Riverside Fire Authority

Governance Board Meeting
July 22, 2026
Minutes

In attendance:

Board Members – Joe Dolezal, Mike Tomasheck, Buddy Lowrey, Mike Rossow, Richard Lennox

Administration – Chief Anderson, Chief Olson, Chief Ternan, Stephanie Slorey, Misty Henning

Visitors – Lt. Jason Shepherd

Chair Dolezal called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the agenda.

Public Input – None

Motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the consent agenda as presented.

The Following voucher/warrants/electronic payments were approved for payment:

July 22, 2026,	*Ck 9865-9889*	*$48,333.69*
	Use Tax	*$62.58*

Unfinished Business

Firefighter / Paramedic Hiring

Chief Anderson reviewed the status of the two candidates for the Firefighter/Paramedic position. He reported that both candidates had successfully completed the required physical and psychological evaluations. With one current vacancy and the potential for a second position to become available, Chief Anderson requested the Board's approval to extend final offers of employment to both candidates, with a proposed start date of August 21, 2026. Commissioner Lowrey made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to offer employment to both remaining firefighter/paramedic candidates. Commissioner Rossow seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

EMS Division Chief

CARES Coordinator Lt. Shepherd presented the annual CARES Program report covering the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The report summarized grant funding received by the program, the number of individuals served through grant-supported services, including veterans and individuals experiencing substance use disorders and mental health challenges, and the program's short- and long-term outcomes. The report was presented for the Board's information.

Chief Anderson discussed the process for filling the EMS Division Chief position. He reported that he is awaiting final approval from Riverside Fire Authority legal counsel regarding whether an internal promotion is permissible under the requirements associated with the grant funding. Once legal guidance is received, Chief Anderson would like to move forward accordingly. Discussion followed. Commissioner Tomasheck made a motion to approve the creation of the EMS Division Chief position and direct the Fire Chief to fill the position. Commissioner Rossow seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

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New Business

2026 2nd Quarter Finance Report
Finance Officer, Misty Henning, reviewed the 2026 2nd Quarter Finance Report with the board.

Facility Update
Chief Anderson presented the Capital Facilities Study and Capital Facilities Plan to the Board. He reviewed the assessment conducted for each station, including identified strengths, weaknesses, facility needs, and apparatus and equipment requirements. Chief Anderson also explained the associated financial model, which outlines the Authority's long-term capital needs and the proposed funding strategy to support future capital improvements and equipment replacement. Discussion followed.

True North Fire Apparatus
Chief Olson informed the Board of an opportunity to purchase a demonstration model fire apparatus to replace the aging Engine 1A (E1A). He explained that both E1A and Engine 2A (E2A) had recently been out of service at the same time, highlighting the need for a reliable replacement apparatus. Although replacement of E1A is not currently scheduled until 2027, the available demonstration unit would provide a cost-effective solution. Chief Olson noted that the stock pumper could be delivered significantly sooner than a custom-built apparatus, meets the operational needs of the Riverside Fire Authority, and would provide a high-quality replacement while avoiding the additional costs associated with a fully customized pumper. Discussion followed. Commissioner Tomasheck made a motion to authorize the purchase of a replacement rescue pumper / fire apparatus for fleet asset 2001, subject to final review and approval of specifications, pricing, funding availability and purchase terms by the Fire Chief or designee. Commissioner Lowrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Station Alerting Upgrades
Chief Anderson discussed proposed improvements to the station alerting systems at Stations 1 and 2. He reported that the Central Dispatch Center is in the process of upgrading its software, which will enable automated voice dispatching. Funding for the software upgrade was secured by the Dispatch Center through new sales tax revenue. Chief Anderson stated that he will obtain the necessary purchase documentation and present it to the Board for approval.

Good of the Order

Adjourned 6:35 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: ______________________, Chair Dolezal

Stephanie Slorey, Board Secretary