

HOTCHKISS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

Meeting minutes May 11, 2026

Board Members Kathy Welt, Ron Prosser, Diane Walker, Zach Hotchkiss, Dan Miller was absent.

Niki Carpenter is also present

Meeting called to order by Vice President Kathy Welt 6:48pm

Diane Walker makes a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 13, 2026, Zach Hotchkiss seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report

GF \$113096.88

Fireman Fund \$6230.92

Special Project \$5822.51

Pension Fund \$856022.01

A/P bills \$26707.44 which includes the Credit card charges \$5796.10

Zach Hotchkiss makes a motion to approve the Treasurer report and bills presented; Ron Prosser seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Fire Chief reports

HFD responded to 1, structure fire, 1 car fire, 1 tree fire, 2 wrecks, and 1 power pole fire.

HFD hosted 2 Saw classes, with attendees from surrounding communities, and people from as far away as Wyoming.

Fire fighters also attended a CPR class.

Doug has the water turned off to the landscaping to prevent freezing. He will get the water and the swamp coolers hooked up and running next week.

Personnel changes, losing one fire fighter

No subdivision

Wildfire academy will be held at CMU, and 2 students will be attending and Doug will be teaching.

Doug is working on community risk assessment.

SAM.gov is restored which will be used for grant funding.

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Doug is working with surrounding communities to distribute the excess foam that West Elk Coal has. Doug will take 15 barrels for the HFD.

VFA grant has been applied for, Safer grant has paid some of the invoices submitted. We did receive 4th Qtr of 2025 Stipend checks for the fire fighters (10).

COSWAP grant funded the 2 Saw classes held at the station. 24 Students and 7 students were from our department.

Doug and Niki met with our attorney Carol Viner. She will write the resolutions needed for this election and help with the wording for the ballot. She stated that the wording from the survey was a little too wordy and would help clear that up. We will need to figure out the cap for the Tabor so that we don't have to refund the money to the taxpayers.

We should have the resolutions for the election by the June meeting; Cally will contact Carol Viner to make sure the timing is correct for everything. Also, needed election official is needed.

Once we notify the county then we will need to form a group to advocate for us. The board, employees and fire fighters will not be allowed to advocate for us.

Niki will speak to the Auxiliary board to see if they can put a group together.

Sale of E14 – 3 bids were submitted; high bid was \$12459.63. Other bids were significantly lower.

Ron Prosser makes a motion to except high bid of \$12459.63, if high bid does not come up with the money, then Doug can repost the vehicle for sale. Zach Hotchkiss seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned 8:30pm