



McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Board Meeting

August 17, 2026

Directors

- ☒ President Derek Wing
- ☒ Vice President Bruce Daniel
- ☐ Secretary/Treasurer Lee Means - Excused
- ☒ Board Member Raymond Byrne, Jr.
- ☒ Board Member George Burnette Dillon

Staff

- ☒ Fire Chief Darren Bucich - Online
- ☐ Deputy Chief Bart Thompson – Excused
- ☒ Administrative Assistant Dulcy Pierce

President Derek Wing called the August Board meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026, at the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McKenzie Highway, Leaburg, Oregon.

Guests: Battalion Chief Dana Burwell, McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: *Bruce Daniel moved to accept the minutes, as presented, of the July 20th, 2026, Board meeting. Raymond Byrne, Jr. seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report: *Following review, a motion to file the treasurer's report for the month of July and approve the Monthly Financial Review form, subject to audit, was made by Raymond Byrne, Jr. George Burnette Dillon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

Chief's Report: Chief Bucich attended online, while deployed to the Grasshopper Conflagration. His written report was included in the Board packet. Also discussed:

PIER Grant: Temporary tanks have become the priority. He has been working to help satisfy the grant requirements for tank placement. Permanent Tanks: the contractor has received funding for the Deerhorn tank and will be meeting with the homeowner soon. Funding for the McKenzie River Discovery Center site is expected to be released mid-September.

Additional PIER Funding: Chief Bucich received word that the District will be awarded an additional \$700,000 for water tanks. He is working with the Grantor to determine spending parameters.

Fire Season: We are currently at HIGH. Chief Bucich is expecting Red Flag weather for the next few days while deployed on the Grasshopper Conflagration. While temperatures have been mild in the District, fire season is not over.

Student Program: Chief Bucich reported that we have five returning students from the 2025-2026 school year, leaving one open position. There are currently more than a dozen students on a wait list. Chief Bucich proposed adding an additional three students at the



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expense of the District. **Following discussion, the Board offered their approval in adding an additional three students at the District's expense, noting the value they offer.**

No Action Items

No Unfinished Business

New Business

Battalion Chief Dana Burwell presented a resignation letter on behalf of Board of Director's member Lee Means.

Following discussion, George Burnette Dillon moved to accept Lee Means' letter of resignation. Raymond Byrne, Jr seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The District has two individuals who have expressed interest in serving on the Board of Directors and been placed on a wait-list. Following discussion, it was determined that Administrative Assistant Dulcy Pierce would reach out to determine the level of interest with the individuals. Should they both be interested, interviews will be scheduled before and/or after the September 21st Board meeting.

Administrative Assistant Dulcy Pierce will email the Board the candidate interview forms for their review.

Lee Means also served as the Board of Director's Treasurer/Secretary. With her resignation accepted, George Burnette Dillon made a motion to install Raymond Byrne, Jr. into the position of Treasurer/Secretary. Bruce Daniel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Student Program and Recruit & Retention Coordinator Carmen Smith provided a comprehensive overview of the Student Program and R&R for the last four years. The Board extended their appreciation to Carmen Smith for the report and asked that it be added as part of the packet.

Good of the Order

Deputy Chief Bart Thompson and his wife welcomed their third child on 8/12/26. Welcome Elizabeth McKenzie!

The Board requested that Administrative Assistant Dulcy Pierce bring flowers and a card for Lee Means, to be signed by Board members at the September meeting and delivered to her after.

Flu Shot Clinic – September 30th, Training Center, 9 am and 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting will be held on Monday, September 21, 2026, at 12:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

Raymond Byrne, Jr., Secretary / Treasurer