

Klamath County Fire District 1
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting Minutes
5:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 19, 2026
Central Fire Station
143 N. Broad Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601

1. Call Meeting to Order

President Storey called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Storey led the Board and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance then asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of retired Firefighter Bryan Carpenter.

3. Roll Call of Directors

Present:

Gloria Storey, President

Mike Jones, Vice-President

Mike Kuntz, Secretary Treasurer

Steve Leslie, Director

Nick Randall, Director

4. Approval of the Agenda

Director Leslie made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Kuntz, motion carried five to zero.

5. Approval of Minutes

a. April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

Secretary Treasurer Kuntz made a motion to approve the April 21, 2026, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Director Randall, motion carried five to zero.

b. May 7, 2026 Special Meeting Minutes

Vice-President Jones made a motion to approve the May 7, 2026, special meeting minutes, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Kuntz motion carried five to zero.

6. Financial Reports

a. April 2026 Financial Reports

Secretary Treasurer Kuntz made a motion to approve the April 2026 financial report, seconded by Director Randall, motion carried five to zero.

b. Ratification of April 2026 Bills

Secretary Treasurer Kuntz made a motion to approve the April 2026 bills, seconded by Director Leslie, motion carried five to zero.

c. April 2026 EMS Billing Reports

Vice-President Jones made a motion to approve the April 2026 EMS billing reports, seconded by Secretary Treasurer Kuntz, motion carried five to zero.

d. May Billing Days Out Report

DAS Hull reported billing is currently 5 days out.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Station 1 Construction Update

DC Hitchcock reported the project is on schedule and explained the plan for security; the project is scheduled to be complete late July or early August.

b. SDAO Organizational Assessment Plan Update

FC Knutson thanked the Board members for participating in the evaluation. The plan will probably be ready to present in July or August.

c. 2026-2027 Budget Committee Meetings Review

FC Knutson confirmed the first meeting is scheduled for June 8 and the second meeting, if needed, is scheduled for June 10. The proposed budget will be to Board and committee members by June 5.

8. New Business

a. Resolution 2026-01 – Adopting Funding Change for PERS Contribution

DAS Hull provided some background and read the resolution in full, explaining the OPERS contribution change by both the members and the District, effective July 1, 2026.

Secretary Treasurer Kuntz made a motion to adopt the PERS contribution funding change as presented, seconded by Director Leslie, motion carried five to zero.

b. Insurance Committee Recommendation

DAS Hull reported the current Regence plan came in with a 25.5% increase. Due to the large increase and the fact that Regence is currently in a contract dispute with OHSU (there are District employees who rely on OHSU services), the Committee requested the Wilson-Heirgood representative go back to market for quotes; the Committee will meet tomorrow to review those proposals. The Board agreed to hold a special Board meeting on June 8, 12:00 p.m., to consider the Committee's recommendation to be effective July 1, 2026. FC Knutson provided an overview of the insurance structure written in the CBA.

At this time, the Board is now acting as Contract Review Board and will take up the matter of:

c. KC911 Priority Dispatch Contract

FC Knutson requested Board approval for the District to partner with Klamath 911 the first year only by paying 45% of the ProQA implementation costs as the program will be extremely beneficial to the District and will allow for a lot of operational flexibility. The total expense will be \$55,830. The implementation of ProQA will also benefit other county departments.

Director Leslie made a motion to approve the contract with Klamath 911 for the implementation of ProQA, not to exceed \$55,830, seconded by Vice-President Jones, motion carried five to zero.

At this time, the Board is no longer acting as the Contract Review Board and the next item on the agenda is:

9. Informational Reports

Fire Chief and Operations

a. Fire Chief Activity Memo May

FC Knutson recognized FM Tramp, DC Denney, DC Hitchcock, DAS Hull, and DC Brimmer for a ton of hard work going on right now with projects, etc. DC Brimmer agreed to stay as Operations Chief through the end of August. A radio group subcommittee was established at the most recent Fire Defense Board meeting to work on portable and mobile radio grants for next year; it is a huge undertaking to

apply for AFG grants but is needed to correct radio problems throughout the county. Operation Prom Night was an amazing event led by retired firefighter Leon Spiesschaert and Captain Ryan Meyer, with several District 1 members taking part. The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association (OFCA) Spring Conference was last week and FC Knutson noted key takeaways.

- b. Thank you Correspondence
No discussion.

Deputy Chief – Operations

- a. Deputy Chief – Operations Activity Memo May
DC Brimmer highlighted attending the Task Force Leader Symposium with BC Hoskins and Captain Van Essen, that there are currently four trainees for Task Force Leader certificates, and there is a lot of movement in the District for wildland fire certifications. The District hosted the 8th Annual ODF Spring Meeting providing an opportunity for collaboration among District Officers and ODF Duty Officers in regard to the upcoming fire season. There were six structure fires since the start of April and BC Brimmer is working on civilian recognitions for rescue measures taken. Captain Friend is organizing an MDA “Fill the Boot” event, to be tied in with the Klamath Kruise on June 27. It was a great honor for District personnel to be nominated for a Unit Citation and to be recognized with the award at the OFCA conference for a structure fire rescue in November.
- b. April Incident Activity
No discussion.

Deputy Chief – Support Services

- a. Deputy Chief – Support Services Activity Memo May
DC Hitchcock provided an update on apparatus and ambulance repairs; a lot of minor issues are being caught now by working with county shops. The Rural Health Transformation Grant is due next week with a request of \$1.7 million. The Deputy Fire Marshal/Community Risk Reduction Coordinator position hiring process was held today and DC Hitchcock expressed appreciation to Secretary Treasurer Kuntz for participating. A BLM grant application was submitted with a focus on radios, a staff rig, and a Type 6 brush rig; there is no timetable on when a decision will be made.

Division Chief – Training

- a. Division Chief - Training Activity Memo May
DC Denney provided an update on the EMS and fire academies, noting upstaffing and schedule modifications to reduce overtime. The monthly training overview included details on FTEP status, fire and EMS training, HealthStream system orientation, rescue training, officer development trainings, and a Klamath-Lake County Training Association training being hosted by the District.

Division Chief – Fire Marshal

- a. Division Chief - Fire Marshal Activity Memo May
FM Tramp reported there are four good candidates scheduled for Chief’s interviews for the Deputy Fire Marshal/Community Risk Reduction Coordinator position, the MERCC implementation for the new OIT housing building is proceeding, Station 5 community education landscaping has been expanded and the defensible space fire-resistive plants are doing well. FM Tramp provided an update on plan reviews, fire season start date of May 22, human caused brush fires, and reported 179 tons of debris has been removed through the Community Risk Reduction program so far this season. Prevention will have a booth at Benefit for the Basin.

10. Public comment

None.

11. Adjourn and Move into Executive Session *(The Board will not reconvene to regular session.)*

Motion to adjourn by Secretary Treasurer Kuntz, seconded by Director Randall, motion carried five to zero.

The regular session adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

12. Executive Session

Under ORS section 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

Executive Session was called to order at 5:53 p.m. and was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Klamath County Fire District 1 Board of Directors will be at the Central Fire Station, 143 N. Broad Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97601 on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER SIGNATURES



PRESIDENT



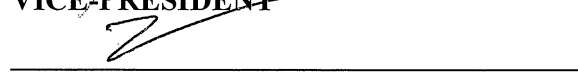
SECRETARY TREASURER



DIRECTOR



VICE-PRESIDENT



DIRECTOR