

Mosier Fire District Budget Committee Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm

Attendance

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

Budget Committee Members from the Community: Barb Ayers, Kris McNall, Al Sorestad

Staff: Chief Tom Oswald, Captain Connor McKibben

Public: Craig Funk

Call to order by Todd Reeves at 1828

Election of Budget Committee Chair: Rubin nominated Kris McNall for chair; Ayers seconded the motion. All present approved.

Public Comment: Craig Funk will comment later.

Budget Message: Prepared by Chief Oswald and read by McNall and available in meeting handouts and online at mosierfire.com.

Review proposed 2025-2026 budget (all forms were handed out, displayed to people attending remotely, and available on mosierfire.com): Forms were reviewed by Chief Oswald and Kris McNall.

LB30 changes from last year's budget include:

Personnel

- Reduction in Staff salaries and relocation costs due to not having a full-time chief
- Reduction in wildland firefighting grant (reduced by what was not spent last year)
- Our finance specialist is a 1099 employee so that amount was moved outside of personnel to contracted services.

Materials and service

- Raised slightly due to inflation
- Legal and audit raised to accommodate two audit activities this year
- Vehicle Maintenance raised for overall improved and regular maintenance, and to upgrade the water tenders to have outputs on both sides of the vehicle
- Training budget increased due to the current number of volunteers
- Communication Equipment/Maintenance increase to upgrade radios
- New item is PPE. Chief's goal is to buy 2-3 sets of turnouts a year.

Capital Outlay

- Fire Equipment based on the FEMA grant to be spent on SCBAs, which have been ordered
- Stations brought down to \$40K since the previous year's budget was based on major changes to existing Station 12. **Committee recommended that amount be increased to \$100,00** with the idea that \$100,000 in soft costs for a new building at Station 12 would be likely.

Resources – General Fund

- Available cash on hand includes LGIP General Fund plus funds in First Interstate Bank, \$610,000
- Taxes increased to \$375,000 due to expected increased revenue from HB3940. **Budget committee recommended increasing that to \$380,000 to match our current budget year's proceeds.**

LB-11 Capital Reserve Fund

- Increase in Vehicle Replacement fund to \$400,000

Mosier Center Fund

- Decreased by the amount of the Business Oregon loan that was not used. This money in this fund is currently designated for the JUF, but board action can change the intent for this fund for a fire station only if and when a supplemental budget is done to move forward on a fire station at Station 12.
- Other discussions included investigation of a bond by talking to SDAO, doing a special assessment, finding out much of the donated funds for the JUF might be donated to a new station

Motion made by McNall to approve the presented budget with the changes noted; seconded by Rubin; approved by all budget committee members present.

Public Comment: Craig Funk offered approval of what the committee has done so far. Strongly suggested the board confirm of what part of the JUF funds, i.e., the \$500,000 from UP currently in our Mosier Center Fund (LGIP) and other JUF funds should be directed to MFD. His opinion is that a bond is passable but questioned whether November of 2026 is the time to promote a bond since it's not a major election year and if there's enough time to promote it and educate the public on it, as well as getting detailed information on how much is needed to build a station.

The Budget hearing to formally approve the budget will be held on June 10, 2026, before the regular June MFD Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1955.