



Long Valley Fire Protection District
3605 Crowley Lake Drive • Crowley Lake • California 93546
760.935.4545 / 760.935.4436 (facsimile)
longvalleyfd@gmail.com

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
May 13, 2026

Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, CA 93546

Members Present: David Melchior, Donna Blackman, Lorinda Beatty (via Google Meet due to illness), Dan Gordon, Kim Czeschin

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Fire Chief Scott McGuire, Division Chief Fred Stump, Equipment Manager Billy Czeschin, Secretary Kathryn Durgin (via Google Meet), Hap Hazard, Becky Davis

Others Absent: None

1. Call to order, roll call, Pledge of Allegiance, and announcements. The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm. Commissioner Melchior led all in attendance to the Pledge of Allegiance. No announcements were made.
2. Opportunity for the public to address the Board on items of interest to the public that are not agendized and within the jurisdiction of the Board. Division Chief Fred Stump requested that the Board consider Resolutions of Appreciation for Congressman Kiley and Senator Schiff in recognition of their support of funding efforts for the Sunny Slopes Station 2 Project, as well as Assembly member Tangipa for his support of the Vidar Anderson Memorial Highway Dedication legislation. Chair Melchior directed staff to place the items on the June regular meeting agenda for consideration.
3. Report and provide direction on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project. Commissioner Melchior opened the discussion with staff reports followed by public comment.

Staff Reports: Chief McGuire reported that the Sunny Slopes Station 2 Project continues to progress. He shared that Congressman Kiley and Senator Schiff have supported funding efforts for the project and that it is currently before the House Agricultural Appropriations Subcommittee. Chief McGuire reported that CEQA review has been

completed and that the district is continuing to work through the County review process toward Planning Commission approval. He also reported that he has a follow-up meeting scheduled with the California Municipal Finance Authority to discuss potential project funding options. Additional discussion was held regarding project lighting.

Public Comment: Hap Hazard asked whether the district was continuing to work with the same County representative on the project. He commented on County staff turnover and suggested that changes in personnel may contribute to repeated requests for information. Chief McGuire shared that the recent questions came from the same representative, however he noted that he is now working with a new County contact.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the April 8, 2026, Regular Meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLACKMAN, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 8, 2026, REGULAR MEETING. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.
5. Chief's Report.
 - A. Volunteer Report. Chief McGuire reported that the department has responded to nine emergency calls since the last meeting, with an average of 10 personnel responding per call. He provided additional details on several of the incidents. Chief McGuire also reported that the District has responded to 146 calls year-to-date, with an average of 8.4 personnel responding per call, which is consistent with response levels from 2024.
 - B. Report on Current Fire Department Activities, Assignments, and Schedule for potential Board direction.
 - C. Long-Range Planning Discussion.
 - a) Personnel. Chief McGuire reported that Congressman Kiley's office requested nominations recognizing individuals for their service in the fire service. He shared that Long Valley FPD has nominated Division Chief Fred Stump in recognition of his service to the district.
 - b) Airport. Chief McGuire reported that CalFire plans to establish a presence at the Mammoth Airport beginning June 1, including a helicopter, fire engine, and fully staffed personnel. He shared that under the leadership of Training Officer Paul Zastoupil, the District plans to conduct joint training opportunities with Mammoth Fire and CalFire, including wildland and extrication training. Chief McGuire noted the importance of building working relationships between agencies to support effective fire service operations.
 - c) Geothermal. No news.

- d) Station Maintenance. Chief McGuire reported on recent station maintenance and improvement projects, including completion of station painting and the Memorial Garden. He shared that quotes have been obtained for fence repairs. Chief McGuire also acknowledged the personnel involved in the Memorial Garden project and recognized Division Chief Stump for his role in coordinating the effort.
 - e) Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance. Chief McGuire reported on ongoing vehicle and equipment maintenance activities. He shared that the shell for 3225 has been delivered and is in the process of being installed. He noted that once completed, the vehicle will be sent to Carson City for graphics and radio installation. Chief McGuire also reported that 3200 continues to experience intermittent check engine light issues and that repairs to 3280 have been completed.
 - f) Pack Fire Update. Chief McGuire reported that the cleanup project is funded; however, implementation has been delayed due to a lawsuit filed against the County regarding the contract bidding process. He provided additional details regarding the lawsuit being filed. Division Chief Stump reported good news that for property owners wishing to drill wells, the Health Department, which coordinates well drilling permits, has given permission for well drilling to proceed. Chief McGuire further shared concerns that some property owners may choose to begin cleanup activities independently due to the delays. He noted that participation in the state supported cleanup program could be affected if property owners proceed with cleanup on their own.
 - g) County and Community Updates. Chief McGuire reported that cleanup efforts at the Wilfred radio site are expected to begin as snow conditions allow and that the district has received County approval for volunteers to begin cleanup. Chief McGuire also reported that the California Radio Interoperability System (CRIS) is scheduled to go live in October. He shared concerns raised by various agencies regarding the implementation timeline and provided additional updates on the program. Chief McGuire further reported that the Grand Jury is expected to conclude its investigation related to the County radio program in the coming weeks and provided additional information regarding the investigation and Office of Emergency Management operations.
 - h) Grants. Chief McGuire reported that he is still waiting for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant application periods to open. He shared that the Grant Ad Hoc Committee has been working on a grant application to acquire hose packs for Sunny Slopes.
6. Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson. Division Chief Stump reported that ACR 126 has passed the California Assembly Transportation Committee and has advanced to the Senate. He shared that the legislation passed by voice vote and expressed optimism that it will continue through the legislative process. He further shared that upon approval and

signature by the Governor, Caltrans would be directed to proceed with implementation. Division Chief Stump also reported that he provided a photo of the completed Memorial Garden to members of Vidar Anderson's family. He shared that the family was pleased with the appearance of the Memorial Garden and hopes to coordinate attendance when the highway dedication sign is installed.

Public Comment: Hap Hazard commented that when the highway dedication signage is installed, the district should notify the community through local media outlets so that community members are aware of the dedication. Division Chief Stump and Chief McGuire agreed that the district should help publicize the event when the installation takes place.

7. Fire Chief Position Ad Hoc Committee Report. Commissioner Melchior reported that he and Commissioner Gordon attended an Officers meeting where they discussed a proposed plan to provide additional coverage for Fire Chief responsibilities. He shared that the goal is to have the program in place beginning in July, subject to budget approval, and that he would like to see a schedule developed for the coverage. Commissioner Gordon provided additional details on the proposed plan, sharing that Fire Chief responsibilities would be divided among qualified officers to provide adequate coverage. Chief McGuire shared that discussions with officers included a preference for shorter duty assignments rather than full week rotations. He provided additional details on the proposed Duty Chief coverage plan, clarifying roles and responsibilities of personnel. He shared that a schedule would be developed if the plan is approved and that he would like to establish schedules several months in advance to make sure there is adequate coverage. Additional discussion was held regarding officer development opportunities and the proposed coverage schedule.
8. Discussion and possible action on station fence repair. Chief McGuire reported that Equipment Manager Billy Czeschin obtained a quote of approximately \$10,000 for station fence repairs. He provided an overview of the proposed repairs and shared that the project was bid in three sections, with a discount available if all work is completed at the same time. Chief McGuire requested approval of an additional \$10,000 for Station Maintenance to complete the fence repair project. He shared that the current Station Maintenance budget has been fully utilized for the fiscal year; however, the district remains under budget overall and funds could be reallocated from other budget line items. Discussion was held by the Board. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLACKMAN, TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL \$10,000 FOR STATION MAINTENANCE AND AUTHORIZE THE FIRE CHIEF TO PROCEED WITH THE STATION FENCE REPAIR PROJECT. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.
9. Second Review of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget. Chief McGuire reported that no changes have been made to the proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget since the last regular meeting. He reviewed the proposed budget with the Board, including changes to budget line items, projected revenues, and overall budget totals. Chief McGuire noted that any requested revisions should be considered prior to the public hearing and budget

adoption scheduled for the next regular meeting. No changes to the proposed budget were requested by the Board.

10. Discussion and possible action on managing district funds.

- A. Review and approve a formal letter to Mono County outlining the district's position.

Chief McGuire reported that he has been unable to connect with Chris Beck and therefore did not have any updates to report. He shared that he has requested that the County establish a bank account prior to July 1 so that the district can begin using it at the start of the fiscal year. Chief McGuire reviewed the proposed letter and clarified that the district is not requesting that all funds be removed from the County Treasury, but rather that a bank account be established as a tranche cash fund for operational vendor payments. He provided additional information regarding the proposal. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CZESCHIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, TO APPROVE THE FORMAL LETTER TO MONO COUNTY OUTLINING THE DISTRICT'S POSITION. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.

11. Review and approval of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Fechter Financial Audit Report.

Secretary Durgin provided a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 audit report, sharing that the district received a clean audit opinion. She reported that as funds are transferred into Capital Account 321 as committed funds, while restricted funds are also maintained within the account, the auditor advised that the district track committed and restricted funds separately moving forward. Secretary Durgin shared that the auditor provided a tracking template and that she has a call out to the auditor for assistance to make sure she fully understands the tracking process moving forward. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER MELCHIOR, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 AUDIT REPORT.

12. Resolution R26-03 Ordering Election, Requesting County Elections to Conduct the Election, Requesting Consolidation of Election, and Specifications of the Election Order.

Secretary Durgin provided an overview of Resolution R26-03 and reviewed information related to the 2026 election process, including candidate filing deadlines and filing procedures. She also shared that the Mono County Elections Office will be hosting a Candidate Filing Workshop on June 23 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CZESCHIN, TO WAIVE THE READING AND APPROVE RESOLUTION R26-03. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.

13. Discussion and possible action regarding VFLSA program changes and refund request.

Chief McGuire provided an overview of the issue regarding previously purchased VFLSA service credits for active members who, due to recent program changes, are no longer eligible to vest in the program or receive benefits. He shared that after Secretary Durgin inquired whether refunds would be issued for those service credits, the program responded that its Board had determined that no refunds would be provided. Chief McGuire requested Board direction on how to proceed, including whether to pursue

the matter with legal counsel, submit a formal request for refunds, or take no further action. During discussion, Commissioner Melchior recommended consulting with district legal counsel, and Division Chief Stump suggested contacting other departments affected by the same issue to determine whether a joint effort could be pursued. Additional discussion followed. The Board reached consensus to pursue the matter with district legal counsel and explore whether other departments are experiencing similar impacts. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER GORDON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLACKMAN, TO PURSUE THE ISSUE WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL AND CONTACT OTHER DEPARTMENTS DEALING WITH THE SAME ISSUE. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.

Public Comment. Hap Hazard expressed support for the Board's decision to pursue the matter. He commented that while the financial impact to the district may be relatively limited, the impact to individual firefighters affected by the program changes could be significant. He encouraged the district to pursue the issue on behalf of affected firefighters, provided the costs of doing so remain reasonable, and stated that he believes many community members would support those efforts.

14. Board review/approval of payment warrants since the last meeting. The Board reviewed payment warrants issued since the last regular meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE BY COMMISSIONER CZESCHIN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BLACKMAN, TO APPROVE PAYMENT WARRANTS SINCE THE LAST MEETING. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.
15. Board Secretary Report/Report on Records Management. Secretary Durgin reported that the State Controller's Office Government Compensation in California (GCC) Report for Calendar Year 2025 and the first quarter payroll tax reports have been submitted. She also reported that May payroll will be run next week. Regarding Records Management, Secretary Durgin reported that she completed review and organization of the master scanned district records and, after receiving feedback from Chief McGuire and Commissioner Blackman, provided the records index and indexing template to SyTech Solutions. She shared that SyTech is currently working on organizing the records within 1DocStop according to the proposed indexing structure and that a meeting is scheduled for May 21 to review the setup and discuss OneDrive migration.
16. Review correspondence received since the last regular meeting. Secretary Durgin shared that she received the biannual Workers' Compensation payroll report notice, which is due next week. She shared that she will get this submitted prior to the deadline. She also reported receiving an IRS notice regarding Form 8038-G, Information Return for Government Purpose Tax-Exempt Bond Issues. Secretary Durgin shared that she is currently researching the notice to determine why it was received and whether any action is required by the district. Division Chief Stump provided additional information regarding the IRS notice.

17. Review and adjust current fiscal year budget line items as necessary and accept. Chief McGuire shared that the district is budget is tracking and there are no budget changes required at this time.
18. New business and Board member reports. No reports.
19. Call for Agenda items for the next regular meeting. Report and provide direction on the progress of the Sunny Slopes Station 2 project; Discussion and possible action concerning the dedication of a portion of Highway 395 to former Captain Vidar Anderson; Discussion and possible action on managing district funds; Public Hearing and Adoption of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget; Report and possible action on VFLSA program changes and refund request; Resolutions of Appreciation for Congressman Kiley, Senator Schiff, and Assemblymember Tangipa.
20. Adjournment. At the request of Commissioner Melchior, the Board agreed to schedule the July regular meeting to July 1, 2026 in lieu of July 8, 2026. A motion was made by Commissioner Gordon, seconded by Commissioner Czeschin, to adjourn the meeting and reconvene in regular session on June 10, 2026, at 7:00pm at the Long Valley Fire Station, 3605 Crowley Lake Drive, Crowley Lake, California. Roll call was taken. Motion passed 5-0.

Katie Durgin
Secretary to the Board
Long Valley Fire Protection District