Minutes
Summit Fire & EMS Fire Protection District
Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
0035 County Shops Road, Frisco, CO
with TeleCon Attendance Option Available

Call to Order:

The Regular meeting of the Summit Fire & EMS Fire Protection District ("District") Board of Directors ("Board") was called to order at 9:00 AM.

Roll Call:

Board Members present were Dan Johnson, John Piotti, Jonathan Sinclair, and Chuck Tolton. Staff members in attendance were Interim Fire Chief Brian Schenking, Deputy Chief Rick Ihnken, Division Chiefs Lou Laurina and Scott Benson, Battalion Chiefs Kevin Skaer, Ryan Cole and Aaron Kaltenbach, Captain Ryan Grafmiller, Wildland Coordinator Kyle Iseminger, Lieutenants Talon Edwards, Steve Wantuck, and Eric Pardis, Firefighter Medic Mike Williams, Wildland Specialist Hannah Ohlson, Fuels Crew Lead Matthew Gerjol, Firefighters Jordyn Butler and Aaron Baker, Community Resource Officer Steve Lipsher, Inspector Amelia Kupperberg, Staff Accountant Kori Fletcher, Billing and Coding Specialist Martha Bird, Admin Tech Ginger Hatton, People and Workplace Experience Business Partner Erin Mumma, Accounting Manager Jessica Fuller, Finance Director and Board Secretary Mary Hartley, and Legal Counsel Emily Powell.

M/S/P Piotti and Tolton to excuse the absence of Director Slivka.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Guests:

Kim McDonald, Guest
John Miller, Associate with Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC
Elizabeth Woodward, Director with Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, PC

Approval of Agenda:

M/S/P Sinclair and Piotti to approve the agenda with addition of Station 12 update along with Old Business item A.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Public Comments:

None

Consent Agenda:

The following items were presented:
Minutes: November 18, 2025, Regular Board Meeting and December 1, 2025, Special Board meeting.
Warrants: November 15, 2025 – January 16, 2026
Financial Report for all funds – December 2025 Draft
After discussion and questions,

M/S/P Johnson and Tolton to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

<u>**New Business:**</u>

Consider Resolution 2026-01 Establishing the 2026 Meeting Dates, Times, Locations, and Places for Posting Notices.

Finance Director Hartley presented the annual Resolution 2026-01 Establishing the 2026 Board Meeting Dates, Times, Locations, and Places for Posting Notices as required by state statute. After discussion and questions,

M/S/P Piotti and Tolton to approve Resolution 2026-01 Establishing the 2026 Meeting Dates, Times, Location, and Places for Posting Notices, as presented.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Consider Resolution 2026-02 - Authorizing the Fire Chief or Acting Fire Chief to Obligate the District for Expenditures of Up to One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($150,000.00) for the Purpose of Initiating Emergency Response Measures within the District in the Event of a Disaster Emergency, Without Prior Notice to or Approval of the Board of Directors

Interim Chief Schenking presented Resolution 2026-02 to the Board. This is an annual Resolution that the Board considers every January. After discussion and questions the Board discussed amending the Resolution to increase the amount to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.00). Upon amendment of the Resolution,

M/S/P Johnson and Piotti to approve Resolution 2026-02 Authorizing the Fire Chief or Acting Fire Chief to Obligate the District for Expenditures of Up To Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.00) for the Purpose of Initiating Emergency Response Measures within the District in the Event of a Disaster Emergency, Without Prior Notice to or Approval of the Board of Directors, as presented.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Consider approval of the CLA Audit Statement of Work Engagement Letter for the 2025 Financial Audit

Finance Director Hartley presented the CLA Statement of Work Engagement Letter for the 2025 Financial Audit. This document is considered annually by the Board of Directors and defines what services the auditors will provide, how those services will be provided, how much services will cost, and the timeframe in which those services will be completed. After discussion and questions,

M/S/P Johnson and Sinclair to approve the CLA Audit Statement of Work Engagement Letter for the 2025 Financial Audit.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Consider a Ballot Initiative to Remove Cap on Property Tax Revenue

Finance Director Hartley suggested that the Board consider going to the voters in November 2026 for a TABOR Ballot election in order to remove the statutory 10.5% cap on Property Tax Revenue imposed by HB24B-1001. The financial impact of the cap will continue to have negative consequences for the District in future years, and requires significant administrative resources to calculate, which detracts from other priorities. The Board requested additional information be brought to a future Board meeting to discuss the viability of such an election.

Consider Authorization for Wildland Coordinator to Sign District Agreements Related to Wildland Mitigation and Training Activities.
Attorney Powell shared a document developed in coordination with Wildland Coordinator Iseminger which is intended to function as an omnibus wildland fire mitigation agreement. This agreement can be used with governmental or private agencies to perform slash operations, thin and cut, or actual pile burning. The agreement allows a fee to be charged, or no fee depending on the area and entity served. If the Board agrees, this standard agreement, will make it easier for the Wildland Coordinator to sign fire mitigation agreements without requiring the approval of the Fire Chief every time a new agreement is signed. After discussion and questions,

M/S/P Johnson and Tolton to authorize the Wildland Coordinator to sign District agreements related to wildland mitigation and training activities.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Continued Business:
Discuss Station 11 Fleets Expansion
Interim Fire Chief Schenking discussed the Keystone Station 11 Fleets expansion with the Board. After discussion and questions, the Board directed staff to continue pursuing the purchase of the apron land around Station 11 from Vail Resorts this year.

Update on Station 12 Summit Cove Easement
Interim Fire Chief Schenking and Attorney Woodward updated the Board on the issues that have arisen since the discussion during the November, 2025 regular meeting of the Board regarding the acquisition of land in the Summit Cove neighborhood by Station 12. It was discovered that the parcel the District is looking to purchase from East Dillon Water District contains an easement held by Xcel Energy. There is a power line that runs straight down that easement for the benefit of Xcel Energy. After discussion and questions, the Board directed Interim Fire Chief Schenking to continue to reach out to Xcel Energy to determine whether or not it is advisable to move forward with the purchase of that parcel from the East Dillon Water District, despite it containing the easement.

M/S/P Johnson and Piotti to allow Interim Fire Chief Schenking to sign any contract amendments as may be necessary to move the closing date to allow for discussions with Xcel Energy.

Staff Reports:
Attorney: In addition to the written report, Attorney Powell shared that the Colorado State Legislature has opened the 2026 regular session and there are already bills being introduced that may impact special districts.

High Country Training Center: No report was provided this month.

Local 4528 Union Update: Local 4528 did not provide a written report this month. Union representative Edwards shared that there is an upcoming member appreciation event on February 8, 2026 which is open to all SFE personnel.

Wildland: No updates beyond the written report.

Finance: No updates beyond the written report.

Human Resources: No updates beyond the written report.

Community Resource Officer: No updates beyond the written report.

Community Risk Division: No updates beyond the written report.

EMS Services: No updates beyond the written report.

Operations: No updates beyond the written report.

Fire Chief and Admin Support Services: No updates beyond the written report.

Board Comments
None

Executive Session:
M/S/P Johnson and Sinclair to move into Executive Session under CRS Section 24-6-402(4)(b) to receive advice from legal counsel regarding upcoming decision on proceeding with Fire Chief hiring process.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Attorney Powell certified for the record that the Executive Session constitutes privileged attorney-client communications and would not be recorded. The Board entered Executive Session at 10:22 AM.

Director Sinclair left the meeting at 10:48 AM.

M/S/P Johnson and Tolton to move out of Executive Session at 11:38 AM.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Regular Board meeting resumed at 11:38 AM.

Adjournment:
M/S/P Johnson and Tolton to adjourn the meeting at 11:39 AM.
Vote: All in favor, none opposed.

Approved this 17th day of February 2026.

DocuSigned by:
Mary Hartley
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Mary Hartley, Board Secretary

Signed by:
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Joe Ben Slivka, Board President

I hereby attest that the information communicated during the Executive Session, which was not recorded, constituted privileged attorney-client communications.

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Emily Powell, Esq.

I hereby attest that the Executive Session, which was not recorded, was confined to the topics authorized for discussion in Executive Session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b).

Signed by:
Dan Johnson
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Dan Johnson, Vice President