



Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Family Health Associates Umatilla Clinic

1890 7th Street, Umatilla, Oregon 97882

541-922-3718

Wednesday, April 4th, 2026 Time: 7:00 p.m.

Remote Access: Join via Microsoft Teams:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OWVKNjBmODItNTEyYi00M2FiLWE4NDAtZikwNjFmZGRhNTQ5%40thead.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22be89cc72-4e53-46c7-90cc-eb725bf80074%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22b0c53448-b558-43dc-aa04-b0cd0b905a4d%22%7d

Accessibility Notice: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), anyone needing special assistance to participate in this meeting should contact the Fire Chief at (541) 922-3718 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to request reasonable accommodation.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

“This is a public meeting of the Board of Directors of Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District, conducted in accordance with Oregon Public Meetings Law.

This meeting is a meeting **of the Board** for the purpose of conducting District business. While the public is welcome and encouraged to attend, this is not a public forum.

Public comment will only be taken during designated Public Comment periods listed on the agenda. Individuals who are on the agenda for a specific item may speak at the time their item is addressed.

District employees may speak when providing a scheduled report or when recognized by the Chair. Employees are not permitted to engage in discussion from the audience during Board deliberations.

Board discussion will occur between Board members, and all comments shall be directed through the Chair.

We ask that all attendees maintain professionalism and respect so the Board may conduct the District’s business efficiently and in accordance with state law.”



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2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Executive Session

6. Consent Agenda

The following items are considered routine and will be approved in one motion unless a Board Member requests separate discussion or action.

6.1 Approval of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting – February 4th, 2025

6.2 Financial Reports: Bills List, Bank Statements, Credit Card Statements, and Check Register

7. Public Comment

Members of the public may address the Board on items of district business not listed on the agenda (3–5 minutes per speaker, 15 minutes total). The Board Chair may extend or shorten comment time.

8. Correspondence

9. Fire Chief's Report

Administrative and operational updates, training, apparatus, and community engagement.

10. Union Business

Letter from union regarding entering negotiations. Future removal of Union Business

11. Old Business

11.1 Facilities Improvement Committee (met 3/2/2026)

11.2 Policy Committee (did not meet)



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11.3 Urban Renewal Committee review of documents from the city and possible action

11.4 Union Negotiations Committee (met 3/2/2026)

12. New Business

12.1 Discussion and possible action - Engine 11 (2018 Pierce Enforcer) Evaluation, Disposition, and Replacement Options.

12.2 Discussion and possible action - on eliminating the Roving Firefighter position and filling the Battalion Chief position.

12.3 Discussion and possible action board member training.

12.4 Discussion and possible action on budget committee candidates and appointment.

12.5 Discussion and possible action Exploring Temporary Administrative and Operational Support Options for Irrigon Fire Protection District

13. Items Not on the Agenda

Open discussion for brief comments or updates by Board, Staff, or Public. No formal action will be taken regarding items not listed on the agenda (ORS 192.640).

14. Agenda Suggestions for Future Meetings

15. Adjournment

Equal Opportunity Statement: This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Discrimination is prohibited under federal law. Requests for special accommodation to attend or participate in a public meeting can be made by contacting the Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District at (541) 922-3718.



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UMATILLA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting Date: _____

Prepared By: Christopher Baker, Fire Chief

Packet Date: March 02, 2026

Meeting Date: March 04, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 12.1 – Engine 11 (2018 Pierce Enforcer) Evaluation, Disposition, and Replacement Options

Agenda Type

Discussion and Possible Action

Executive Summary

The Board will evaluate the operational effectiveness, lifecycle cost, and long-term suitability of Engine 11 (2018 Pierce Enforcer PUC) and consider disposition and replacement options aligned with the district's strategic apparatus plan.

Background and Operational Review

Engine 11 currently serves as the district's primary structural engine. Operational and mechanical concerns have been documented including maintenance trends, braking and oil system issues, maneuverability limitations, and overall suitability for the district's mixed urban, rural, and wildland response environment.

Evaluation Considerations

- Mechanical reliability history
- Maintenance cost trends and projected lifecycle costs



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- Brake and oil system performance concerns
- Apparatus weight and maneuverability
- Cross-staffing and deployment limitations
- Compatibility with district operational model
- ISO and NFPA compliance considerations
- Resale or trade-in value
- Comparison to alternative lighter/custom chassis options

Fiscal Considerations

Financial impact is to be determined. Preliminary estimates suggest replacement costs may range from \$700,000 to \$1.2 million depending on configuration.

Additional considerations include resale value, financing options, reserve impacts, and long-term maintenance cost avoidance.

Operational Impact

Any change in apparatus will directly affect response capability, firefighter safety, staffing flexibility, and long-term fleet standardization.

Recommended Motion

I move to direct the Fire Chief to conduct a formal replacement feasibility and cost-benefit analysis for Engine 11 and return to the Board with specifications, financing options, and disposition recommendations.

AGENDA ITEM 12.2 – Organizational Structure: Roving Firefighter Elimination and Battalion Chief Position

Agenda Type

Discussion and Possible Action

Executive Summary



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The Board will consider eliminating the Roving Firefighter position and reallocating resources to establish or fill a Battalion Chief position to enhance supervision, training oversight, and command capacity.

Background and Organizational Review

An evaluation of the current staffing model indicates that enhanced supervisory leadership may better support operational readiness, training compliance, and long-term succession planning.

Key Considerations

- Span of control and supervisory effectiveness
- Training and safety oversight
- ISO documentation and compliance
- Administrative continuity
- Command presence and leadership development
- Succession planning and organizational stability

Fiscal Considerations

Analysis will include salary differentials, PERS and benefit impacts, potential overtime reduction, and overall budget neutrality or expansion.

Recommended Motion

I move to eliminate the Roving Firefighter classification and authorize recruitment for a Battalion Chief position consistent with the proposed job description and budget allocation.

AGENDA ITEM 12.3 – Board Member Governance Training

Agenda Type

Discussion

Executive Summary



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The Board will discuss governance best practices and statutory training opportunities to enhance effectiveness and ensure compliance with Oregon law.

Governance Areas of Focus

- Oregon Public Meetings Law
- Oregon Public Records Law
- Local Budget Law (ORS 294)
- Fiduciary responsibilities
- Ethical standards and conflict-of-interest rules
- Labor negotiation roles and boundaries
- Strategic planning oversight

Training Options

- Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO)
- Oregon Fire Chiefs Association
- In-house governance workshop
- Annual board retreat session

Fiscal Considerations

Training costs are expected to be minimal and dependent on provider selection.

Recommended Motion

No motion needed.

AGENDA ITEM 12.4 – Budget Committee Candidates and Appointment

Agenda Type

Discussion and Possible Action

Executive Summary



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The Board will review applicants for open Budget Committee positions and consider formal appointments consistent with Oregon Local Budget Law.

Background

Oregon law requires the Budget Committee to consist of all Board Members and an equal number of appointed electors. Vacancies must be filled to proceed with the upcoming budget cycle.

Board Considerations

- Candidate qualifications and experience
- Community representation
- Financial or civic background
- Balanced governance participation

Fiscal Impact

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with these appointments.

Recommended Motion

I move to appoint _____ to the Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District Budget Committee for a term of _____ years.

AGENDA ITEM 12.5 – Temporary Administrative and Operational Support Options for Irrigon Fire Protection District

Agenda Type

Discussion and Possible Action

Executive Summary

The Board will discuss whether to explore temporary administrative or operational support options for Irrigon Fire Protection District during its leadership transition.

Background and Strategic Context



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During leadership transitions, neighboring districts may face administrative and operational continuity challenges. This discussion will evaluate whether temporary support models align with URFPD's regional cooperation goals and resource capacity.

Potential Support Models

- Interim Fire Chief services
- Administrative oversight or consultation
- Operational advisory support
- Recruitment assistance
- Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) development

Key Considerations

- Liability exposure
- Cost recovery mechanisms
- Staff workload impact
- Regional strategic implications

Recommended Motion

I move to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Irrigon Fire Protection District to provide Fire Chief and Training Officer services on a temporary basis, with clearly defined scope, duration, liability protections, and full cost recovery provisions, subject to legal review.

OR

I move to direct staff to prepare a draft Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Irrigon Fire Protection District for temporary Fire Chief and Training Officer services, including defined scope, duration, liability protections, and full cost recovery, and return to the Board for final approval prior to execution



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