Gunnison County Fire Protection District
Minutes
Special Meeting
July 30, 2026

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Heath Smith. Meeting was held upstairs in the meeting room at the Fire House.

The following board members were present: Rob Hughes, Tom Stoeber and Heath Smith. Walt Cranor arrived at 6:05.

City Accountant present: Ben Cowen

Board Secretary present: Deborah Ferchau

Chief present: Hugo Ferchau

Deputy Chief present: Tom McDonough

Captain present: Kenny Tomlin

Board Attorney: Kendall Burgemeister

The following firemen were present: None.

Others: None.

II. New Business:

A. Fire Station Replacement IGA, Reinstated and Amended, between the City of Gunnison and the Gunnison County Fire Protection District: H. Ferchau advised the Board that the IGA document has been rewritten by the attorneys to reflect what has happened so far in the process to memorialize where we are at this point and what happens moving forward. Some of the new verbiage is that if the ballot issue does not pass in the District in 2027 the City doesn't have the cash flow to pay their part, and they will have 7 years to pay the amount owed to the District in the amount of $300,000.00. The re-write has been approved by City Council. Kendall stated that a lot of the changes were getting the IGA back to basics. The DOLA grant does not have to be repaid is the ballot issue does not pass. Cowen further advised that Board that the City can't finance because there is no project yet and the expenditure is classified temporary. Kendall is satisfied with the document. A motion was made by Stoeber and seconded by Cranor to approve the IGA. Motion passed unanimously. Smith asked about the reference to the temporary building. H. Ferchau stated that the temporary building is between the City and the County and will be a separate agreement.

B. Authorization to Accept DOLA EIAF Grant for the Gunnison Fire Station Construction Documents: H. Ferchau advised the Board that a grant has been received for roughly a third of the cost of design documents. These documents should be completed by January 2027. Stoeber confirmed that remaining funding for the design documents is approximately $600.000. A motion was made by Stoeber and seconded by Cranor to approve authorization of the DOLA EIAF grant for the Gunnison Fire Station construction documents. Motion passed unanimously. Cowan stated that this is technically a City grant and City contract with Neenan.

C. Contract Amendment, Progressive Design/Build Contract with The Neenan Company, Gunnison Fire Station Replacement, Design Services – Phase 2b: H. Ferchau advised the Board that this is the progressive contract and will be the same company throughout. The contract can't move forward until the grant is awarded. The contract amount would be $923,493. A motion was made by Stoeber and seconded by Cranor to approve the contract amendment with the Neenan Company regarding the Gunnison Fire Station Replacement design services – Phase 2b. Motion passed unanimously.

III. **Unscheduled Business:**

1. Stoeber asked if the comparison evaluation has been received from The Neenan Company? H. Ferchau stated that they showed it to him on a shared screen but had not received the document yet. H. Ferchau advised the Board that Matthew Birnie and John Cattles have stated that they are not against the 90/10 option. Stoeber stated that he is a little concerned about how fast technology changes. H. Ferchau stated that the item subject to technology changes are fairly cheap to change, the big cost is the drilling of the wells which have a 200-year life.

IV. Adjourn:

A motion was made by Stoeber and seconded by Cranor to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.