

Mosier Fire District

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

Attendance:

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

Staff: Captain Connor McKibben, Chief Tom Oswald

Volunteer: Will Hanley

Public: Colleen Coleman for City of Mosier; Christine Reynolds and Steve White for Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe

Call to order at 1807

Comments from the public: None

Agenda additions or corrections: Move discussion/presentation re public funding for Station 12 to beginning of meeting. Colleen Coleman will call in to talk to the board regarding a potential funding source for the Mosier Center.

Consent agenda - Motion made by Goter to approve bills and minutes; seconded by Fisher; approved by Fisher, Miller, Goter, Reeves, and Rubin.

Business:

1. Volunteer Report: Matt Hanley spoke to the board on behalf of the volunteers. There's been much training and several incidents responded to. The association is expanding their committees, including a fundraising committee. They have an Instagram account which shows some of their activities in the community. Matt was reminded that there are funds specifically for the volunteers in the district's budget. Matt also reported that the volunteer association meets before a Monday drill once a month.

2. Board: Rubin will go to drill on 6/22/26. Fisher will go to a drill in July.

3. Financials: Goter explained that per the bookkeepers, the checking account negative balance on the Profit & Loss was a timing issue and MFD did not have a negative balance at First Interstate.

4. Operations Report: See Captain McKibben's report [here](#). Also of note, the brush fire was attended by volunteers only. Further, there have been many calls to MCFR due to their low staffing. Chief Oswald discussed efforts in Wasco County fire departments to create a taskforce, allowing them to work in situations of high need outside of our district or neighboring districts.

Chief Oswald addressed the difficulty in staffing the seasonal wildland firefighter positions. There may be some interest on the part of the volunteers as well.

5. Station 12/JUF: Board Member Miller introduced Christine Reynolds and Steve White, who made a presentation regarding General Obligation (GO) Bonds. They discussed timelines for getting a bond on the ballot in November 2026, details on the ballot title and summary, capital costs eligible for GO bonds, and tax requirements for expenditure of the bond proceeds. They indicated

the cost for their part of the process (preparations for getting a ballot title that works) would be capped at \$7,500. They gave references for municipal advisors to assist with other elements of the bond, such as determining the size of the measure and other requirements. They advised that all of the costs related to getting a bond on the ballot and anything related to issuance of the bond may come out of the bond proceeds. Ms. Reynolds also stated that the board in its official capacity cannot advocate for passage of a bond measure, although as individual citizens, we can take a position on it. The volunteer association does not have such a restriction.

Colleen Coleman called in to the meeting to address the board regarding the City's being encouraged to apply for a \$2M BRIC (Building Resilient Infrastructure for Communities) grant for funds for the Mosier Center, for which they are already pre-selected by the state in the state's application to FEMA (source of the BRIC funds). The City wants to include fire services in a modified Mosier Center plan that would incorporate one or two bays, offices and a training center. City is aware of the plans and desire on the part of MFD to build a new station at Station 12, but would like the fire district's okay to include a portion of the Mosier Center building for fire as it is felt that would improve the chances of receiving the grant and an MFD presence in downtown would be a benefit. MFD would not have to contribute any of its funds currently designated for the Mosier Center. Chief Oswald and Captain McKibben were asked for input on it and they gave their opinions, mostly positive, to allow the City to proceed with including fire space in the Center. The board expressed concern about the appearance of fire services being included in the Mosier Center at the same time that MFD is potentially going to the citizens for a bond to build at Station 12.

Miller made a **motion** that the Board approve of the City's use of the MFD's name in its application for the BRIC grant to build a Mosier Center which will include fire services consisting of one or two bays, a fire office and a training area; seconded by Fisher; approved unanimously.

Per Miller, Commissioner Hege is on board with Wasco County cooperating with MFD to build at the Station 12 site, but wants MFD to meet with Public Works director, Arthur Smith, one more time to discuss details. Then MFD can get on the County Commission meeting agenda for county approval of the plan.

Action Items:

- Reeves will talk to the Ayetta representative about the \$28K proposal to do a pre-design.
- Miller will contact the municipal advisors suggested by the Orrick attorneys to get more detail information on costs and benefits of the bond.
- Captain McKibben will talk to Scott Klein about meeting with the board to discuss the Hoodland experience with getting a bond passed.
- Miller and Captain McKibben will meet with Arthur Smith on the details of the land exchange at Station 12 as a prerequisite to getting on the County's agenda.

6. Correspondence – Reeves received correspondence from City Councilman Noah Estes regarding the City's defensible space; Reeves referred him to Captain McKibben.

Comments from the public: None

Adjournment at 2044