



Oak Creek Fire Protection District Board Meeting Minutes Aug 11th 2026

Call to order 6:33 pm

A meeting of Oak Creek Fire Protection District was held at 131 E Main Street Oak Creek CO on Aug 11th, 2026

Attendees

Attendees included: Skyler McKinley, President; Eric Kimsey, Treasurer; Dwane Osadchuk, Director, in person; Martin Woodrow, via zoom

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: Mike Roach, Secretary

Community Input

Nicole Andres stopped by to offer her large donation of ice cream and money and her humble thank you to the fire fighter and support for the amazing job done to protect her and her neighbors' home during the Green Ridge Fire.

Agenda Modification Consideration

Additions: None

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the following meeting were reviewed and approved:

Regular Board Meetings: July 14th, 2026

Financial Review

- Karrie Littman presented the Board with the current Financial Statements including details of revenues and expenses and status of property tax revenues received.
- The property tax revenue as of July 30th there is a balance due from the county \$85,000

- The Impact Fees account is currently at \$18,340. In light of the discussion on the schedule of payments for impact fees to edit the requirement to 50% at the time the permit is pulled and balance due at the time the CO is issued. Skyler said he would contact Routt County for guidance in this process.
- There were a few questions from the board and Karrie answered those. The financials were approved.

District Governance

- The Board accepted the resignation of Dwayne Osadchuk. Dwayne offered any future assistance to the District and stated he appreciated the progress the District has made and is encouraged by the future of the District. Skyler gave his appreciation to Dwayne for his tenure on the Board and assistance with the fundraising of the District.
- The Board appointed Buffy Pryke to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dwayne Osadchuk. Buffy has lived in the District for 6 years, is a registered CO voter and a property owner in the District. Buffy has attended many board meetings and would like to be a part of the future of the District. Karrie administered the Oath of Office.

Welcome Aboard Buffy!

President's Report

- Skyler updated some priorities for the upcoming 30 days to include:
 - Creation of an Organizational Chart- Karrie will send a structure to Skyler to format - target- prior to Labor Day
 - Personnel/Board of Directors photos taken and updated to the website- Target- prior to Labor Day.
 - Establish consistent office hours for the Chief and post them

Mid Range Priorities to include:

- Creation of Bylaws that are consistent with the District Manual- Has tasked the Chief to take a look at them when a 6 month of employment has occurred. These are not required of a Fire District but assist in the governance of the actions of the Board with the District
- Community Affairs and Communication
- Labor Day/YVCF Fundraising Opportunities- Would like to establish the QR code to Yampa Valley Community Foundation in material for Labor Day. And to have the District personnel serving burgers on Sat and in the Parade on Monday. Our fundraising goal would be \$5,000 between the two activities. He would like to staff out and about communicating with our citizens to answer questions and such.
- Budget 2027- first presentation to the Board- October 13 with the adoption hearing on November 10th. After some discussion, the Chief and Karrie will begin the process and then ask for the help of Eric and Skyler.

Next Meeting

- Aug 11th, 2026

Adjournment

8:29 pm



Vice President- Eric Kimsey

9-8-26

Date of approval

- Skyler will be remote on the September meeting and out of county on the October meeting. Eric Kimsey, Vice President will chair those meetings.

Chief's Report

- Chief Gula reported that the number of calls was 32 last month. The most dramatic was the skid steer roll down the mountain park, many 100's of feet. Search and Rescue were called in and Classic Air transported him to the front range. There was also a incident of explosives found in a home in Oak Creek. The bomb squad was called in from Jefferson County, who took it to the school yard to detonate.
- Having the Green Ridge occurred in our District and seeing his crews responded gave the Chief a new sense of appreciation for his staff and the intensity of wildland fire. Being from Illinois this was his first real exposure to wildland.
- Since he has arrived, he has tried to meet with everyone and is very impressed by the level of care and professionalism displayed at Oak Creek Fire. He stated that his staff is top notch and gives 100% in all things.
- One of the wildland crews has been deployed to Pagosa Springs and then reassigned to the Parachute 310 Fire. On the mitigation side, there was complaint by an owner of many lots that while mitigating the dead timber, there was a couple of aspens cut down as well. It turned out that the trees were dead and she was fine with the outcome and explanation. It was evident though that the Garmin equipment needed to be updated for more accurate information. Since John Fretwell has been on deployments since the Chief has arrived, he will make it a point to sit with John at the earliest opportunity.
- Safety is a major point of emphasis to the Chief. He has toured all the buildings and apparatuses and is making a priority list to include the fan system at Stagecoach to combat the exhaust in the crew quarter situation. He will be looking at solutions for this and other items and will also look at next year's budget for future needs.
- His vehicle #801 has been updated for new decals of the District. Crew Carrier has been sold for \$18,000 and #874 2000 F-350 has been sold for \$1,000.

Other Business

- There was discussion regarding Labor Day and the District participation to include Bingo in the station bays, apparatuses in the parade and serving burgers on Saturday. The Structure and Wildland crews are expected to join in the community celebration.

High's & Lows

- Skyler passed onto the Chief and crew that the community compliments for the Chief and his team has been overwhelmingly positive and encouraging. Thank you for a great start in meeting the community.