Riverside Fire Authority

Governance Board Meeting
October 28, 2026
Minutes

In attendance:

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

Administration – Chief Anderson, Chief O, Stephanie Slorey, Misty Henning

Visitors – None

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:

Oct. 28, 2026,	***Use Tax***	***$50.39***
Oct. 28, 2026,	***Ck 10,163-10,184***	***$83,914.67***

Unfinished Business

2028 EMS Levy Discussion
Chief Anderson discussed the timing of distributing informational materials regarding the EMS levy renewal. Because certified property valuation figures from Lewis County will not be available until after the first of the year, staff would only be able to estimate the levy rate if the measure were placed on the February ballot. Placing the levy renewal on the April 2027 ballot would allow staff to provide the public with accurate levy rate information.

Staff noted that if the Board chooses the April 2027 election, a resolution must be submitted to the county by February 26, 2027. Based on current information, there would be no competing measure from the school district on the April ballot. Staff also noted that the timeline for the release of Public Safety Tax information remains uncertain.

Staff will continue preparations to meet the February 26, 2027, resolution deadline should the Board decide to place the EMS levy renewal on the April 2027 ballot. The board agreed that the April 2027 election would be best.

2027 Budget: Revenues – 1st Reading
Finance Officer, Misty Henning, received the preliminary values from the county which allowed her to review the draft/proposed revenues for the 2027 budget. Discussion followed.

2027 Budget: General Fund / EMS Expenditures Updates
Finance Officer Misty Henning reviewed a revised proposed expense budget that reflects updated financial figures recently received by staff. The Board discussed the updated budget and its potential impact on the authority's finances.

Assistant Chief of Operations Recruitment
Chief Anderson reported that two candidates advanced through the tactical simulator and subordinate interview phases of the hiring process. One candidate was selected to move forward to a Chief's interview. If the remaining steps are successful, a conditional offer of employment may be extended to that candidate. Chief Anderson stated he would provide an update to the Board at the first meeting in November regarding whether an offer has been extended.

New Business

Policy #239: Reproductive Health
Chief Anderson reported that the Labor/Management Committee has reached agreement on the proposed Reproductive Health Policy. The policy was reviewed by legal counsel and has received legal approval. Staff presented the policy to the Board for consideration and discussion. Commissioner Lowrey made a motion to approve Policy #239: Reproductive Health. Commissioner Rossow seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Resolution #26-10: Surplus Property
Chief Olson presented Resolution No. 26-10: Surplus Property, which identifies old PPE and the 1972 Dodge Power Wagon as no longer needed for district operations and available for surplus. The Board reviewed the list of items proposed for disposal and discussed the resolution. Commissioner Rossow made a motion to approve Resolution #26-10: Surplus Property and authorize Chief Olson to surplus the Dodge Power Wagon as part of fleet replacement with the RFA Master Plan and to place PPE in a salvage status. Commissioner Lowrey seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
As provided for in RCW 22.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. Commissioner Tomasheck made a motion to move into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. for fifteen (15) minutes. The regular meeting was called back to order at 6:20 p.m. with no action taken.

Good of the Order

Adjourned 6:24 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: _____, Chair Dolezal
Stephanie Storey, Board Secretary