

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Special Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2025 - **AMENDED**

Present:	Jim Albee, Chair	John Curtis, Fire Chief
	Renee Anderson, Vice Chair	Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Govt. Affairs Officer
	William Shriver, Treasurer	Jake Mayhew, Deputy Chief – Emergency Services
	Sue Roche, Secretary	Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services
	Kevin Leung	Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Internal Services
	Rich Sokol	Camie Chapman, CHRO – Employee Services (absent)
	Phil McCart	Stephanie Corbo, CFO – Business Services
		Allison Ulmer, Legal Counsel

Others Present: SMFR Staff, Citizens

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Special Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Albee led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

ROLL CALL

All of the Board members were present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Director Anderson motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Roche. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion carried.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Chair Albee asked if there were any changes to conflict of interest affirmation:

- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Leung – no changes
- Director Sokol – no changes
- Phil McCart – no changes

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. **Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool Repayment Agreement**
Director Leung motioned to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Anderson seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion passed.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **SMFR Resolution No. 2025-05 A Resolution Calling for a November 4, 2025 Special Election and (1) Authorizing a Ballot Question on a Mill Levy Increase; and (2) Appointing a Designated Election Official** – Chief Dell’Orfano reminded they talked at the last meeting about preparing a property tax based resolution, so that is what Staff prepared as well as some of the whereas statements to walk through the process, issues we are having, stakeholder input and reason why. Chief Dell’Orfano reviewed the resolution. Exhibit A is the actual ballot language. This has not been distributed yet, and only Board and Legal Counsel have seen it. This is not addressing the property tax limit which is another Tabor item and requires another question on the ballot.

Chair Albee reviewed the PPT, memorializing how far we have come, noting that discussions regarding a ballot initiative began one year ago tomorrow, and you can see the progression and how Staff got the Board engaged.

A ballot discussion ensued centered on balancing the need to make the ballot language as strong as possible while staying as close to the sample ballot questions that were included in the surveys conducted earlier this year.

Director Sokol stated that he is not comfortable with a 3 mill increase so made some assumptions he thought were more appropriate and with those assumptions, he thinks the Board should go for a **lesser** mill increase.

The remaining board members expressed their interest in keeping the request at 3 mills with the adjusted language.

Director Albee motioned to approve SMFR Resolution No. 2025-05 A Resolution Calling for a November 4, 2025 Special Election and (1) Authorizing a Ballot Question on a Mill Levy Increase; and (2) Appointing a Designated Election Official as amended. Director Leung seconded the motion. 6 were in favor, 1 opposed (Director Sokol). The motion carried.

DISCUSSION / POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

N/A

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Correspondence items in the Board’s packet are summarized below as well as other information items that were communicated:

- Chief Burke – Most of the deployed units are back. One unit remains at the Lee Fire and demobilized on Tuesday. One member is on the Stoner Mesa Fire. The teams did a lot of good work and provided a great deal of assistance.
- Chief Powell – There are 18 recruits in the 2025-02 Academy, which is in week three. Looking forward to seeing them come on Line.
- Local 2086 Board Members Joe Sims and Pierce Jacoway thanked the Board for approving the resolution to move forward with a revenue ballot issue.
- Director McCart – Thanked Staff for taking the time to answer his questions & he attended his first Western Welcome Week, where his daughter got to see fire trucks moving for the first time since she could speak (she’s two years old). She was very excited.
- Director Anderson stated that Mountain View Fire lost one of their own in an off-duty accident. Sending condolences to them. Noting that she reviewed their strategic plan, which is an interesting comparison for an organization that is about half the size of SMFR.
- Chair Albee – Opened a discussion addressing internal policies related to Board absence classifications (excused vs unexcused), agreeing to clarify and possibly update their bylaws. The Board Bylaws Committee (Directors Leung and Shriver) will bring back recommendations. It was agreed to reclassify Director Sokol’s absence to excused on 7/21/25.
 - He and Director Anderson will be making a presentation about the Fire Chief Hiring Process at the SDA Conference in September.
 - Upcoming Events:
 - August 27th – Recognition Ceremony at Arapahoe Community College starting at 5:00 p.m.
 - August 23rd, September 27th, October 18th, November 8th – Adopt a Highway Volunteer Opportunity.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (UPON MOTION)

N/A

NEXT MEETING(S)

The next Regular South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on September 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

The next Special South Metro Fire Rescue District Board of Directors' meeting will take place on September 15, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. at 9195 East Mineral Avenue, Centennial, CO.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Attested by: 

Date: 9/8/25