

**CASCADE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES  
May 8, 2025**

Larry Scarborough called the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District to order at 5:30 p.m. at the 109 East Pine Street Fire Station.

The following Cascade Rural Fire Protection District officials were present: Commissioner Larry Scarborough, Commissioner LaDawn Saxton, Commissioner Mike Arnold, Fire Chief Steven Hull, Emergency Medical Services Director Keri Sayers, and Secretary / Treasurer Pam DeChambeau.

Mike Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Scarborough opened the public hearing and stated the hearing was to consider public comment on the proposed increase in billing rates for services provided for motor vehicle incidents, fire incidents, hazmat incidents, water incidents, and back country or special rescue incidents. Reported the notice of the public hearing was published for two weeks in The Star-News on April 24 and May 1, 2025. The proposed billing rates were reviewed. The increase in billing rates is not related to or an increase in the Fire District tax levy rate. There was no testimony for or against the increase in billing rates. There were no questions or comments from the public. The public hearing was closed.

Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2025 regular Commissioner's meeting, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Larry Scarborough made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize payment of the bills dated May 8, 2025, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Resolution 25-01 establishing and implementing a program to charge mitigation rates for the deployment of emergency and non-emergency services by the Fire Department for services provided / rendered for motor vehicle incidents, fire incidents, hazmat incidents, water incidents, and back country or special rescue incidents was reviewed. Larry Scarborough made a motion to approve Resolution 25-01, increasing Fire Recovery USA billing rates for services provided for motor vehicle incidents, fire incidents, hazmat incidents, water incidents, and back country or special rescue incidents, and LaDawn Saxton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The changes to the Leaves of Absence Policy were reviewed, changing supervisor to Fire Chief or EMS Director, to read, the Fire Chief or EMS Director may grant up to ten days of unpaid leave for any valid reason. Paid leave in any amount or unpaid leave exceeding ten days requires written approval from the Board of Commissioners. Larry Scarborough made a motion to adjust the Leaves of Absence Policy, removing supervisor and putting in Fire Chief or EMS Director, and Mike Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Keri Sayers reported the new anticipated start date that Perpetua Resources is requesting to provide ambulance services, to include an advanced life support ambulance, a mobile response van, a paramedic, and an emergency medical technician, to the Stibnite Mine is October 1, 2025.

Steven Hull reported twenty (20) incidents for the month of April 2025 and reported twenty-two (22) is average. Reported on escaped burn pile fires and serious care motor vehicles accidents.

Keri Sayers reported that GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transportation) services for Medicaid beneficiaries will qualify for supplemental payments starting January 1, 2023. Reported on working with the billing company to analyze costs and determine potential benefits. Reported last year's Medicaid calls accounted for sixteen percent (16%). Reported an update will follow after the cost analysis is complete.

Steven Hull reported on House Bill 208, which allows Fire Districts to consolidate. Reported the bill does not permit changing district boundaries or increasing current taxes. Reported on administration from Cascade, Donnelly and McCall Fire Districts discussing consolidation, noting the financial budget appears favorable. Reported the next step is for Attorney Bill Gigray to create a guideline on how the consolidation will be structured and a timeline for completion. Reported the cost to the taxpayer will average out the levy rates between all three Fire Districts, resulting in an increase of \$7.00 per \$100,000 property value for Cascade and a reduction of \$7.00 per \$100,000 property value for McCall, with an overall average levy rate of \$38 per \$100,000 property value. Reported looking ahead, this consolidation would enhance financial stability and prevent the need for passing additional levies. Reported on the significant budget impact, and requested support to proceed further. Reported the legislation becomes effective on July 1, 2025, and the proposed consolidation date is set for October 1, 2027. Reported the Commissioners from the three Fire District vote to consolidate. Reported on the Donnelly and McCall Fire Districts struggling to hire Paramedics.

Pam DeChambeau reported the date of the public hearing for the October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026 budget is Thursday, August 21, 2025.

There being no further business, the commissioner's meeting of the Cascade Rural Fire Protection District adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela J. DeChambeau  
Secretary/Treasurer

Approved:



Larry V. Scarborough  
Chair