

MINUTES

for
January 14, 2026

The Regular Glacier View Fire Protection District (GVFPD) Board meeting was called to order by President Lamb at 7:00 pm.

Board of Directors Members present: President Berton Lee Lamb, Vice President Steve Groeteke, Treasurer David Thompson, Director Henry Hudson, Director Daniel Laabs.

Fire Department Members present: Amari Victoria - Secretary, Tom Hausfeld - Community Wildfire Protection Plan Implementation Team (CWPP IT) Coordinator, Elisabeth Menning - CWPP IT member and Information/Education Officer, Fred De Lano - GVFPD Budget Committee Chair, Paul Burek – CWPP IT member and Firewise organizer.

Public Members present: Les Thurman, Craig and Lora Gaskill, Steve Cummings (former GVFPD Designated Election Official – DEO).

Action January 14, 2026, GVFPD Board of Directors meeting Agenda, was accepted as presented, without dissent.

Former DEO Steve Cummings was in attendance. The GVFPD Board of Directors discussed Steve's 2025 responsibilities as DEO for the election originally scheduled for last May (the election was cancelled).

After the discussion, Steve was asked if he would be willing to be the DEO for the May 2026 election; he answered affirmatively.

Action Treasurer Thompson moved to appoint Steve Cummings as the GVFPD Designated Election Official for the 2026 election. Director Hudson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Swearing-In of New Members

President Lamb asked Steve Cummings to stand in front of the Board of Directors and meeting attendees, to be officially sworn in as the Glacier View Fire Protection District Designated Election Official. President Lamb administered the oath to complete Steve's swearing in. All attendees of the GVFPD Board of Directors meeting expressed congratulations to Steve. Steve thanked the Board of Directors.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of December 8, 2025, GVFPD Board of Directors meeting are included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet.

Action Vice President Groeteke moved to approve the Minutes for December 8, 2025, GVFPD Board of Directors meeting, as presented. Director Hudson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Treasurer's Report

A detailed Treasurer's Report is included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet.

Treasurer Thompson reviewed Treasurer's Report, beginning with the checks written for greater than \$1000. Included were charges for remote starts and backup cameras, 2026 Fire Aware Colorado (FACO) conference fees, and miscellaneous Fire ---Department (FD) credit card charges.

Following this, Treasurer Thompson discussed the Monthly Profit & Loss (P & L) sheets, bringing attention to lines 660 Vehicles account, as well as 717 Training/Conference account.

Regarding the Annual P & L Treasurer Thompson once again pointed out and discussed the over budget accounts. The following non-budgeted items were the cause of the over budget accounts, without these, the total expense amount is within the budget.

Over-budgeted items:

1. New apparatus purchase (2) engines,
2. Squad 1 replacement, Squad 2 purchase, and,
3. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) training reimbursement for Paramedic training.

Treasurer Thompson mentioned that an audit of GVFPD will occur in 2026.

Board discussion included whether being over budget in 2025 is typical or usual (it is not) and from what source does GVFPD receive funding (primarily property taxes, grants and donations).

Action Director Hudson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Director Laabs seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief's Report

Chief Knox's detailed report is included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet.

Chief Knox was unable to attend in-person, or via Zoom. A short discussion occurred concerning attendance by the Assistant Chief. Normally, when the Chief is unable to attend, an Assistant Chief would fill-in, however, even the Assistant Chief was unable to attend. In the Chief's absence. President Lamb reviewed the Chief's Report.

President Lamb reported the number of calls in the previous month (see Board Packet) as well as the types of calls. President Lamb commented on the large number of GVFPD website page views (7,246)!

Updates:

- Bylaw and Handbook revisions – no change.
- Use Agreement with University of Denver (DU) – the Chief has not yet met with DU.

Additional information not included in the Chief's Report:

- The storage tank discussed in the Chief's Report is in the GVFPD facilities plan. The facilities plan needs to be reviewed to determine what projects to be included are valid in 2026.
- Concerning the GVFPD manning of the DU building where GVFPD will store equipment, some discussion occurred suggesting that a GVFPD volunteer who lives on/near Lady Moon may fill this role. Further discussion ensued concerning timing/logistics of call response and allowable access to the DU building. An electronic lock was suggested so that the first fire fighter (FF) arriving would access the building.

The Administrative Officer's Report is also included in the Board Packet, however, it was not reviewed.

Action Director Hudson moved to approve the Chief's Report as presented. Treasurer Thompson seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried 5-0.

CWPP IT

A detailed CWPP IT Report is included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet.

CWPP IT Coordinator Tom Hausfeld reviewed the report included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet. Additional information not included in the Coordinator's Report:

- One (1) assessment had been completed in January 2026 at the time of the Board meeting. One (1) more assessment was completed in 2025 than in 2024.
- Along with a table cover and signage, a banner is being designed/created for Firewise.
- Along with Info/Education Officer Elisabeth Menning and AO Lucas working together to improve the website, they create and post to NextDoor every two weeks. The newsletter is also being revived.
- The CWDG (Colorado Wildfire Defense Grant) cannot be used for equipment (e.g. a tractor and trailer to haul it with), as every grant has requirements and restrictions with which the recipients must comply.
- The CWDG may include money available to the public for mitigation of personal properties.
- The FRWRM grant decision is slated for February 11, 2026.
- Mitigation volunteers have in the past been using personal equipment to perform mitigation tasks, however, today a dump trailer, the old Squad 1, saws (tree and chainsaws) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) etc., are available for use. Missing pieces of equipment vital to mitigation tasks are a tractor, and a trailer to haul it with.

Action Director Hudson moved to accept the CWPP IT Report as presented. Vice President Groeteke seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Committee Reports Budget Committee

Budget Committee Chair De Lano's detailed report is included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet.

Chair De Lano explained the sheet in his report, thoroughly summarizing the quarterly balances as 2025 progressed.

Chair De Lano was asked who was on the Budget Committee and whether anyone was joining or leaving the Committee. The 2025 Budget Committee members were Treasurer Thompson, Director Hudson, Chief Knox and Chair De Lano, as well as AO Lucas, to supply information to the Committee. No changes to the Budget Committee membership are expected in 2026.

Action Vice President Groetke moved to accept the CWPP IT Report as presented. Director Hudson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Unfinished Business

Policy for Paramedic Training:

President Lamb asked Director Hudson to report on his discussion with Chief Knox concerning Handbook and Bylaw modifications and any guidance provided.

Director Hudson reported that he had conversed with the Chief and described a possible Policy for Paramedic Training. During discussion of the proposed policy, it was determined that the policy, if approved, would be added to the GVFPD Handbook, and would not be required to be added to the Bylaws.

After the proposal was discussed by the Board, the following action was taken.

Action Director Laabs moved to authorize chief to contact legal counsel, send the guidelines for a Paramedic training reimbursement policy for their review and request proper language for addition to GVFPD Handbook. The guidelines of the Policy for Paramedic Training are as follows:

- Reimbursement for Paramedic Training is based on experience where:
 - 0 to 3 years of experience would have no reimbursement.
 - 3+ to 7 years of experience would have Paramedic Training reimbursed at one-half of the tuition.
 - 7+ years of experience would have Paramedic Training tuition reimbursed fully.
- If reimbursed, the recipient would be required to remain a GVFPD EMS volunteer for a period of two years beyond receiving Paramedic certification, else repayment to GVFPD of the reimbursement amount in-full would be required.

Treasurer Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Coverage for Mitigation Volunteers:

Director Hudson pointed out that during CWPP IT mitigation work there can be both CWPP IT volunteers, as well as 'slash haulers' who are not CWPP IT members, and was concerned about insurance coverage, especially for those non-CWPP IT member volunteers.

Subsequent discussion of this topic revealed that non-CWPP IT member volunteers are required to sign a liability waiver before being allowed to work and are only allowed to haul slash (not allowed to use mitigation machinery). CWPP IT member volunteers, having been sworn-in as GVFPD members, are covered by the fire department's insurance when performing mitigation work.

Action President Lamb moved to assign Director Hudson and CWPP IT Coordinator Hausfeld to develop a plan for insurance and liability for volunteers who are not CWPP IT members. Director Laabs seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Revoke 2019 Policy for Contacting Legal Counsel

President Lamb reviewed the first suggested motion in the Actions for GVFPD January 2026 Meeting Arranged by Agenda Items document. As evidence that the Policy should be revoked, he cited that the included excerpt from the 2019 Policy for Contacting Legal Counsel indicated specific Board officers who no longer serve on the GVFPD Board of Directors. After a short Board discussion, the following action was taken:

Action Treasurer Thompson moved that the policy of June 15, 2019, and any other policy action by the GVFPD Board regarding contacting legal counsel is revoked. Director Laabs seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Guidelines for Attorney Review of Language for New Policy on Contacting Legal Counsel

President Lamb reviewed the second suggested motion which contained potential guidelines for a new policy regarding contacting legal counsel. The Board engaged in much discussion of the proposed guidelines included in the motion proposal. After the discussion the following action was taken:

Action Director Hudson moved to approve the authorization of the President to contact legal counsel requesting a statement of policy following these principles:

- 1) The Chief should be authorized to contact legal counsel regarding administrative and personnel issues.
- 2) The Board President or a Board member should be authorized to contact legal counsel for policy questions in the case where an urgent response is needed.
- 3) In all situations, notice of contact and findings must be given to the Administrative Officer (AO) and reported at the next Board meeting.

Director Laabs seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Anderson and Whitney Letter

During discussion of the Anderson and Whitney Letter, included in January 14, 2026, Board Packet, it was determined that since an audit is required in 2026, that the letter is not the appropriate letter. It is, in fact, a letter regarding an Application for Exemption of Audit. As the handling of this letter is under the purview of the Treasurer, Treasurer Thompson will communicate with AO Lucas regarding the obtaining of the proper letter from Anderson and Whitney.

Resolution to Set Mill Levies

President Lamb summarized the Resolution to Set Mill Levies document included in January 14, 2026, Board packet. The Board had, at a past Board meeting, determined that the entire Resolution need not be read into the record, and summarizing the Resolution to provide understanding of the contents of the Resolution is sufficient.

Action President Lamb moved to adopt the Resolution to Set Mill Levies. Treasurer Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1. Director Laabs abstained.

Public Comments

These comments are paraphrased.

- Elisabeth Menning, speaking as a GVFPD CWPP IT member, commented that she had spoken to AO Lucas about reviving the GVFPD Newsletter, that there will be one, and that work on an issue was ongoing. She mentioned that the deadline for content for the newsletter is January 31st, 2026. Elisabeth also mentioned that she is interested in joining the Budget Committee, and finally, she thanked the Board of Directors for their work.
- Tom Hausfeld, speaking as CWPP IT Coordinator, commented “great weather, terrible for fires”.
- Speaking as a GVFPD member, Les Thurman commented that things that have been left alone are being put in order.
- Fred Delano, speaking as Budget Committee Chair, questioned the motion for the Policy for Paramedic Training Reimbursement, as no cap was mentioned for maximum tuition amount.
- Speaking as a CWPP IT member and Firewise organizer, Paul Burek asked the Board members if the Board had any requests, i.e. was there anything they wanted to see for Firewise.
- Craig and Lora Gaskill, who had to leave the meeting before it adjourned, was given an opportunity for public comment by Info/Education Officer Menning via an email request. The response was forwarded to President Lamb, who asked Secretary Victoria to include it in these minutes. Their response is as follows:

“Hi Elizabeth,

Thank you so much for reaching out.

I'm sorry we couldn't have stayed longer, it was getting late and we get up early to send kiddos off to school.

We do have a public comment if it's allowed.

I feel we left early and probably missed a great deal.

a) regarding the EMT training for \$11k, our concerns were that the commitment time of 2 years is too short. A commitment of at least 4 years would be the recommendation. That's a large investment in an employee.

Thank you again!

Craig and Lora

Warmest Regards

(Although the Gaskill’s comment mentions EMT training reimbursement, the reimbursement is actually for Paramedic training.)

Directors Comments:

President Lamb

- President Lamb commented that he typically has an agenda planning meeting the Thursday following the Board meeting open to all (though only one other Board member may attend), however, is unable to meet on January 15, 2026. Therefore, the agenda-planning meeting will be held on January 22, 2026, at 11:00 am at Fire Station #1.

Vice President Groeteke

- Vice President Groeteke expressed thanks to the EMS volunteers, the CWPP IT volunteers, Budget Committee Chair De Lano and to the Board Chair, President Lamb.

Treasurer Thompson

- Treasurer Thompson indicated that he had been ruminating on all that occurred in the obtaining of the new apparatus, like the establishment of a mill levy for funding, the cooperation among the Board (both previous and current), and all that had to happen. From start to finish, the process was well done.

Director Hudson

- Director Hudson expressed thanks to the EMS and CWPP IT volunteers for all they do and expressed his appreciation of them.

Director Laabs

- Director Laabs echoed the gratitude for the volunteers, and truly appreciates the effort and amount thereof involved to get things done. He also inquired about public comments for those who attend the Board meeting but must depart before Public Comments are heard.

A short Board discussion about Director Laabs inquiry followed his comment, and it was suggested that the Public Comments section of the Board meeting could happen earlier during the subsequent Board meetings, or perhaps the meeting could be interrupted in order take public comments from the departing person(s), or perhaps the public could be queried during agenda discussion section of the Board meeting for comments on agenda topics. President Lamb will give this some thought.

Action President Lamb moved to adjourn the regular meeting of the GVFPD Board. Treasurer Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

President Lamb declared the meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amari Victoria, Secretary

Board Actions

- Approved appointment of Steve Cummings as the GVFPD Designated Election Official.
- Approved the revocation of the policy of June 15, 2019, and any other policy action by the GVFPD Board regarding contacting legal counsel.
- Approve the authorization of the President to contact legal counsel requesting a statement of policy following these principles:
 1. The chief should be authorized to contact legal counsel regarding administrative and personnel issues.
 2. The Board President or a Board member should be authorized to contact legal counsel for policy questions in the case where an urgent response is needed.
 3. In all situations, notice of contact and findings must be given to the Administrative Officer (AO) and reported at the next Board meeting.
- Approved adoption of Resolution to Set Mill Levies.

Acronyms

AICPA – American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

AO – Administrative Officer

CWDG – Community Wildfire Defense Grant

CWPP IT – Community Wildfire Protection Plan Implementation Team

DLG – Department of Local Government

DOLA – Department of Local Affairs

DU – University of Denver

EMS – Emergency Medical Services

FACO – Fire Adapted Colorado

FD – Fire Department

FRWRM – Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation

GV – Glacier View

GVFD – Glacier View Fire Department

GVFPD – Glacier View Fire Protection District (also referred to as the ‘District’)

GVM – Glacier View Meadows

HOA – Homeowners Association

P & L – Profit & Loss

Q4 – for example, 4th quarter

SAM – US Government System for Award Management

SSARS – Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services

NEXT BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 11, 2026