

Meeting Minutes for
Rico Fire Protection District
Regular Meeting: November 17th, 2025

The regular Rico Fire Protection District Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chair Tyler Lapp.

Roll Call: RFPD Board members Gregg Anderson, Maria Casanova Sarah Eckles, Tyler Lapp and Paul Ruud.

Guests Present: RVFD Fire Chief Todd Jones, RFPD Administrator David Kunz, Allyn Svoboda.

Approval of Agenda: Sarah Eckles moved to approve the agenda as written; Maria Casanova seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Approval of Minutes: Maria Casanova moved to approve the minutes for the October 20th, 2025; Gregg Anderson seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Approval of Financial Report and Accounts Payable: Kunz presented an additional bill for \$12,391.25 from Western Group Insurance for the General Policy. Gregg Anderson noted the low balance in the debit card account as well as the high balance in the Hose Co. account. Kunz explained that the Debit Card was low due to Thanksgiving purchases, and that it would be good to transfer some funds to purchase more supplies prior to the event. DSB Hose CO. balance is due to a GoFundMe transfer (Eliza Gass Curry's fundraiser after the outbreak of the Stoner Mesa fire) that was finally able to be moved into DSB Hose Co. Gregg Anderson moved to approve the financial report, pay the bills as presented plus the insurance bill, transfer \$200 from the DSB Hose Co. account to the Debit Card and transfer \$1000 from the DSB Hose Co. to the DSB General Fund. Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Administrative Report (Administrator David Kunz):

Grants (awarded):

SMPA Community Focus Grant: Request for \$20,000 for the light rescue truck; awarded \$2,000; an additional \$2,000 was received from Basin Electric. Kunz has notified SMPA contact MartyJo Davis that the Light Rescue may not be fulfilled until 2025.

Rico Center 2025: \$75,000 request for light rescue truck. Awarded. Extension of funds has been requested until EOY 2025.

El Pomar (Wildland fire): Request for \$5,981.83 for wildland fire equipment; awarded \$5000. Fulfillment started.

Grants (applied for):

Telluride Foundation FY 2026 (Community): request for \$5,000.00 in training funds. Submitted 9/27/2025.

Fire Chief Report (Fire Chief Todd Jones):

Runs: (3) calls: (1) overdue motorist; (1) fire at the Cottonwood Road pump station; MVC with multiple vehicles off road but no injuries.

Training: in-house

Equipment: Suburban will need service, possibly an alignment or tire rotation. Snowmobile battery. Eventual need for up to (5) new 800 mhz. radios.

Old Business:

Light Rescue Truck Project: Chief Jones is negotiating with Outback Fire of Springville, Utah in regards to a wet rescue with a 300 gallon tank. Some equipment, such as scene lights and a winch will need to be added. Approximate cost of Ford chassis would be under \$200k without the additional add ins. Gregg Anderson moved to authorize Jones to spend up to \$210k on the truck; Sarah Eckles seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

Memorandum of Understanding with Town of Rico for the Transfer of Lots to RFPD: The MOU with the Town for the property transfer was presented to Tyler Lapp for his signature. Anderson will begin the title work with Anneliese Raible at Alpine Title.

Proposed new Fire Station Construction and Financing: Thomas Bulk (architect and RVFD member) will work on a revised design for the building.

RFPD 2026 Draft Budget: Gregg Anderson proposed the following changes to the 2026 budget line items: ambulance supplies from \$600 to \$900; Fire Supplies from \$6,000 to \$4,000; website from \$1,000 to \$800; Insurance (General policy) from \$11,000 to \$15,000; Water(utilities) from \$1,000 to \$1,500; Fourth of July from \$6,000 to \$9,000; Promotional from \$4,000 to \$5,000; Training and travel from \$5,000 to \$5,200; Recruitment and Retention from \$1000 to \$800; Fuel from \$2,000 to \$2,500. Kunz will update the draft budget with the revised numbers and email to Board members by December 1. The revised draft will also be available for public review.

The next regular RFPD meeting is scheduled for December 8th, 2025 (2026 budget approval).

A motion to adjourn was made by at 7:57 PM. by Sarah Eckles; seconded by Gregg Anderson.

Chairman

Secretary