

Mosier Fire District Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 11, 2025

Attendance:

Board Members: Steve Fisher, Carol Goter, Rob Miller, Todd Reeves, Joanne Rubin

Staff: Connor McKibben, Tommy Oswald

Call to order at 1805

Agenda additions or corrections: None

Comments from the public: Brian Barrett (Mosier resident) expressed support for staffing the local station. He was referred to previous meeting minutes for more context.

Consent agenda - Motion made by Goter to approve minutes and bills; seconded by Rubin; unanimously approved. Board decided that scanned bills were the best way for the board to review and approve the bills.

Business:

1. Volunteer Report:

Chief Oswald reported that there is interest in reviving the volunteer organization and once that takes off, a volunteer representative will be able to provide feedback to the board. He also recommended repeating the experience of a full board and volunteer get-together as we did in May. Board agreed that would be a good thing to do quarterly or twice a year.

Oswald encouraged Board members to become more familiar with the volunteers, stop and chat when they see them, stop in at the station.

Reeves stated that board members are available for phone calls or one-on-ones with the volunteers as well.

Rubin recommended planning start for a Christmas party.

2. Board: Board Representative to October drill: Rubin will attend for September; Miller will attend for October.

3. Financials: Discussion of the best way to present bills for approval. In addition to scanned bills with cover sheets indicating accounting categories, the Board would like a list of payees and amounts. Oswald will ask First Business Services to do this, ask them if they are already scanning the bills, and clarify that they're able to transfer funds from our savings to checking at First Interstate.

4. Operations Report:

a. Follow up on County 911 dispatch issues: Included in McKibben's operations report. He is working with them to improve communications. The 911 dispatch will be implementing a new CAD system next summer.

b. Update Reservoir Mapping: Miller discussed the possibility of locating privately owned static water sources in the District for use in firefighting. Oswald states that landowners can include this in the First Due/Community Connect system. He will look into seeing what information First Due has about this and if instructions for use of static water can be added. He may be able to get more information from the Planning Dept, and will reach out to other districts to see if they are doing anything similar.

- 5. Staffing:** Reeves confirmed with Chief Oswald that the current model of having an Administrative Fire Fighter is valuable. Miller advocated for being clear that this is an at will position. Current rate of pay for the position is \$24/hour. Need information regarding insurance and PERS before next meeting. Salary versus hourly discussed. Salary would work well for flexing time between the busy months and the quiet months.

Discussion to clarify when to involve Chief Oswald and when to go to Connor McKibben or Mike Langdon. Reeves directed Oswald to let the board know if any changes need to be made in how the board is communicating with staff.

- 6. SDAO update for potential MFD/MCFR recommendations:** Rubin asked the board to come up with questions to ask SDAO about their services. The cost could be around \$3K. Discussion about what kind of counter proposal MFD could make with help from SDAO analysis, what will MFD get for the money. Rubin will contact SDAO to get more information.

- 7. JUF Update:** Reeves reported on phone meeting with Mosier City Mayor Anderson, Colleen Coleman, and the architect. Discussed moving the location to current Station 11 location to avoid some of the additional expense of building on Highway 30. Unlikely we will be getting money from the state. It was reported that Mayor Anderson is in favor of a redesign at the same location with the existing architect. Discussion of starting over with the City with the \$4.5M currently available, splitting with the City on the project, or something else. Locations were discussed; Chief Oswald warned against using the current station location and having trucks come out onto Washington in icy conditions due to incline.

Rubin expressed opposition to continuing with the same architect.

Miller explained that we are still operating under the old MOU which assigns all of the control to the City.

Reeves would like to see a monthly JUF expense report going forward. He offered the possibility of not using an architect and instead, put our requirements out for bid and see what interested contractors come up with.

McKibben and City Manager, Andrea Rogers, met to discuss the minimum requirements of the JUF for the City and the District, and we will get a report about that at the next meeting.

Decision to have a special meeting on 9/24/25 at 6 pm by Zoom to continue discussing JUF, health insurance for the administrative fire fighter position, and SDAO services.

- 8. Correspondence:** Brian Barrett's letter will be uploaded to the packet for the 10/9/25 meeting.

Comments from the public: None

Adjournment at 2029