Investment Committee – Fossett/Gudlewski**
- **HCTC Board of Directors – Dineen/Nations**  
 Director Dineen received the draft budget and has yet to review. Chief Hoehn offered to have a more in-depth conversation about the Training Center budget with Director Dineen. Director Dineen inquired about the 18% increase to the Training Center budget and requests more information.

- Compensation Committee – Doré/Nations
- Director Replacement Search Committee – Dineen/Fossett
- Fire Chiefs Review Committee – Doré/Fossett

Director Fossett reported that Chief Hoehn and Chief Nelson have completed their stay interview pre-work and are ready to schedule their interviews.

## **11.0 Adjournment**

M/S Directors Dineen/Fossett to adjourn the meeting at 4:51 pm. Voice vote, unanimous. Motion carried.