Nederland Fire Protection District Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2026

** This meeting is being recorded **

Roll Call

Guy Falsetti – Present
Todd Wieseler – Present
Russ Panneton – Absent, excused
Bob Sheehan – Present
Ryan Keeler – Present
Chief Charlie Schmidtmann – Present

Announce Quorum and Call Meeting to Order @ 19:02

Approve the meeting agenda: 4-0-0

Acceptance of previous meeting minutes: 4-0-0

Public Statements, Comments or Questions

- None.

Treasurer's Report

- We have $1,339,023 in unreserved funds.
- September's tax revenue was $59,400.
- September's spend of $148,773 was as predicted.
- Tax revenue is at 96% of annual expectation.
- Total Budgeted Income is $1,883,863. Pending Income is $104,058.
- Total YTD spend is $1,480,337, which exceeded prediction primarily due to the approved expenditures for the Wildland Team.
- New Type 3 payment pending.
- Funds are in good shape for other large payments.
- 2026 predictive model shows we are ahead relative to prediction.
- Ned Fire financials are looking very good for strategic investments going forward.
- We have engaged an accountant and have clarity on budgeting procedures and budget amendments going forward.
- Budget meeting – propose to move regular monthly meeting up a week – one meeting is always better than two.

Chief's Report

- Calls to date 406.
- Calls since last meeting 42.

- Injury accident on Caribou road the driver needed to be transported.
- Mutual aid to Timberline: for -
    - A Medical Alarm.
    - Sick with vomiting person.
    - Injury accident.
    - Unconscious party.
- Bicycle crash in the switchbacks south of town, party was knocked unconscious.
- Gas leak underground by the water treatment plant causing 6 different calls throughout the week.
- Assault on East 2nd street, party was released to BCSO custody.
- Car in the river in Boulder Canyon- Parties were out prior to crews going arrival.
- Another vehicle crash in the 31000 Boulder Canyon, Capt. Faes shut down traffic in both
- directions, driver was unconscious, was extricated and transported by AMR.

Administration

HR

- After two rounds of interviews and 5 ride-a-longs, we sent out a conditional offer letter to two people (one for each position). Captains, FF Carpenter, and WL Coordinator Hohnbaum did first round of interviews and. Chief and Captain Faes did the final interviews.
- Physicals will be completed by a new company (MBI) which is much more affordable than Centura and, hopefully, less complicated. Those are both scheduled for later this week.
- Backgrounds and DL Record checks have been completed and passed by both candidates.
- Expected start dates
    - Wildland Firefighter I – Wednesday November 12th
    - Engine Boss – Wednesday November 18th
      In the beginning, they will be on the same schedule as our Wildland Coordinator for training purposes and then the schedules will be staggered to allow for coverage throughout the week.
- Open enrollment began on Monday 10/19. Benefit costs went up 16% for 2027 and members were allowed extra time to compare costs and decide on the best coverage. Enrollment will close on Monday 11/9.
- Ran reports for volunteer quarterly numbers.
  A lot of this still has to be done manually due to the poor reporting features in First Due. We are looking into an alternative program.

FIRE BILLING FOR WILDLAND ASSIGNMENTS

- Completed for the year.
    - WL Coordinator Hohnbaum has possibly completed his “final” deployment of 2026 and it has been entered into the Fire Billing System.

        - The new Engine Boss may deploy depending on their availability and comfort level after hire.
- We have completed 11 deployments in 2026.
    - All have been submitted DFPC.
    - 4 have been paid! ($122,889.38) – this is the same as last month.
        - 3 are currently with the Eligibility Checker (Level 4 of 5).
        - Hopeful with how payments have been processed so far, all deployments will be paid out in the same year they were submitted.
- Out-of-pocket expenses are $84,458.46.
- 2026 Wildland Season total numbers (once we pay all costs and are reimbursed).
    - Total billed = $596,725.41.
    - Total operating costs = $274,230.28.
    - Additional earned overhead = $322,495.13.

INCLUSION

- Inclusion hearing completed tonight. DA will work with Lyon's Gaddis to complete the filing.

FINANCE

- Audit has been submitted to the Office of the State Auditor.
    - The footnote was not needed – from our Auditor "I looked at the budget in the file and in it you budgeted $2,562,518 in expenses. This number then puts the expenses under budget and we can eliminate the budget violation footnote".
- Request for reimbursement for the Heart & Cancer Trust was submitted on 9/1. This is still showing as "pending". Last year, we had to contact them several times in order to be reimbursed (and we needed to involve our legal team). DA will start contacting next month if it is still not processed.
- 2027 Budget still needing quotes to come back.
    - Capital Improvements for 2027 may include (depending on approval):
        - Bathroom remodels – received 1 quote back that was greater than $73K! Still waiting on 2 more companies.
        - Outdoor commercial LED sign for Station 1. We received two quotes – one for ~$37K and another for ~$23K.
            - We will need a variance from the Town in order to place the sign Since they denied our initial application due to the fact illuminated signs are not allowed within Town limits, Chief has requested to go in front of the BZA for a variance. It is in review with the Town Manager.
- Volunteer Firefighter Pension reimbursement request submitted. We contributed $11,270 on 10/1/2026 and have requested $4500.00 from the State as their contribution on 10/16/2026.
- Cost containment approved for 2027!

- Notice of 2027 budget submitted to the Mountain-Ear on 10/20 and should be published in the 10/22 issue.

EMS PROGRAM AUXILIARY

- Silent Auction
    - Took place on 10/10 from 2PM - 4PM.
    - We took in $382.00 and sold 8 items. The remainder of the items were offered to our department members or disposed of.

Operations/ Wildland

- Conducted a property visit with FF Jones following a complaint about possible unpermitted remodeling. Documented observations and concerns for Fire Marshal review; the building interior was not inspected. Concerns were forwarded to the County.
- Chief picked up our new 2 Lifepak monitors and Lucas device that we received the grant for last year. He worked with Brittany Buss with AMR, by doing this we were able to get an additional monitor with the savings!
- We have been having trouble with water in our air compressor and FM Murphy installed an auto drain to hopefully eliminate the water from going into our vehicles.
- Waterway came and performed our pump tests, hose testing and ladder testing, a few hoses and 1 ladder failed testing. Chief doesn't have the numbers yet, but they tested 6 pumps, and probably 8 thousand feet of hose in 1 day.
- Chief applied for the Boulder County Emergency Services Grant in the amount of $176,000, for the solar carport project at Station 1. If awarded this grant, we will be able to build a solar carport on the south apron and protect all of the vehicles that we store outside and offset more than 100% of our electric bill. The only thing that we may need to pay for would be an EV car charger for that array.
- WC Hohnbaum has applied for 2 grants: FRWRM Grant (Fire Restoration and Wildlife Risk Mitigation) with the Colorado State Forest Service, and the SFMG Grant (Strategic Fuels Mitigation Grant) with Boulder County, each grant compliments the other, the total for these grants are $700,000. These grants were requested in partnership with the Town of Nederland so we can get several of the much-needed mitigation project moving. These grants will fund supplies, staffing and equipment needed to get these projects moving forward.
- WC Hohnbaum is planning on leaving an engine available this winter for deployments.

Vehicles

- 5602- rear brakes locked up. Was a team effort and FM Murphy and Capt. Faes got it back up running (and stopping).
- 5653 (plow)- replacement engine never arrived. The order was cancelled and FM Murphy sent the engine to the machine shop so he can rebuild the engine.
- 5640 has been returned to the state.

- 5603 (new) Chief and FM Murphy went to do the pre delivery inspection, found several items that needed attention. New delivery date is scheduled for Tuesday 10/27.
- 5601- has 2 issues- pump drain cable is broken and is leaking foam. Once 5603 is in service, we will send 5601 in for repairs.
- Trailer- Chief got through the titling process and has a title for it. It is tentatively sold so we can replace it with one that can haul our UTV.

Safety/Training

- Developed and delivered a training survey. This will be used to develop the 2027 training schedule.
- Fire Trainings: Aerial Operations and Setup – Review of proper apparatus placement, stabilization, and orientation to hand signals. Repetitions on aerial movement and hitting designated targets.
- HazMat – A review of the MSA Altair 4X, and best practices for using air monitoring tools. Review of CO calls and on scene actions. Review of CGI and natural gas responses.
- Water Supply – Engine water supply repetitions – hydrant to engine connections.
- Skills Focus: 24’ and 16’ single person ladder deployments, forcible entry techniques.
- Wildland Training: Progressive Packs – Deployment and estimating the stretch for wildland/urban interface operations.
- Tender operations – deploying a portable pond for an ongoing incident.
- First Due Updating how trainings are recorded – tracking for required hours and the need to track state certification JPRs.
- FF Olivas, FF Irwin Powell and FF Ipsen have all passed their UTV trainings.
- FF Irwin Powell passed his portable pumps class.
- WC Hohnbaum has several classes scheduled to host this winter including:
    - S-112(introduction to chainsaw operations) November 6th-7th, 0800-1700.
    - S-115 (Fire Operations in the Wildland-Urban Interface) WUI course, it's called S-215, but we'll be changing that up to 115 to use more of our local community factors December 4th-5th, 0800-1700.
    - S-131 (Firefighter type 1 course) February 5th-7th, 0800-1700.
    - S-230/231 (Single Resource and Engine Boss) March 4th-7th, 0800-1700.

EMS

- After BCH discontinued selling NFPD controlled meds, we had to create an account with Boundtree Medical to sell us those medications. It was quite the process and had to involve our physician advisor for permission. Fortunately, it is complete and meds are in service.
- Chief was asked to meet with the Sheriff’s Office to discuss the next RFP for ambulance service in Boulder County. The new contract will begin on Jan 1 2028. He will be part of the RFP committee for that contract because it aligns with his involvement with the ambulance compliance committee. One of the discussions is to host the county ambulance here at NFPD.
- DA Snyder

- EdCor has been retained for PALS and ACLS courses.
- DA and Paramedic Bretlyn Schmidtmann completed our PALS renewal on 10/14 at their Lakewood classroom.
- ACLS course (with BLS) is confirmed for 08:30 on 2/11/2027 here at station 1.
- PALS course (without BLS) is confirmed for 08:30 on 08/17/2028 here at station 1.

  We may need to renew 1 or 2 people ahead of that time but the hopes are that everyone renews/expires at the same time so we can schedule 1 class per year.

- Captain Wheelock
  - Developed the proposal and implementation plan for a spring 2027 EMR/EMT-B course in partnership with UCHealth. With the Chief's approval to move forward, planning includes NFPD lab operations, instructor staffing, equipment, scheduling, and student costs. The organizational agreement and final course requirements remain under review. However, UCH coordinates the majority of the class with NFPD being responsible for the lab portion. Interest in class is @ 6 members thus far.
  - Attained CPR Instructor for handling CPR certification in house and community engagement.
  - Arranged attendance (with Sherry's assistance) at the November 5–8 Colorado State EMS Conference for 4 members.
  - Developed a BLS-focused penetrating-trauma scenario emphasizing recognition of shock, airway and ventilation support, bleeding control, ALS coordination, and rapid transport. Also taught review of Spinal Injuries and protocol review.
  - EMS kit remodel project.
  - Placed our new Lifepaks in service.
  - Will bring all EMS CE in house and will no longer be bringing up AMR. Paramedic Bretlyn Schmidtmann is going to start teaching some classes for us.

Fire Marshal's Report

- Permitting, inspections and plan review remain very active.
- NELC passed their final inspections and CO issued by Town. FM helped staff complete their first annual fire drill.
- Wild Bear Nature Center – Upon finalizing their inspections, it was apparent there were access issues to the building at the lower east entrance which would not meet code requirements. FM is working with the team to draft solutions.
- NMSHS remodel – Sprinkler plans have been reviewed and approved after revisions. FM working on general construction plans with the state.
- Reviewed several residential sprinkler plans. Revisions were required on all of them in order to meet code requirements.
- Working on updating the workflow for permitting projects utilizing a "Fire Approval Form." FM has shown a draft to Chief and a local contractor, running through scenarios

to ensure it fully encapsulates any time someone needs to show proof of permitting pre-approval and final approval to the town. FM hopes to have it built into First Due in the future as well, utilizing the Community Connect module, so builders can log in and see status updates and request inspections.
- Town is continuing to improve the situation at the West Wing.
- New hydrant installed at the Stinky Gulch/E 5th Street intersection.
- NES Preschool and NELC visited Station 1 during Fire Prevention Week.
- Worked with a business owner whose sprinkler system has had multiple malfunctions from high-pressure surges and municipal supply issues.
- Assisted Town staff with multiple materials reviews to ensure compliance with the newly adopted Colorado Wildfire Resiliency Code.
- Building an inspections training program to instruct firefighters, in both a classroom and field setting, how to perform building inspections and cistern testing. The goal is for the training to meet NFPA and/or DFPC benchmarks.
- Completed upgrade of our networking infrastructure. Replaced two old switches, upgraded a patch panel, installed a new patch panel, fully separated internal/external networking devices, Starlink installation, T-Mobile redundancy, load balancing, and a new firewall.
- Completed mapping for wildfire mitigation grant project.
- Ordered new computer for the radio room after the existing computer began experiencing various hardware issues. FM is in the process of setting it up.

New Business
- Review the license for Burn Building from the town of Nederland.
- Engagement with CPA (Ann Eldridge).

Motion to hire CPA (Ann Eldridge): 4-0-0

Old Business
- Budget Review. The Board will meet on 12/09/2026, one week earlier than usual, to vote on the budget.

Special Executive Session
- None.

Public Statements, Comments or Questions
- None.

Other Business
- None.

Next Regular Board Meeting: November 18, 2026 @ 19:00

Motion to Adjourn Meeting: 4-0-0

Adjourn the Meeting @ 20:27