

**Minutes East Grand Fire Protection District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 4th, 2025**

Board Directors Present: President Garth Hein, Vice President Donald Maurais, Director Rachel Hoyhtya, Secretary Richard Kramer, Treasurer Ryan Barwick (remote) and Pension Chairman Brendan McGrath.

Staff Present: Chief Todd Holzwarth, Training Coordinator Steve Waldorf, Fire Marshal Ryan Mowrey, Assistant Fire Marshal Jordan Ennis, Volunteer Coordinator Jed Henry and Fire Prevention Administrative Assistant Andrea Jovanovski.

President Garth Hein opened the Board of Directors meeting at 18:11. There was a quorum of Directors present. There were no additions to the agenda. There was no public present.

The Board reviewed the November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 minutes.

- ❖ Director Richard Kramer moved to approve the minutes. Director Donald Maurais seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board of Director's meeting was recessed at 18:14.

The Board of Director's meeting was re-opened at 18:22.

Discussion of Financials:

Chief presented the financial report on behalf of Kristen. There were no updates, concerns, or questions regarding the financials.

- ❖ Director Garth Hein moved to pay the bills. Director Donald Maurais seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2026 Budget Adoption:

- ❖ Director Donald Maurais moved to adopt Resolution 2025-12-4-A To Set Mill Levy. Director Richard Kramer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Director Donald Maurais moved to adopt Resolution 2025-12-4-B To Appropriate Sums of Money. Director Richard Kramer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- ❖ Director Donald Maurais moved to adopt Resolution 2025-12-4-C To Adopt Budget. Director Richard Kramer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report:

Chief reported another transfer of funds from the Wells Fargo Impact account to the Colorado Trust account, with approximately \$25,000 received over the past few weeks. A meeting is scheduled for this coming Tuesday at Grand Fire Station to address recent traffic fatalities in the county, with CDOT also in attendance. Slash season is underway, with numerous burn piles active. Call volume is trending upward toward 500 by the end of year. The Board and staff then engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding secondary access to the parcel directly behind HQ. The planned secondary access road behind the fire station could provide important emergency relief, but it also raises concerns about potential disruptions to training operations and the risk of unauthorized public shortcutting. Because the road would not be located on district property, it would require coordination with Fraser's planning committee and the negotiation of appropriate easements. To protect the training grounds, particularly water spraying areas, staff proposed control measures such as signage and gated access, while also noting operational challenges related to snow removal and daily traffic through training areas. The Board expressed a preference for a cautious, measured approach, voicing concerns without outright opposition and aiming to influence project conditions through formal comments during the planning process. Looking ahead, the long-term vision includes exploring opportunities to purchase land for a larger training ground or a new headquarters, though prior attempts have been unsuccessful. Staff emphasized the importance of preserving training quality amid increasing development pressures and community complaints regarding noise, light, and pollution, and highlighted continued engagement with local government and participation in planning meetings as key strategies to protect the district's operational interests.

Fire Prevention Bureau Report:

Short term rental inspection activity continues to increase. Staff have been working closely with Chief to prepare for the transition to NERIS, with RMS settings, stations, and apparatus largely configured. While the process has been data-intensive, the system is now being trialed, and the department is on track to go live with NERIS and begin transmitting data to the state on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The South Station gym is now set up, with new furniture installed and the facility

approximately 95% outfitted. The team is preparing to burn approximately 3,600 piles in the Crooked Creek Ranch area, with a daily capacity of about 1,000 piles, supported by grant funding. Collaboration with DFPC and other partner agencies continues to strengthen training and funding opportunities for pile burning operations.

Training Coordinator Report:

A county-wide radio encryption initiative is underway to secure operational channels and protect sensitive dispatch information, with implementation targeted for spring 2026. The county plans to encrypt four operational channels on the Grand Dispatch and operations system while retaining one unencrypted channel for flexibility. This effort will reduce the risk of real-time sensitive information being accessed through public apps such as Broadcastify and Crime Radar, enhancing responder safety. Jeff Bauckman and Steve Waldorf will program approximately 700 radios requiring encryption updates, with a temporary shift to unencrypted channels during the process, expected to last about two weeks during mud season. Additional improvements include establishing a Berthoud Pass mutual aid channel with Clear Creek County to strengthen cross-jurisdictional communications. The system will use ADP-level encryption. Separately, the county is evaluating Motorola Rave as a potential replacement for the compromised Code Red mass notification system.

Board Business:

The January workshop is scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m., with three hours reserved for the full session. Agenda items include a Strategic Plan update and a risk assessment presentation to the Urban Renewal Authority. Director Donald Maurais will preside over the January 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:08.

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Garth Hein

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Donald Maurais

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Rachel Hoyhtya

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Rick Kramer

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Ryan Barwick