

Garden Valley Fire Protection District Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting Minutes

Where: Main Fire Station on Middlefork Rd in Crouch
When: 14 October 2025 2 PM



- 1 Call to Order 2:00 PM**
- 2 Commissioner(s)/Chief Role Call** B. Klevenberg; commissioner-Present, M. Vandyk; commissioner-Present, P. Palmiotto; commissioner-Present, Chief Cleaveland; Present, Captain A. Fields; Present, H. Sipple Stenographer-Present
- 3 Amendments to this Agenda**
 - 3.1 Motions to amend this agenda.
 - 3.2 M. Vandyk makes a motion to amend Agenda and add an executive session right after the regular meeting. B. Klevenberg approved motion.
- 4 Public Participation**
 - 4.1 Members of the public may comment on an agenda before action is taken and after the Board has discussed the item. Any member of the public making a public comment shall state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.
- 5 Consent Agenda Items** - Consent Agenda Items will be enacted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on items unless a Board Member, Staff, or member of the public request's removal of the item for separate action.
 - 5.1 Minutes: Review/Amend/Approve Previous Month's Meeting Minutes.
 - 5.2 Expenditures: Review/Amend/Approve Expenditures. Bill made motion to approve, Mike Van Dyk seconded, and Phil approved motion.
- 6 Correspondence**
 - 6.1 Staff / Commissioners will review relevant correspondence.
 - 6.1.1 Chief has had some correspondence with the Boise County Mitigation team, Meleny is still working in the area and keeping the chief updated on the fire mitigation progress.
- 7 Public Comment**
 - 7.1 This part of the meeting is reserved for people wishing to address the Board on any matter not on the agenda. Name and address shall be stated for the record prior to addressing the Board. Any matter that requires Board action will be referred to staff (or a Board member) for a report and action at a subsequent Board meeting.
- 8 Old/Ongoing Business**
 - 8.1 (*) **Impact Fee collection update:** No additional fees from the county have been received, Bill is waiting to reach months end before he reaches out to the county again for payment.
 - 8.2 (*) **Silver Creek/Valley County agreements:** No new updates from Valley County, Bill states that this issue goes back to June 12th when he first spoke to Cascade chief, still no updates.
 - 8.3 (*) **Levy Communications update (Emails, FB Posts, Website)** Bill is gathering questions and has compiled an updated sheet and is working on getting them posted and uploaded in a timely manner for the public. Austin has been responding to levy comments on Facebook, Bill commends Austins professional responses. Phil Palmitto asked if there are any plans to put any Levy Information in the Idaho world?

ASTERISK (*) ITEMS ARE ALL SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE GVFPD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.
The GVFPD Board of Commissioners Reserves the Right to Change the Agenda Prior to the Meeting.

- 8.4 Phil Palmiotto makes a motion to put levy information into the Idaho World. M. Vandyk seconds that motion, and all was in favor. Bill will reach out to the attorney to make sure a public posting is allowed and get it put together.

9 Chief & Staff Reports...

- 9.1 (*) **Calls in September:** 37 alarms
- 9.2 (*) **Training in September:** GVFD did mutual aid training with HSB and Lowman. Chief hopes to start some annual training with them. Working on Blue card terminology so everyone is on the same page for smooth communication. Additional training this month were: Pre-Connects & Pumping, Medic Scenarios/CODA, Rope Rescue Scenarios
- 9.3 (*) **Department on-call staffing & Response times update:** 16 min
- 9.4 (*) **Staffing Update:** Boot Camp recruits are all taking calls and shifts and completed first set of training
- 9.5 (*) **Equipment Update:** None
- 9.6 (*) **Station updates:** Fire Hawk checked out of station 2, It is now clear. GVFD has added additional bunks and beds upstairs to Station 1, giving the recruits that are coming up from the valley an option to stay. No updates for Station 3 may be open discussions for future use.

10 New Business

- 10.1 (*) **Live Q&A with public about proposed Levy:**
- 10.2 **Kurt Breish, 2 Scriver Woods Road, GV Idaho 83622.** Kurt states he is the first one to commend the department's services and is all for wanting the best care available but is concerned that this Levy comes with a 135% tax increase. With such a high increase he wants to see where the money will be spent. Kurt states that if it was a smaller 10-15% increase per year he wouldn't have paid attention to it. His taxes to just the fire department will make up 20% of his tax revenue to the county. B. K states that he wishes that we would have seen smaller increases each year or went for a levy 5-10 years ago so the increase wouldn't have to be so dramatic on the taxpayers now. B. K states that the department has been operating on a small budget for many years and whittling it down to total number of calls vs calls we can bill for and collect on is a very small amount. B.K States the department receives about \$25,000 in donations annually. B.K states that they have tightened the belt in as many areas as they possibly can but at this point there are no more cuts to be made. He welcomes Kurt to have financial information. B.K states we have proven that we can lower our response times with the paid-on call program, Kurt states he has seen the response time on the website and it's very commendable. Kurt asked what happens if the levy doesn't go through, B.K states it's not a great outlook, the department will go back to volunteer only and if there aren't enough people to respond we can't roll an ambulance out the door. Kurt asked if any of the Hospital District Board taxes go to the department, B.K was able to state and clear up that our department receives no funds from the hospital district tax, that money goes to Dr. Koenig to fund his PA's (a general statement of funds allocated) at the GV Clinic.
- 10.3 **Keven Jeffress. Arena Road, Garden Valley Idaho 83622.** Keven states he spent 29 years in the fire service, and he feels for the situation the department is in but strongly believes this tax increase is going to hurt the homeowners with the increases of the homeowner's assessed values. Kevin states he bought his home for \$600,000 and now the country has assessed its value at over 2 million dollars. He wishes there was a better way for everyone to pay the same amount. You benefit by the number of people in the home and the response times not by the assessed value of the home. Keven had a judge to rule in favor to lower his assessed' value and then Boise County went back and raised value 2 years later. What about the people who don't use the services? We can't pick and choose who to serve and help when there is an emergency. BK states we are all property and homeowners and this increase will impact us as well.

**ASTERISK (*) ITEMS ARE ALL SUBJECT TO POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE GVFPD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS.
The GVFPD Board of Commissioners Reserves the Right to Change the Agenda Prior to the Meeting.**

- 10.4 **Beth Olson Garden Valley, Idaho 83622.** If we really want to fix this problem, stop putting the burden on the property taxpayers and give it to the state where it belongs so state taxes are properly allocated. It's a messed-up system and is unfair. All agreed with her statement.

11 Request for Future Agenda Items

- 11.1 No future requests.
- 11.2 B. Klevenberg makes a motion to go into an executive session at 2:30pm

12 (*) Adjournment

- 12.1 Executive session was adjourned at 3:15pm, no actions or additional motions were filed.

The next Regular GVFPD Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, 11/11/2025, @ 2:00 PM @ the Main Station above Crouch.