Wellington Fire Protection District

Station 1, 8130 3rd Street, Wellington, CO 80549

July 16, 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

- Time Called to Order: 17:00
- Pledge of Allegiance: Conducted.
- Roll Call: Directors: Lopez, Standing, Bollinger were present.
  Absent: Hodgson, excused. Hunter, unexcused.

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

- Chief Germain requested the addition of an update regarding the Jefferson Avenue property under District Business.

Conflicts of Interest

- None

Correspondence

- The Board received notice from the Wellington Professional Firefighters Local 5389 requesting to begin collective bargaining negotiations. Chief Germain informed the Board that negotiations are anticipated to begin in September, after projected District revenues become available in late August. Board discussed meeting beforehand to establish its negotiation team and objectives.

Public Comment

- None

Employee Recognition

- Chief Germain recognized Firefighter Thomas for successfully completing his Driver Operator Utility Certification.

Guests or Presentations

- Christine McLeod, Audit Partner with Haynie & Company, presented the results of the District's 2025 financial audit.

Highlights included:

- The District will receive an unmodified (clean) audit opinion.
- No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses were identified.
- No changes in accounting policies occurred during the audit.
- No disagreements with management occurred during the audit.
- Two immaterial uncorrected timing differences related to grant revenue and a Poudre Fire Authority invoice were disclosed but required no adjustment.
- No corrected audit adjustments were necessary.

Board members thanked Haynie & Company for the presentation and expressed appreciation for staff's work during the audit process.

Consent Agenda (Meeting Minutes)

Director Lopez made the motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes from June 17, 2026. Motion was seconded by Director Standing and passed unanimously on a vote 3/0.

Chief's Report – Operational Updates

- **Strategic Planning:** Strategic planning is underway with Chief Sendelbach. Staff interviews and questionnaires are scheduled for next week. Chief Sendelbach will meet with Board for strategic planning session on July 30th at 4pm.
- **4th of July Operations:** Additional staffing was provided throughout the holiday weekend to address increased fire danger and community events. Successful coverage of the parade, community events and fireworks display. Several minor eye injuries occurred during the fireworks due to shifting winds. Crews responded during the fireworks display to a large, unauthorized bonfire north of Wellington. Overnight staffing handled multiple significant incidents, including a serios Highway 1 motor vehicle accident involving three patients with critical injuries requiring mutual aid assistance from Poudre Fire Authority, and an unrelated gunshot incident requiring emergency response.
- **Grant Preparation:** Chief Germain has been working on a Community Risk Analysis and Community Profile document to strengthen future FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) applications, including a potential request for a new fire apparatus. Will forward a copy to Board when complete.
- **Training:** The District completed nearly 1,400 documented training hours during the first half of the year. Training included: Officer Development, Ice Rescue, Wildland Fire, Low Angle Rescue, Driver Operator and Pumper, Firefighter Safety & Survival, Live Fire Training and Skills Evaluations.

Monthly Activity Report

- June 2026 Incidents: 118 (YTD: 658)
- Fire & Other Services: 44 (YTD: 228)
- EMS: 65 (YTD: 384)
- Motor Vehicle Accidents: 9 (YTD: 46)

Increased fire, EMS and motor vehicle accident responses compared to the previous month.

Notable Incidents:

- June 10 – W. County Rd 70 and N. County Rd 17, Motor Vehicle Accident. Single vehicle MVA with one occupant who required Lifeline helicopter transport.
- June 11 – 1513 Mulberry St, Fort Collins, Mutual Aid for WUI Wildfire. Crews assisted PFA with Fire suppression and water supply for a series of wildland fires in the area of Fort Fun.
- June 30 – I-25 NB mm 277, Motor Vehicle Accident. Single vehicle rollover in the median with two occupants still in vehicle. One required transport.
- June 30 – Hwy 1 and County Rd 68, Motor Vehicle Accident. Three car MVA with entrapment. Four people involved, one requiring extrication. Two patients transported to MCR with serious, non-life-threatening injuries and one patient transported with minor injuries.

Chief updated Board on Cost Recovery program:

  - 6 claims currently submitted.
  - Approximately $2,700 in reimbursements are pending.
  - The District anticipates receiving its first reimbursement payment soon.

Committee Reports

Captain Schneeberger provided fleet report

- Emergency lighting upgrades will be installed on the Chief's vehicle.
- Several fleet maintenance items were completed, including tire replacement.
- Repairs were completed to the Battalion Chief vehicle's electrical system.
- All three fire engines successfully passed annual NFPA pump testing, requiring only minor repairs.
- Fleet readiness remains excellent.

Financial Report Highlights (By David Green)

General Summary:

- District finances remain stable.
- Personnel expenditures remain below budget.
- Operational expenditure remains within expectations.
- Revenues are approximately 91% collected for the year.

- Current revenues total approximately $3.5 million, providing sufficient funding for current operations.
- Continuing to monitor capital expenditures throughout the remainder of the fiscal year.

District Business

Strategic Plan Update

Chief Germain provided an update consistent with his earlier report. No Board action needed.

Lyons Gaddis Engagement Letter

Chief Germain explained that, during the strategic planning process, staff discovered the District did not have an updated engagement agreement with Lyons Gaddis. The proposed engagement letter updates legal representation and billing rates.

Director Standing made the motion to accept Lyons Gaddis Engagement Letter. Motion was seconded by Director Lopez and passed unanimously on a vote of 3/0.

Jefferson Avenue Property Update

Chief Germain updated the Board regarding discussions with the developer currently utilizing District property during construction. The developer did not believe additional compensation was warranted beyond restoring the property after construction. The developer indicated that in order to get the development, the Town required that he had to give 1/3 acre to the District. Chief Germain has spoken to District's legal counsel, and they are preparing a temporary construction easement outlining restoration requirements and future compensation should construction exceed six months. The developer stated he did not receive message regarding purchasing the property earlier in the year but would consider now and would come up with a proposal. Chief recommended maintaining a cooperative relationship while securing the District's legal interests through the construction easement. Chief added that if an offer is made by the developer, he would present it to the Board. He went on to add that a third of an acre would not work for a fire station and it did not make sense to build a station a mile and half from this station. No formal Board action taken.

Executive Session

Director Lopez made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 1732 hours pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(e), C.R.S., Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiation, developing strategy for negotiations, and instructing negotiators regarding the Chief's employment contract. Motion was seconded by Director Standing and passed unanimously on a vote 3/0.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 1749 hours and resumed meeting.

Other

- None

Calendar and Miscellaneous

- Strategic Planning Session: July 30, 2026 at 4PM, Station 1
- Next Regular Board Meeting: August 19, 2026 at 5PM Station 1

Adjournment

Director Lopez made the motion to adjourn at 1750 hours. Motion was seconded by Director Standing and passed unanimously on a vote of 3/0.

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Director Denny Hodgson, Secretary/Clerk