West Plainfield Fire Protection District
24901 County Road 95, Davis, CA 95616 (530) 756-0212

MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS – REGULAR MEETING
June 16, 2026, at 7:00 PM

Held in Person at Lillard Hall
24905 County Road 95
Davis, CA 95616

And by Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/98831083439
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Dial by your location – (669) 900-6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 988 3108 3439

1. **Call the Meeting to Order, Introduce New Commissioner, and Establish Quorum (President Lindsey)**
Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Lindsey. The Board Clerk called roll and confirmed a quorum was present. Present were:

Commissioners:	John Lindsey, Emily Amy, and Cork McIsaac
Staff:	Board Clerk Cherie Rita, Fire Chief David Stiles, Battalion Chief Patrick Fish, Firefighter / Association President Jon Lee, Firefighters Aaron Gibbs and Justin Hall
Public:	Duane Chamberlain, Kenneth Wilkendorf, Teresa Aldredge, Ms. Bledsoe, Mr. Fletcher, and several other District residents

Commissioners Roos and Eoff were not present. President Lindsey noted he had heard that Commissioner Roos would be absent; but had not heard anything from Commissioner Eoff.

2. **Public Comment**
NONE

3. **Old Business**
   a. **Weed Abatement Report (Firefighter Lee)**
   Firefighter Lee reported he had completed a second round of inspections and thirteen properties remain out-of-compliance still. He noted that he would be sending them notices shortly.

   Commissioner Greta Eoff, our new Commissioner, arrived at 7:02 PM. President Lindsey introduced her to those present. Commissioner Eoff apologized for arriving late and thanked everyone for the welcome.

4. **New Business**
   a. **Discussion / Action – Elect Vice President (President Lindsey)**
   President Lindsey noted that with the departure of Commissioner Stiles the position of Vice President was vacant. Commissioner Amy nominated Commissioner Roos and advised that, while Commissioner Roos was not at this meeting, she had spoken with him and he was okay with being nominated. Commissioner McIsaac seconded the nomination and, hearing no objections, President Lindsey confirmed Commissioner Roos as Vice President.

   b. **Discussion / Action – Committee Assignments (President Lindsey)**
   While the standing committee assignments had been modified with the departure of Commissioner Stiles, President Lindsey enquired as to whether Commissioner Eoff would be interested in sitting on any of the standing committees. After some discussion and pending confirmation from Commissioner Roos, the standing committee assignments were confirmed as:

   Budget and Benefits – Commissioners Lindsey (chair) and McIsaac
   Lillard Hall – Commissioners Amy (chair) and Eoff
   Personnel – Commissioners Amy (chair) and Roos

   c. **Discussion / Action – Standing Committee – Reports and Minutes**
      i. **Lillard Hall Committee – Amy, Roos**
         1. **Hall Manager Report**
         Commissioner Amy presented the Hall Manager Report; there were no questions about the report.

         Commissioner Amy reported that there had not been a Lillard Hall Committee meeting since the last Board meeting.

      ii. **Budget and Benefits Committee – Lindsey, McIsaac**
         1. **Approve June 11, 2026, Committee Meeting Minutes**
         President Lindsey reported briefly on the June 11, 2026, meeting. He advised that the Committee had fine-tuned the numbers and adjusted the previously approved draft Budget. No one had questions.

         Motion: Approve the June 11, 2026, Budget and Benefits Committee meeting Minutes, as presented
         By: Commissioner McIsaac
         Second: Commissioner Eoff
         Discussion: None
         Motion approved unanimously.

   d. **Discussion / Action – Continuation of Assessment (President Lindsey)**

      i. **Open Public Hearing and Consideration of Continued Levy and Adjustment of the West Plainfield Fire Protection District Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment**
         1. **Open Public Input**
         President Lindsey opened the public input session.

President Lindsey advised each speaker would have three minutes, with twenty minutes set aside for public comment. He did note that the total time could be increased if necessary to accommodate all speakers. For the record, each speaker was asked to give their name and spell it.

Teresa Aldredge asked if the proposed rate was in addition to her current assessment rate, so would the $234 be added to what she is currently paying? President Lindsey responded that what she paid previously would increase by 3%, it was not an additional $234. President Lindsey thanked her for her comments and told her to feel free to reach out to him, the Board Clerk, or the Fire Chief if she needed additional clarification on her assessment.

President Lindsey reminded everyone that the assessment helps with staffing and equipment costs and is funding received in addition to property taxes. He offered to meet with anyone later if they would like to do so, as well.

Duane Chamberlain commented that last year he already paid over $20,000 on his acres, now we are adding to that. He notes that most of his land is irrigated, never burns. He again brought up a fire that had burned his hay bales on DQU land several years ago, disputing a finding of spontaneous combustion.

President Lindsey asked if anyone else had comments, noting that Mr. Chamberlain's three minutes were up.

Kenneth Wilkendorf introduced himself and commented that "everyone wants funding." He acknowledged that he does not know our finances, expenses. He understands zero increase is not possible, but why the whole 3%? He does not get to vote on the increases each year, so has no choice but to accept it.

President Lindsey thanked Mr. Wilkendorf. He conceded that the Board needs to do a better job of showing the property owners the Budget and how it is developed. Next fiscal year the Board plans to hold a series of meetings to more clearly show the numbers and get input earlier; show we have done what we can to control expenses.

President Lindsey went on to describe some of the challenges we faced when preparing our Budget. For instance, the County sometimes is a bit late providing updated numbers. We stayed within budget for 2026. Costs are rising. Diesel costs, for instance, increased significantly this past fiscal year; costs are rising for staffing. It is hard to keep staff because we cannot pay what other, bigger departments pay. President Lindsey continued, noting that we have a new, to us, piece of apparatus that we purchased because parts for our 23-year-old apparatus are getting harder to find and it is becoming more expensive to operate that older equipment.

Noting that we are doing the best we can, President Lindsey advised that, unfortunately, we did go with the maximum increase for this new Budget. The hope is always that we do not need to adopt an increase in the assessment; maybe next year.

Rosemary Bledsoe introduced herself. She supports Duane Chamberlain regarding irrigated land. She questioned the need to review this annually. She noted that she also must pay increased costs and this is yet another one. All these increases are passed on to the consumer. She noted she would really appreciate it if the Board would take this to heart and not increase 3% every year; noting, in ten years this will go up by 30%.

Ms. Bledsoe continued, noting that we did not have this assessment two years; so, why is it suddenly necessary? She went on to question President Lindsey's statement about our inability to keep our firefighters, stating she would like to see evidence of that since there are "young men killing themselves to become firemen."

Commissioner Amy noted that after the first year of the assessment, there was no increase; last year there was, but not the first year.

Mr. Fletcher asked about cost recovery. Chief Stiles confirmed we do bill for recovery of costs for vehicle accidents involving non-District residents or for response to fires caused by non-District residents. We also can bill District residents for emergency response to incidents that occur because of a resident's negligence; for instance, an improper control burn that gets out of control.

Commissioner McIsaac pointed out that the Trial Balance report, posted on the webpage and in this Agenda packet, shows our expense categories and revenue sources and whether we are over or under budget. It is fairly lean.

Commissioner McIsaac continued, noting that he also lives in the District and does not like to see these increases either. But, if you want a fire department, someone must pay for it. You pay for your fire department if you live in town, too, just in different ways. Unfortunately, the county does not by law have to fund the fire districts and it is very unfortunate. He told Mr. Chamberlain that as a prior Yolo County Supervisor he knows that the money does not come back to the residents like it should.

Commissioner McIsaac finished his comments by noting that if we want to have a fire department, we are going to have to pay for it. If there is no fire department, fire insurance will become way more expensive. He noted some of the ranches he has managed in the past had to be on the FAIR Plan, with premiums increasing from $5,000 - $7,000 per year to $25,000. Haystacks do catch fire, tractors, also; he noted he has an orchard, which he doubts would ever burn, but it is "part of the process."

Commissioner McIsaac commented that he was not a fan of how the calculations were set up and thought residences should have paid more, but he also acknowledged that the assessment would likely not have passed if that were the case; so, he got involved. He was not on the Commission then. He recommended that everyone talk with their County Supervisor and encourage them to make sure the funding that they have set aside continues to be set aside. Get more involved; come to meetings, apply for the next open Board seat. It is frustrating to hear from residents only at these Budget meetings.

Commissioner Amy noted that there would be an open seat in the Fall, as she would not be applying to continue to serve once her second term is up.

Chief Stiles briefly responded to Mr. Chamberlain's comments regarding the fire at DQU, noting he had spoken with Mr. Chamberlain about possible causes that night and Mr. Chamberlain had conceded it might have been a "hot stack" based on how the field had been irrigated. Chief Stiles noted it was not the time or place to bring it up, but that he wanted it known he supported the Fire Captain's findings. Mr. Chamberlain tried to address it again and President Lindsey noted he could bring it up at a different time.

President Lindsey asked for further public comment on the proposed increase to the assessment levies. No one present had further input.

President Lindsey read two emails received by the Board Clerk. One from Kenneth Breckinridge who continues to be opposed to the assessment, let alone an increase to it. He wrote there are few fires in rice or alfalfa fields. He feels the 3% increase represents the Board's inability to stay within a budget.

The second email was from Beth Stiles. Ms. Stiles, a former Fire District Commissioner, praised the group's work and expressed support for the proposed changes to the assessments. She noted the increase in career staffing and the recent acquisition of a used apparatus to replace an older piece of apparatus. Both of which have increased safety and neither of which would have been possible without the 218 assessments. Rising costs require an increase in the assessments again this year.

2. **Last Call for Public Input**
   President Lindsey called for any last public input from anyone who has not already had their input. There was no further public input.

3. **Close Public Input**
   President Lindsey closed the public input session.

4. **Board Discussion, if any**
   President Lindsey called for any Board discussion.

   Commissioner McIsaac stated he would like to not have to increase the assessment but noted they had gone through the numbers and it is a reasonable Budget.

ii. **Close Public Hearing Regarding Continued Levy and Adjustment of Assessments**
President Lindsey closed the public hearing regarding continued levy and adjustment of the assessments.

iii. **Discussion / Action – Adopt Resolution 26-02 - A Resolution Accepting the Addendum to Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Engineer's Report Dated May 28, 2024, Confirming Continuation and Adjustment of the Assessment, and Ordering the Levy of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2026-27 for the West Plainfield Fire Protection District, Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment**

Commissioner Amy noted that in the Addendum at Page 8 there was a typographical error. The reference in the last line of the first paragraph to "2026-2027" should be corrected to "2025-2026."

Motion: Adopt Resolution 26-02
By: Commissioner Eoff
Second: Commissioner Lindsey
Discussion: No further discussion
Motion approved unanimously.

Board Clerk Rita will revise the Addendum as noted by Commissioner Amy.

e. **Discussion / Action – Adopt Final Fiscal Year 2026-27 District Budget (President Lindsey)**
President Lindsey presented the final fiscal year 2026-27 District Budget for consideration and adoption.

Motion: Adopt the 2026-27 District Budget, as presented, with total financing uses of $939,922
By: Commissioner McIsaac
Second: Commissioner Lindsey
Discussion: None
Motion approved unanimously.

5. **Fire Chief's Report (Chief Stiles)**
Prior to beginning his reports, Chief Stiles introduced the Fire Department's newest hire, Firefighter Gibbs. Firefighter Gibbs had recently finished his District-specific training and had just begun working his assigned shifts that day.

a. **Incidents for May 2026**
Chief Stiles noted that incidents in May had increased slightly over the past month, but not greatly. He noted that since this report covering May, incident numbers have increased considerably. No one had questions.

b. **Staffing Updates**
As reported previously, Firefighter Gibbs has completed his training and is now working his assigned shifts. Recruitment to fill Captain Rehan's position continues,

as does reserve and volunteer firefighter recruitment. Chief Stiles reported he is processing three-four reserve, and two-three out-of-district volunteer applications.

c. **Grant Updates**
Chief Stiles reported that the VFC grant for PPE and communications equipment had been submitted.

Chief Stiles advised that Chief Fish was working on two other grants, one for an SCBA fill station and one to replace the current SAFER grant that will end next year. He noted that the Yolo County Fire Chiefs Association had sold their mobile air unit, which included SCBA filling stations, and did not intend to replace it.

Chief Stiles noted that the SAFER Grant reporting is due in July and that it will be processed and submitted soon.

d. **Miscellaneous**
Chief Stiles reported that:

- We still need a second quote for the plumbing fix due to the cost of the project and that the anticipated cost has been included in the new Budget. He noted that the underlying plumbing issues have continued to affect the station.
- Upgrades to the new engine continue; the reel and the parts for the foam system have been received. The plan is to complete those projects early next month.
- W30 is the only apparatus still outstanding for annual maintenance, which should be completed this month.
- Engine 330 and W30 responded to the Putah incident outside of Winters; W30 was committed for more than 20 hours, and we will be invoicing CalFire that its response and time on the incident.

6. **Assistant Chief's Report (AC Beoshanz)**
Chief Beoshanz was absent; Chief Stiles had nothing to report on his behalf.

7. **Fire Fighter's Association Report (President Lee)**
President Lee had nothing to report.

8. **Board Clerk's Report (Clerk Rita)**
a. **Informational**
i. **Trial Balance – FYE 2026 – Period 11 – Not Closed**
No one had questions about the Trial Balance report.

ii. **FYE 2026 Deposits to Date**
Commissioner Amy asked about the CalCard rebates and the CalNet refund. Clerk Rita advised that CalCard is the Department purchasing card and we get rebates on purchases; we pay on annual fee to use the CalCards. She went on to reply that the CalNet rebate was from an overpayment due to cancellation of our old CalNet phone service and CalNet's lag in providing a true final balance due on cancellation, which resulted in the overpayment. CalNet then took forever to actually process the refund.

b. Discussion / Action – West Plainfield Fire Protection District Bill Review / Payment Ratification

Motion: Ratify payment of the District's bills
By: Commissioner Amy
Second: Commissioner Lindsey
Discussion: No discussion
Motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion / Action - Identify Individuals Who are Authorized to Approve Various Financial Transactions with Yolo County Department of Financial Services for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (*Special Districts and Other Agencies Authorization Form – FY 2026-2027*)

Clerk Rita presented the authorization form for review; it is required to be updated at least annually. She advised that it was essentially the same as the prior year, but adding Battalion Chief Fish.

Motion: To approve the Authorization form, as presented
By: Commissioner McIsaac
Second: Commissioner Amy
Discussion: No further discussion
Motion approved unanimously.

d. Discussion / Action – Approve May 19, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Approve the May 9, 2026, Board Meeting Minutes
By: Commissioner Lindsey
Second: Commissioner McIsaac
Discussion: No discussion
Motion approved unanimously.

9. Open Forum

Commissioner Lindsey asked about the Ride-Along Program. Chief Stiles reported it was pretty much in place and should be issued soon. We had to develop a procedure for staff to follow. Commissioner Lindsey and his daughter are both looking forward to being the first people to participate in the Program.

10. Next Regular Board Meeting on July 21, 2026, Unless Another Date is Agreed Upon

The next regular Board Meeting date will be July 21, 2026.

11. Meeting Adjourned (President Lindsey)

Motion: Adjourn the meeting
By: Commissioner Lindsey
Second: Commissioner Amy
Discussion: No discussion
Motion approved unanimously.

President Lindsey adjourned the meeting at 7:48 PM.

Approved: July 21, 2026

JOHN LINDSEY, President/Commissioner

Cherie Rita

CHERIE RITA, Board Clerk