COLUMBUS RURAL FIRE DISTRICT #3
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY MEETING Minutes
October 12th, 2026

CALL MEETING TO ORDER Meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

Present Curt Robbins, Chuck Kronz, Brent Parkin, Debbie Parod, John Patterson
Fire Chief: Rich Cowger **Assistant Fire Chief**: Nick Jacobs **Admin Assistant** Lisa Westervelt
Visitors No visitors

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA None

Presentations or Communications

APPROVE MINUTES Minutes for the Columbus Rural Fire District #3 Board of Trustees Special Meeting on September 7th, the Special Public Meeting held jointly with Park City Fire District on September 7th, and the Columbus Rural Fire District #3 Board of Trustees September 14th were approved as presented.

TREASURER REPORT The treasurer's report was presented. See attached report. Income of $369,732.13 which includes $200,000 transfer from the ambulance district, and some tax deposits that are starting to come in. Expenses were $239,013.23, which includes payrolls, contract expenses, and transport fees for the dozer, and our building payment. **There was a motion made by Chuck to pay the bills in the amount of $239,013.23. John seconded the motion, voted all in favor, motion carried**.

CHIEF REPORT See attached. Chief Cowger provided more information about the dozer transport costs: The board had approved a potential dozer acquisition in July. The one that we were originally looking at didn't meet our needs, but there was also a D6 available if we wanted. The onsite mechanic looked it over and approved it, so we were able to get that dozer and just pay the transportation fees. We could surplus our John Deer and trailer to cover that cost. This would need a surplus resolution later to approve that process.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **PCRFD/CRFD Consolidation – Update** Protest period ends on Friday, then each district will go through a certification process. We had several posts on social media to share information on the consolidation plans and process. Debbie asked who can start working on new policies, procedures, etc. Is that something both current boards work on? Chief Cowger said once selected and seated, the new board could work on those, and they would be formally approved by the new board on July 1, 2027.

NEW MEMBER APPROVAL Alexander Langman was recommended as a new resident. **Debbie moved to approve Alexander as a new resident. Chuck seconded the motion, voted all in favor, motion carried.**

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OLD BUSINESS

- New brush truck build – Skid Unit Grant update

NEW BUSINESS

- **BC/BS Healthcare renewal – Discussion-Decision**
  Premiums increased 16% for the 2027 policy year. This increase is covered by the permissive health care levy. It was asked if the policy will need to be re-quoted in July with the consolidation and name change. The providers are aware of the possibility of consolidation, have not yet said anything about any changes that would be needed due to the consolidation. **Debbie made a motion to approve the proposed BC/BS Healthcare renewal. Chuck seconded the motion, voted all in favor and motion carried.**

- **Approval of travel for National Wildland Fire Partner Engagement Forum – Chief Cowger – December**
  John moved to approve a $3,000 budget for Chief Cowger to attend the forum. Brent seconded the motion, voted all in favor and motion carried.

OTHER MEMBERS BUSINESS: After the consolidation is approved, John would like to have an informal "family" dinner to bring Park City Fire and Columbus Fire members together. John could see if Charlie could provide some meat, Curt could cater, would the association possibly help fund? John offered to donate $500 towards the cost of the dinner, Debbie also offered to donate $500. Curt said he would reduce the bill by $500 to match the other donations. A date will be determined. John would like to see if we could have the dinner at the Special K Ranch gym.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/Public Comment items not on agenda: None

ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM

NEXT MEETING November 9th – 5:30 PM Fire Station 944 E. Pike Ave, Columbus

Minutes submitted by Lisa Westervelt

Chairman: Curt Robbins

Secretary: Debbie Parod