

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Rachel Fellis-President
Wayne (Dusty) Kuhl
Odas Coleman
Vanessa Swenson
Nic Schrock



FIRE CHIEF
Rob Garrison

ASSISTANT CHIEF
Brett Swenson

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
Jamie Chamberlin

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

490 Church Street, Aumsville OR 97325

March 19, 2026

Call to order: Meeting called to order by President Rachel Fellis at 18:32 or 6:32 pm

Attendance:

Board members: Present: Rachel Fellis, Wayne Kuhl (telephone-delayed), Nic Schrock, Odas Coleman, Vanessa Swenson

Staff: Chief Robert Garrison, Office Administrator Jamie Chamberlin

Volunteer: Josh Phillis, Brayton Scott, Tyler Marquez

Public: Jim Wallace, Henry Bartle, June Wallace, Angelo Casperetti, Kathleen Gould signed in – Vicky Barbur spoke but did not sign in. There were more that did not sign in to speak

Flag Salute led by Director Swenson

Approval of March 19, 2026, Agenda: Action: Director Coleman made the motion to approve the agenda without changes. Seconded by Director Schrock. **In favor:** Directors Fellis, Coleman, Schrock, Swenson. **Opposed:** None

Approval of February 12, 2026 meeting minutes: Action: Director Coleman made the motion to approve the February 12 meeting minutes. Seconded by Director Swenson. **In favor:** Directors Fellis, Coleman, Schrock, Swenson. **Opposed:** None.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: No major changes in the financial reports. Tender 65 needs a bearing repair done. The district got a security grant from SDAO for matching funds up to \$2500. The district has contracted with a company to replace the cameras at both stations to a web-based system with better cameras and better coverage. The staff will be able to access the cameras from their computers and cell phones.

Volunteer Association. No comment from volunteers.

Public Comments: Mr. and Mrs. Wallace came to address the fence issue. Mr. Wallace asked the Board to reconsider paying for the fence as they had offered prior to the ruling from the Judge that he had waited too long to be reimbursed. (see Judge ruling). Mr. Wallace was accompanied by Henry Bartle from Independence Oregon that spoke and asked the Board to please pay so the issue could be resolved. After a lengthy discussion with other community members speaking, the Board requested that they table the decision until the April 9, 2026, meeting.

Action: Director Schrock made the motion to delay communicating the decision until the April 9 meeting to allow the board additional time to discuss the issue. Motion seconded

by Director Swenson. **In Favor:** Directors Fellis, Coleman, Schrock, Swenson.
Opposed: None

Director Kuhl joined the meeting at 7:20pm

New Business: Chapter 03 Duties of the Board Policy review:

President Fellis read the policy.

Director Coleman made the motion to accept the policy as read. Director Swenson seconded. **In favor:** Directors Fellis, Kuhl, Coleman, Schrock and Swenson.

Opposed: None

Jamie brought to the attention of the Board members that there is an Audit workshop on March 31, 2026. If any of the members would like to attend, she will RSVP for them.

Director Fellis would like to go and is encouraging all other members to go as well. It is at 10am at the Linn County Fairgrounds.

Old Business: 4th Street fence: Director Fellis and Chief Garrison spoke on the litigation

procedure. The Judge asked Mr. Wallace if he had been offered ½ of the quoted value of replacing the fence, Mr. Wallace stated he did. The Judge then asked if he would accept the \$1800 that was discussed in mediation. Mr. Wallace refused. The Judge then asked if the Fire district was a Rural Fire Protection District. Chief Garrison said it was. The Judge then ruled that process must be requested within 180 days of the date that the fence was taken down. Since Mr. Wallace did not request recompense for the fence within that time frame, the Judge dismissed the case.

After further discussion, Director Schrock made the motion that the board would pay Mr. Wallace \$0. The motion was seconded by Director Swenson. **In favor.** Directors Fellis, Kuhl, Coleman, Swenson and Schrock. **Opposed:** None.

Director Coleman also asked if we could have a uniformed police officer on site in case the meeting got heated.

Policy 4 review. Director Fellis read the policy segments out loud. There are a lot of corrections due to older ORS numbers being used and language that is no longer needed. After discussion of the segments, Director Coleman made the motion to table the Policy 4 to the next meeting. Director Swenson seconded the motion. **In Favor:** Directors Fellis, Kuhl, Coleman, Schrock and Swenson. **Opposed:** None

SDAO conference. Director Swenson attended the conference. She felt that it would be beneficial for all board members to attend. She got a lot of good information and took a lot of notes. She felt that the Board should have a work session to address the station remodel, strategic planning and goals for the year. She will send out a text to the board members with dates.

A reminder for Assistant Chief Swenson to set up all the board members and send them an invite to take the public meeting law training was addressed. Jamie will remind him to send the invite to the board members.

Chief's Report: Seattle stair climb. Chief Garrison said that 7 members of Aumsville Fire attended the Seattle stair climb. Brayton Scott gave some of the times of the volunteers who climbed. They all had a good time.

The volunteer awards banquet was on March 14. Assistant Chief Swenson cooked the Meat, and the association had the sides catered. It was very well attended.

There was a brush fire in Turner earlier this week. Chief Garrison was concerned about how dry the ground already was.

Architect walk through. Two architect firms toured the station this week. They will submit plans for remodels.

Director Fellis asked about a line item on the budget for cost recovery. Do we charge people any more for accidents if they are not from our district. Chief Garrison said that the reason it was at zero is because all the accidents we have gone on have been locals.

Good of the Order: None

Board worksession is scheduled for April 6 at 6:30 pm and the Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2026 at 6:30 pm.

Adjourn: **Action:** *Motion to adjourn by Director Coleman and was seconded by Director Schrock. In Favor: Directors Fellis, Kuhl, Schrock, Swenson and Coleman. Opposed: None. Meeting was adjourned at 20:53 (8:53 pm)*

Rachel Fellis, President _____ Date: _____

Vanessa Swenson, Secretary _____ Date: _____