

Shawn Vollertsen, President
Jeff Phillips, Secretary/ Treasurer
Francis Wilson, Board Member

Richard Drake, Vice President
Will Shellabarger, Board Member

NORTHERN SAGUACHE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

MINUTES

May 11th, 2026

Location: Saguache Fire Station

7:00 PM

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2. Notice of Meeting:** Notice of the meeting was posted on the District's website in accordance with Colorado Open Meetings Law requirements more than 24 hours prior to the meeting.
- 3. Roll Call:** Directors present: Francis Wilson, Richard Drake, Will Shellabarger, Jeff Phillips and Shawn Vollertsen. All Board members were present.
- 4. Declaration of Quorum:** Director Shawn Vollertsen declared a quorum present.
- 5. Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- 6. Approval of Agenda:** Director Jeff Phillips moved to approve the agenda as published. Director Francis Wilson seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Introduction of Guests: District Chief Wesley Moores, District Secretary Juli Close, and Equipment Specialists Kendal Adolph. Additional guests are listed on the attached sign-in sheet.

8. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Director Will Shellabarger moved to approve the previous month's meeting minutes as published. Director Richard Drake seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

9. Reading and Approval of Bills: Subject to review of each invoice and the signing of checks by all Board members present. Director Shawn Vollertsen reviewed the bills with the Board. Payment of the Terminix invoice was held pending further review.

Director Will Shellabarger moved to approve payment of all remaining bills as presented. Director Jeff Phillips seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

10. Presentations

a. Grant Writing Update: A timeline outlining current grant activities was distributed.

- Shawn Vollertsen will contact Cooley to obtain an estimate for road base.
- A meeting was held with Ben Wade. A Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) account has been established to facilitate grant submissions.
- Discussions were held with Power Zone regarding a used generator. The estimated cost is \$15,000, and Power Zone can also complete the associated electrical and concrete work.
- Ramon Garcia, assistant to Michael Bennet, expressed interest in assisting the District with funding opportunities. No funding opportunities are expected before January of next year.
- The Board was informed that Yvonne's husband passed away. Services will be held on May 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Crestone Baptist Church, followed by a light lunch.

b. Financial Report: The Financial Report included account balances, bank statement reconciliations, budget reports, mail review, and other financial matters.

- The Pension Fund received \$6,394.77 during the month.
- The General Fund received \$95,674.18 during the month.
- The water bill from the Town of Crestone had not been received prior to the meeting. The Secretary is working to obtain the bill and will pay it electronically upon receipt.
- VFIS insurance coverage has been updated. The premium increase reflects the addition of new trucks and the new Crestone building. The final invoice is expected later this month. Coverage will remain in effect without interruption.

Director Francis Wilson moved to authorize electronic payment of the VFIS invoice upon receipt. Director Shawn Vollertsen seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

- The new rescue truck has been received and paid in full in the amount of \$75,500.00. The transaction has been recorded in the District's financial records.

- Notice was received that the District's Exemption Audit was accepted by the State.
- The SDA Conference will be held on June 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Buena Vista High School. Director Jeff Phillips indicated he plans to attend.
- Chiefs were reminded that mileage reimbursement requests are due in July. Receipts should be submitted at the June meeting in Crestone.
- Mr. Bert Jones has not cashed his March, April, or May reimbursement checks. Bill E. reported that Mr. Jones has moved to a nursing home. The Board discussed determining who is managing his affairs.
- The Secretary reported being asked to perform bookkeeping services for the Colorado State Fire Fighters Association and Foundation.

11. Firefighter Membership Applications, Resignations, and Requests for Retirement: No applications, resignations, or retirement requests were presented.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

		<i>TRAINING HOURS</i>	<i>REGULAR HOURS</i>	<i>STRUCTURE FIRE</i>	<i>WILDLAND FIRE</i>	<i>MOTOR VEHICLE ACC.</i>	<i>OTHER</i>
<i>Crestone</i>	March 44 wildland tool repair and use	101.50					1 stand down
	April hose training 22.5	55			1		1 standby
<i>Moffat</i>	Not present						
<i>Saguache</i>	55 office completed painting and organize	37	1		1		1 smoke 3 cattle crossing
<i>Villa Grove/ Bonanza</i>	58 tender 2 back in service and installed last box	48	1				1 smoke 3 stand downs

- Crestone Fire: N/A
 - Moffat Fire: N/A
 - Saguache Fire: N/A
 - Villa Grove / Bonanza Fire: Chevron stripping in and ready to install
 - District Chief Report: Chief's Report / Equipment and Operations Updates
- New C-cell batteries have been installed.

- Tender 7 requires transport to Denver for equipment installation. Equipment Specialist Kendal Adolph reported that anode rods provide better rust prevention than painting and recommended installing them on all trucks. Chief Wesley Moores expressed interest in accompanying the truck to Denver. Kendal Adolph may be available to transport the vehicle. The Board requested that all removed parts be returned to the District.
- Newly installed cameras were found to be recording audio. Because audio recording is not permitted in public buildings, the cameras at the Saguache station were removed and the previous cameras were reinstalled.
- Daniel Johnson submitted a request to publish a District safety newsletter. Directors Richard Drake and Francis Wilson indicated that the Board is not interested in pursuing the newsletter at this time.

13. Old (Unfinished) Business

a. Truck Repairs

- Bonanza Attack Truck oil change: Not completed.
- Engine 1 turbo replacement: No update provided.
- Tender 7 water tank update: Vehicle still needs to be transported to Denver.
- Villa Grove Brush Truck: Work continues on the bumper-mounted winch and chevron installation.
- Saguache Rescue Truck:
 - Installation remains in progress.
 - The equipment box has been mounted on the truck.
 - The Board requested an opportunity to review the wiring.
 - A center console is needed.
 - New LED lighting has been installed using existing wiring.
 - A siren still needs to be installed.

Director Richard Drake moved to have Equipment Specialist Kendal Adolph contact Digitcom to inspect the rescue truck and provide a quote for the remaining communications and siren work. Director Will Shellabarger seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Moffat Station Office Addition: No update.

c. Crestone Building Update: The building is currently in use by the District. The Sheriff's Office is not utilizing the facility at this time.

d. Jersey Blocks at Former Crestone Station: The jersey blocks have been delivered. Chief Craig is working with the Town of Crestone to obtain the necessary permit for installation. The placement may encroach into the alley right-of-way and is under review.

e. Tender from Gunnison Fire: Equipment Specialist Kendal Adolph reported that the District will not be receiving the tender from Gunnison Fire due to an accident involving another of their trucks. By consensus of the Board, this item will be removed from future agendas.

f. Chainsaw Class: The Board discussed hosting a chainsaw safety training class. Insurance coverage was reviewed, and it was determined that coverage should not be an issue because the class would qualify as a community service activity. Craig indicated that the Crestone Fire House could host the training.

Director Shawn Vollertsen moved that the District sponsor firefighter attendance at the class at a cost of \$25.00 per participant and make the District facility available for the training. Director Richard Drake seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

Craig will contact the instructor to coordinate scheduling.

14. New Business: A brief recess was taken at 8:11 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

a. Food Truck Inspections

Chief Wesley Moores reported receiving inquiries regarding food truck inspections. New statewide regulations have been implemented through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC). Food truck operators must obtain the required health and fire inspections through certified inspectors. The District is not responsible for ensuring compliance by food truck operators.

b. Moffat Septic System

The Board discussed issues involving the Moffat Fire House and a septic system that was installed on District lots. Discussion included property ownership and the location of the septic system on Lots 31R and 32R, which are owned by the District.

Director Richard Drake moved to refer the property and septic system issues to the District's attorney for legal review and recommendations. Director Jeff Phillips seconded the motion.

Vote:

In Favor: 5

Opposed: 0

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Generator Purchase

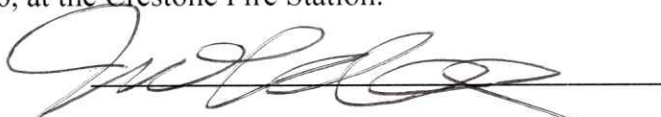
The Board discussed the potential purchase of a low-hour used diesel generator with a block heater for use at both District water well locations. Director Richard Drake suggested that additional generator options may be available and recommended evaluating well improvements before proceeding with a generator purchase. By consensus, the Board agreed to postpone further consideration of the generator purchase.

15. Citizen (Guest) Comments: None.

16. Review of Bills, Receipts, Bank Statements, and Check Signing: Board members reviewed bills, receipts, and bank statements. Checks were signed by the Board members present.

17. Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

18. Next Meeting: The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on June 8, 2026, at the Crestone Fire Station.


Juli Close, Secretary

____ 6-8-2026 ____

Date Signed


Shawn Vollertsen,
Board President


Jeff Phillips, Board
Secretary/Treasurer