

PHILOMATH FIRE & RESCUE

January 12, 2026

Location: Philomath Fire & Rescue

Regular Session Board Meeting

3:00 pm

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL- The Philomath Fire & Rescue Board of Directors Regular Session Board Meeting was called to order by President Rick Brand at 15:00. Board members present included President Rick Brand, Treasurer Ken Corbin and Matt Kennedy. Absent Board Members included: Vice President Daphne Phillips and Joe Brier. Philomath Fire & Rescue staff in attendance included: Chief Chancy Ferguson, Operations Chief Dan Eddy, and Office Administrator Ashley Scott. Kori Sarrett of Accuity Certified Public Accountants, Mayor/City Council Fire Liaison Christopher McMorran (until 15:53), and Shannon Zuschlag Blodgett Summit Rural Fire Protection District Board President were in attendance also.

- II. AUDIT PRESENTATION- Kori Sarrett of Accuity Certified Public Accountants discussed highlights of the district's financial audit. Highlights included: September audit for the previous fiscal year. No OMS issues. Only audit finding were a duplicate transfer of funds from LGIP, segregation of duties is always a concern, accrued payroll need to be adjusted due to the way the month fell.
Corbin moved to approve Audit as presented. Kennedy seconded.
Discussion: None.
Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:
Brand: In Favor
Corbin: In Favor
Kennedy: In Favor

- III. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. Minutes-December 8, 2025 Regular & Executive Sessions
 - b. Minutes-December 18, 2025 Specials Session
 - c. Bills – December
 - d. Chief Vacation Hours**Kennedy moved to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Corbin seconded.**
Discussion: None.

Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Kennedy: In Favor

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Shannon Zuschlag from Summit Blodgett Rural Fire Protection District – Observing meetings of nearby fire districts and wanting to keep open communication with the Boards. Their board discussed the relationship between the fire districts. They are very happy with the relationship including Philomath Fire & Rescue.

V. STAFF REPORTS

1. Board Report

- Review Board Calendar
 - Appreciation Dinner- February 28, 2026- Quickly approaching.
 - SDAO Conference Coming Up- February 5-8, 2026, Scott will be attending the HR & Finance Alliances on behalf of the district.
 - Volunteer Association Meeting- February (Corbin) April (Brier)
 - Chief Check In- January (Brand) February (Brier)

2. Fire Chief Report – Included in the Board Packet and discussed by Chief Ferguson. Highlights included: \$4,500 grant from Roundhouse foundation, \$10,000 BCF Grant submitted, 45-minute meeting with the Ford Family Foundation for the Regional Training Tower Project discussion. 15 operational volunteers, currently having a deep discussion of reinventing the volunteer process. Double the amount of Fire Marshal building reviews over last year.

3. Operations Chief Report- Included in the Board Packet and discussed by Ops Chief Eddy. Highlights included: the Year End Statistics, 3% increase over last year, 3.1 calls average per year, 81% are medical calls, Nationally a new reporting system being utilized and hopeful that better data will come with the increased reporting.

4. Office Administrator Financial Report- Included in the Board Packet and discussed by Scott. Highlights included: end of year payments, and continuing to work toward Centerpoint replacing QuickBooks.

VI. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

1. Volunteer Association – Report included in the Board Packet. No questions from the board were raised.

2. IAFF Local 4925 – Training Captain Viktor Bovbjerg discussed that Union negotiations are progressing at a positive rate.
3. City Council Liaison- Mayor Christopher McMorran discussed utility rates are back on the docket at the next City Council meeting, and he will also be discussing Philomath Fire & Rescue’s Year End Statistics. He led a State of the City Address last week and another one coming on Thursday. 2050 Community Vision Kick Off Event is Thursday Evening. Councilor Crocker will be joining as the Fire District Liaison in the future.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

1. Levy Update - Chief Ferguson discussed that a vote is needed to move forward with the Special Election for a Local Option Levy.

Corbin moved to proceed with \$.50/1000 Local Option Levy on the May 2026 Special District Election for the 27-28 Budget Year. Kennedy seconded.

Discussion: None.

Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Kennedy: In Favor

2. Board Goals- Brand discussed that he would like this to remain on the agenda as a place holder in case Board Members would like to add another goal.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Appoint Board Member to Begin Chief Review & Contract Negotiations- Scott discussed that it is time again to review Chief’s contract for 2026-2027.

Matt Kennedy moved to appoint Rick Brand and Ken Corbin to begin Chief Ferguson’s Review and Contract Negotiations. Brand seconded.

Discussion: None.

Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Kennedy: In Favor

2. Set Budget Calendar- Included in the Board Packet and discussed by Scott.

Corbin moved to adopt the Budget Calendar as presented. Brand seconded.

Discussion: None.

Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Kennedy: In Favor

3. Philomath Community Vision 2050 Board Liaison- Scott

Once meetings are scheduled, Board will work towards finding a Board Member to be the liaison.

4. Resolution 26-01 for Conflagration Funds Allocation- Chief Ferguson added this item and discussed moving funds to purchase radios. The resolution was read in its entirety.

Kennedy moved to adopt the Resolution 26-01 as read. Corbin seconded.

Discussion: Brand in favor of moving in this direction.

Voting results 3-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Kennedy: In Favor

IX. ACTION ITEMS

a. Scott- Find out when 2050 Community Vision Meeting Dates and Times.

X. NEXT MEETING – February 9, 2026

XI. ADJOURNMENT – 16:35