

South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District
Regular Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2026

ATENDEES:

Board

Jim Albee, Chair
Renee Anderson, Vice Chair
William Shriver, Treasurer
Sue Roche, Secretary
Kevin Leung, Director
Rich Sokol, Director
Phil McCart, Director

SMFR Executive Team

John Curtis, Fire Chief
~~Mike Dell'Orfano, Chief Government Affairs Officer – Absent~~
Kristin Eckmann, Deputy Chief – Community Services
Matt Weller, Deputy Chief – Internal Services
Stephanie Corbo, Chief Financial Officer
Camie Chapman, Chief Human Resources Officer
~~Jake Mayhew, Deputy Chief – Emergency Services – Absent~~
Robert Cole, Legal Counsel

Other Attendees

SMFR Staff

Chris Blackwood, Senior Portfolio Manager - Chandler Asset Management
Julie Hughes, Senior Portfolio Strategist – Chandler Asset Management
Kyle Perry, Associate Portfolio Strategist – Chandler Asset Management
Camille Driver, 3015 Policy

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Chair Albee called the Regular Meeting of the South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District to order at 6:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

ROLL CALL

All board members were in attendance and present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Director Shriver motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Secretary Roche seconded the motion to approve. 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 McCart – no changes
- Director Roche – no changes
- Director Anderson – no changes
- Chair Albee- no changes
- Director Shriver – no changes
- Director Sokol – no changes

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

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CONSENT AGENDA

1. January 12, 2026, South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Director Sokol motioned to approve January 12, 2026, meeting minutes. Director Anderson second, 7 were in favor and 0 opposed. The motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Chandler Asset Management Report – Chandler Asset Management

Chris Blackwood, Senior Portfolio; Investment Pool Strategist; Julie Hughes, Senior Portfolio Strategist and Kyle Perry, Associate Portfolio Strategist from Chandler Asset Management attended the board meeting and gave the organization's investments economic update and capital investment strategy discussion. Including but not limited to, new property tax revenues approved by voters and how those funds may be invested for capital purposes. Julie Hughes expressed that U.S. economy exceeded expectations this past year. Growth remained strong despite inflation and a federal government shutdown. Consumer spending is being driven largely by higher-income households. The labor market is slowing but remains stable. Kyle Perry demonstrated that the performance of the organizations' investments remains strong. Highlighting that over one year, the portfolio returned to 5.9%, which outperforms the benchmark by approximately 17 basis points. Over three years, returns were 4.83% versus a benchmark of 4.73%. Over 20 years, performance continues to exceed the benchmark. With the voter-approved property tax increase, revenues will begin arriving in March. Much of this funding will be allocated for capital projects. Chandler recommends establishing a separate capital investment portfolio aligned with project timelines.

Under state statute, investments are generally limited to five years unless the Board adopts a resolution allowing longer maturities. This could better match investment maturity with capital spending needs.

2. Legislative Update – Camille Driver, 3015 Policy

Lobbyist, Camille Driver of 3015 Policy, presented a legislative update with the emphasis on the state and the projected \$850 million budget deficit. She shared that agencies should expect reductions. There are concerns around unfunded mandates, Medicaid reimbursement changes, and EMS transport billing. She emphasized that we are monitoring these issues closely and working defensively.

Recent hearings revealed Medicaid reimbursement fraud related to patient transport billing, involving millions of dollars involving HCFA (Health Care Financing Administration). This is receiving increased legislative attention.

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ACTION ITEMS

1. SMFR Resolution No. 2026-02: Intergovernmental Agreement for the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool - Chapman

Motion: Director Shriver motioned to approve 2026-02: Intergovernmental Agreement for the Colorado Special Districts Property and Liability Pool Agreement. Director McCart seconded the motion. 7 were in favor, 0 opposed. The motion carried.

DISCUSSION/POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

1. **Zoll Zenix Monitor Upgrade:** – Chief Pietryzk gave an in-depth presentation on the next generation Zoll Zenix platform that was released earlier than had been anticipated and would replace our current 2024 monitors. These new monitors would significantly improve usability, clinical decision support, ventilation feedback, and real-time quality management. SMFR has been presented with a limited-time upgrade opportunity through an early buyback program, allowing the agency to transition to the Zenix platform while maintaining fleet standardization and maximizing the value of the current investment.

Zoll's early trade-in offer maximizes current value, reduces maintenance risk through extended warranty coverage, and extends the monitor replacement cycle by approximately three years (2033 to 2036). Combined with SMFR's interest-free financing, upgrading now improves long-term budget predictability and avoids future out-of-warranty and financing cost pressures.

Chief Curtis gave special thanks to the Board and all parties involved in getting this implemented.

Motion: Director Anderson moved to approve the purchase upgrade of the Zoll equipment purchase of \$765k under the Zoll terms and conditions and with the budget funds appropriated. Director Shriver seconded the motion. 7 were in favor and 0 opposed. The motion carried.

2. **Community Risk Assessment – Standard of Cover (CRA-SOC):** Kim McAndrews, Strategic Services Manager and Scot Swindall, Accreditation Manager gave an overview of the draft Community Risk Assessment, Standard of Cover (CRA-SOC) for the organization in preparation for board approval and submittal for the accreditation review process. The CRA-SOC is a key document in the accreditation process and ensures that a fire agency analyzes its major risks, aligns services to help reduce and respond to those risks, and measures response performance. The key findings also help to guide the strategic plan, identify areas for improvement, and provide direction for how services will evolve in future years. SMFR's document is currently being finalized, and this presentation was intended to provide additional overview.

Director McCart emphasized the importance of this information in supporting board-level decisions, particularly regarding the timing and prioritization of new station openings. He expressed a desire to better understand how the data can be used to assess fire risk, population demographics, and health-related factors, such as areas with older populations and higher cardiac event risk to help determine which stations should be built first.

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INFORMATION ITEMS

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

1. **IGA Update – N/A**

Remarks:

Captain Pierce Jacoway shared upcoming professional development and legislative activities, including attendance at a legislative conference in Washington, D.C., where meetings with legislators are planned. Additional staff will attend the STRIVES conference (formerly the Affiliate Leadership Training Conference) in Las Vegas, including Chief Curtis. This conference is expected to offer valuable training opportunities, with hopes that deputies will bring back useful insights. He also noted that the Redmond Health Symposium has been consolidated with other events into a single conference. He acknowledged ongoing collaboration with Chief Curtis and the deputies on department committees, including the development of committee charters and increased staff involvement.

Lastly, he reminded all to feel free to come out for the Edge Hockey Tournament, May 15 - May 17, 2026. There is also a foundation golf tournament on September 24, 2026, at the Ridge Golf Course, feel free to sign-up and attend.

Chief Curtis shared that he attended the South Metro Denver Economic Breakfast with Chief Dell'Orfano, Director Anderson, Director Shriver and Director Leung, and enjoyed collaborating with everyone during that event. One takeaway was he learned the amount of people that will be flooding into our district for the Denver Summit Women's Professional Soccer Association that will be starting up soon. Their facility will be built just east of Centennial Airport at approximately Potomac and Fremont; it will be a 12,000-capacity stadium practice facility and will be a temporary home for that football league. This temporary location will be in our district. This project was funded half by the football league and half by Cherry Creek School District.

Chief Curtis and a few E-Team members attended the Critical Issues Briefing. He shared a few of the following highlighted topics discussed at the State Chiefs' level:

- Automated Intelligence (AI) and how it is impacting the fire service.
- Chief Richardson gave a great presentation on the Lithium-Ion battery use. Chief Curtis stated that he will be tackling the challenge to push the awareness regionally and partnering with partner agencies.
- Excel Energy participated in the conference, speaking about the recent power outages/shutdowns that they have had, and all the work that they were doing communicating with the communities to get through the most recent events. The perspective was good and they took it all very well.
- Lastly, the topic of Denver Fire's Medical Marijuana Policy was spoken to at the conference and knowing that there is a lot of implications and uneasiness with it. Chief Curtis stated that we have been working through a committee to continually look at what the city and county of Denver's policy is and making sure it is protective. But just to understand this topic will be on the horizon.

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Chief Curtis noted that there will be a recognition ceremony on February 17, 2026, at 6pm at Arapahoe Community College.

Director McCart wanted to add as he remarked in the 01.12.26 information items, that his CCTA scan was paid personally and not funded by the district.

Director Anderson wanted to make sure to note the address for our next meeting on February 23, 2026, at Windcrest Senior Living Community - Colorado Clubhouse is 8655 Flying B Way, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129, and old address was listed prior. Director Anderson also wanted to point out that Highlands Ranch Metro District mills is collecting 12.25 mills.

Director Shriver stated there is an event for the State of the Town for the Rotary Club of Parker on Wednesday, February 25, 2026, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm.

Chair Albee shared that during the Finance Committee meeting today they had an audit presentation from Fortis Mazar, showing that the audit is underway. The first draft will be presented to the Finance Committee on May 18th and then presented to the Board on June 1st and it can be acted on at that meeting, and if not, then action can be taken the following board meeting. All the different ways money is spent throughout the organization, expectations, and different investment strategies were discussed during the Finance and Audit Committee meeting, and it was very productive and constructive.

Chair Albee expressed his appreciation for all the work that went into the strategic plan retreat last week, and giving thanks to all that supported each of you that were there. He was encouraged by all the work that was done, and where we are going on the timeline with strategic plans.

Chair Albee had the pleasure of speaking with Kelly Stahlman recently and she is doing well. She was thinking about all of us wanted to share that she just got back from Australia. Going through the year of firsts... it would have been Bruce's birthday on February 10th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session held at this meeting.

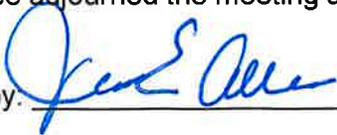
NEXT MEETINGS

Regular Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on February 23, 2026, at Windcrest Senior Living Community - Colorado Clubhouse located at 8655 Flying B Way, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Albee adjourned the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

Attested by: _____



Date: Mar 9, 2026