



Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
In Person / Virtually Held
1400 West 8th Street, The Dalles, OR 97058
November 17, 2025

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Bailey called the Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Directors Present: Diana Bailey and Walter Denstedt; Dick Schaffeld and Chris Schanno both called in on the phone.

Staff Present: Fire Chief David Jensen, Division Chief Josh Beckner, Division Chief Chris Grant, Business Services Manager Joe Talamantez, and Office Manager Stephanie Ziegler. Division Chief Adam Cole was excused.

Others Present: Legal Counsel Andrew Myers, A.J. Olson (RTO & Co.), and past board member Corey Case.

4. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

5. MINUTES

- a. Minutes from October 20, 2025, Board meeting stand approved as written.
- b. Minutes from October 31, 2025, Special Board meeting stand approved as written.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Audit Presentation – RTO & Co., A.J. Olson presented the audit report, stating the audit was a clean audit with one management comment on Capital Outlay and one deficiency due to contracting RTO to prepare the financial statement on MCFR's behalf before completing the audit. A.J. stated "overall the audit went smoothly with no major issues.
- b. Balance Sheets/Combined Cash Accounts – Chief Jensen advised that the prevention/hydrant line under Capital outlay has been fixed to only say Prevention. There were no other questions.
- c. Ambulance Service Financial Report – Chief Jensen advised that the ambulance payments are behind due to the government shutdown, however they should all go back up now.



8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Renewal Report – Director Denstedt reported that the Urban Renewal Committee did not have a meeting this month it had been cancelled. He stated the committee approved additional money for the American Legion building and the use of the lot where the old Tony's building was, was approved to be used during construction of the Plaza.

9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORTS

- a. Chief Jensen's Report – Report provided. Chief Jensen provided additional information on the items he included in his board report. One of the items he spoke about was the Continuity of Operations Plan, explaining that it is now underway and part of the strategic plan. Director Denstedt asked if the city and county was involved in the whole plan, Chief Jensen clarified the parent plan is the Emergency Operations Plan and we paid into this last year for a consultant so that all the districts and county. Chief Jensen also stated that the continuity of operations plan is a sub-component of the plan to make sure MCFR can continue operating fire and EMS. Chief Jensen also explained about the analytical information that was provided on page 22. He went into more detail on what the report can provide. President Bailey asked if the report could provide historical data and if the report can break out whether the calls that come in simultaneously are fire or EMS.
- b. Chief Beckner's Report – Report provided.
- c. Chief Grant's Report – Report provided.
- d. Chief Cole's Report – Report provided.

10. OLD BUSINESS

None.

11. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Board Director Vacancy – President Bailey advised that she had received a verbal notification and then a formal resignation letter from Director Mike Erland. President Bailey requested that Legal Counsel Myers and Chief Jensen to answer some pertinent questions on filling the vacancy. Legal Counsel Myers stated that the board is tasked with appointing a new board member and explained that it's a majority of the existing board that needs to appoint someone. He stated that if the majority cannot come to a decision it would go to the county court. He also explained that any existing board member can move to appoint someone that is interested in the position and is in good standing. He stated this could be done this evening if the board chooses to. The term would be until the next regularly scheduled election in May of 2027. Legal Counsel Myers went on to explain in more detail regarding the election how the person that is appointed would have to run for the election and if no one ran against them, they would continue and finish out the full term of office which would be until May of 2029. If a person was appointed at tonight's board meeting that person could be sworn in tonight and would become a new board member.



President Bailey then opened the floor for nominations. Director Schaffeld asked to nominate Corey Case, President Bailey asked Director Schanno if he had anyone he would like to nominate and he stated that he was good with Corey Case. Director Denstedt was also fine with Corey Case. President Bailey was also fine with Corey Case. She then asked Mr. Case if he was still interested in the position. Director Schaffeld then made a motion to appoint Corey Case to the board. Director Schanno seconded. All in favor; 4 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion carried.

Schaffeld – Yes

Schanno – Yes

Denstedt – Yes

Bailey – Yes

Legal Counsel then swore Corey Case in as a new board member.

- b. Information Sheet – Ambulance Service Plan. President Bailey asked if this topic could be moved to a special board meeting. Chief Jensen stated there are 10 or more points that need to be gone over which will take a lot of time. Director Schanno stated he was fine with a special meeting. He felt by moving this topic to a special meeting it would give Director Case time to review the information. Director Schaffeld also stated he was fine moving to a special meeting. President Bailey then asked about a date and time. Special meeting scheduled for December 1st at 3:00 p.m. Chief Jensen stated he will send out more information to the board and will include the red line copy from OHA and will also include all correspondence. This will be a special meeting and not a work session.
- c. Information Sheet – Strategic Plan. Chief Jensen went through the Strategic Plan explaining that the goals are what the board wanted. The objectives further defined the goals. There was much discussion on what needs to take place with the plan. Chief Jensen stated most topics could be new goals on the new Plan, which would be in 2027. He outlined what those goals could be. Director Denstedt wanted to know how we measure for the premier agency that this has not happened yet. President Bailey stated that that goal could keep going with the 2027 plan. Director Denstedt would like to have the board prioritize what is most important for the plan. Director Case stated that he was involved with the original plan and stated this plan is a working document. Chief Jensen explained that budgeting is starting right now and if the board wanted to work on the plan right now it would stop that process and turn it around. He stated even when the budget is complete for next year that the strategic plan would not be complete. Director Denstedt advises that it would be difficult to prioritize the plan without knowing what the ASA will become. After much discussion the consensus of the board is to maintain the Strategic Plan and work on regularly scheduled development for next calendar year.

12. GOOD OF THE ORDER

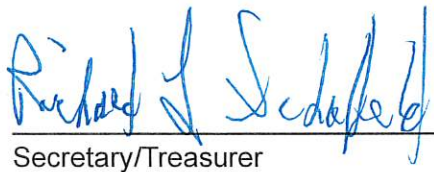


Chief Jensen advised that there will be the annual dinner after the December board meeting. Director Denstedt asked if Director Case would be going to the conference in Seaside this week. Case said he would not. Office Manager announced that the Christmas Party will be December 12th at the Civic starting at 5:00 p.m. There will be a Ugly Sweater Contest again.

13. ADJOURNMENT

President Bailey adjourned the meeting at 19:02 p.m.


Board President


Secretary/Treasurer