

A special meeting of the Alma District Fire Board was held at the Alma Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:12 a.m. by Alma City Manager Aeris Ripley. A quorum of the board was present.

Roll Call

Board members present: Ron Hunt, Tish Mallory, Greg Mapes, and Aeris Ripley.

Board members absent: Kevin Beeson, Doug Merchant, and Michelle Pitts.

Others present: Jim Bailey, Curtis Dancer, and Mark Williams.

Motion by Mapes, seconded by Mallory, to approve minutes of the January 28, 2026, meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Yes: Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, and Ripley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson, Merchant, and Pitts.

Fire-Rescue Reports

Finance Director Curtis Dancer noted both budgets are track as expected for this point in time, with the Fire budget at 74% and the Rescue budget at 55%. He said he expects both to come in on budget.

The group briefly reviewed cash disbursements and offered no questions or comments.

Fire Chief Jim Bailey reviewed 1st quarter reports for Fire and Rescue. Bailey also explained the HAAS security alert system in the new firetruck which sends digital alerts to nearby drivers to alert them of an emergency vehicle in their vicinity.

Motion by Hunt, seconded by Mallory, to receive the following reports: Fire Budget Actual Budget Ending March 2026, Rescue Budget Actual Ending March 2026, Fire Board Check Disbursement January-March 2026 Report, Rescue Check Disbursement January-March 2026 Report, and Alma District Fire & Rescue 1st Quarter Fire & Rescue 2026 Report. Motion carried.

Yes: Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, and Ripley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson, Merchant, and Pitts.

Old Business – Fire Hall Capital Improvement Schedule 2027-2036

City Manager Ripley reviewed the list of proposed capital improvements for the fire hall. Brief discussion followed regarding a light curtain.

At a request from Member Mallory, discussion followed regarding scheduled meeting times. The group agreed to change the meeting time for regularly scheduled meetings from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

Member Mallory asked why personal vehicles of emergency personnel no longer have lights. Public Safety Director Williams explained the department's stand on the use of lights on personal vehicles and the research surrounding them. He added the lights don't appear to provide extra safety for the drivers and emergency personnel are required to follow vehicle safety laws regardless of whether or not they have lights. He went on to explain the department's policies. Discussion followed regarding other emergency vehicles and police vehicles.

Director Williams told the group about two new fire officers who had recently graduated from training. He also provided an update on the drone program and recent grants received for the program. Discussion followed regarding training for drone operators, programs shared with other local municipalities, and a grant opportunity shared by MTA.

Invitation to the Public

No public comments were offered.

Adjournment

Motion by Mallory, seconded by Mapes, to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Yes: Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, and Ripley.

No: none.

Absent: Beeson, Merchant, and Pitts.

Sara Anderson, Alma City Clerk/Recording Secretary

Date of Approval

DRAFT