SOUTHERN INYO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Thursday, June 25, 2026

The Governing Board of the Southern Inyo Fire Protection District held a regular business meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 6pm at the St. Therese Mission in Charleston View.

I. Call to order and determination of quorum

Present: Robin Flinchum, Chair, Cameron Mayer, Vice-Chair, Eliza Woodall, Secretary, Colette Zelwer, Treasurer, Spencer McNeal, Director, Bill Lutze, Mike Jerry, Gary Barkley, John Muccio

II. Good of the Order

III. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

IV. Consent Agenda (Items that are considered routine and are approved in a single motion)

A. Approve minutes from the May regular meeting.
B. Approve changes to board policy sections 2215, 2217, 2220, 2225, 2230 and 2240.
C. Mayer moves to approve the consent agenda. Zelwer seconds. Carries 5-0-0.

V. Correspondence

A. Flinchum, Zelwer and Mayer all received emails reminding them they have to file the election paperwork for their seats by July 1st.

VI. Board, Officer and Committee Reports

A. Board Member Reports
   - a. Board Chair Report
   - b. Treasury/Budget Report
     - b.i. Water kiosk is going to be fine. Even with generator project expense, this budget won't need to dip into reserves at the end of the year.
     - b.ii. SIFPD is $12k in the black, in large part due to the donation of the SCBA by Pahrump Valley Fire and Rescue.
     - b.iii. Ambulance budget will be at approximately $20,000 in revenue for ambulance services by year's end.
     - b.iv. Woodall moves to approve treasury report as presented. Mayer seconds. Carries 5-0-0.

B. Fire Chief's Report
   - a. Calls for service: Since our meeting on May 21st we had 8 calls for service. 6 EMS and 2 Fire calls. We had 2 to 6 responders on each call
   - b. Due to phone line theft, our phone, along with the community land lines, have been out for an extended period of time. They have been working to restore service. Our department went to Ring Central VoIP (internet phone service) and now has a working line with the same number we have had and same cost ($65/mo).
   - c. On Wednesday June 10 we held a training at the hot baths parking lot. The new fold-a-tank was used with success. We tested equipment on the truck and Larry gave instruction for use and refresher of the equipment. We transferred equipment from Engine 2732 to Engine 2731. We are getting quotes for repairs on Engine 2732. Huge shout out to Larry, Mike, Billy, and Dan for their work and energy.
   - d. SCE had a scheduled power outage beginning Wednesday 6-24-26 at 8pm to Thursday morning at 6am. Our department opened a cooling center at the Tecopa Community Center for area residents. Much appreciation to all who made this happen with special thanks to Mike, Eliza and Supervisor Will Wadleton.
   - e. Larry got the oxygen bottles refilled, after much struggle with Airgas, so our cascade bottle filling process will work again.

C. Administrative Report
  a. Spanish translation of agenda happened this month. Zelwer and Jerry will continue working on making it easier.
  b. Move to Starlink for office to isolate from power outages?
    b.i. Jerry will research cost and report to board at next board meeting.
  c. New fiscal, financial and harassment training requirements for board, Chief and DA.

D. Fleet Mechanic's Report
  a. Engine 2732 needs a new water pump and other minor repair.
    a.i. If repairs cost more than the Chief's pre-authorized $2500, he will bring it to the board for approval.
  b. S73 (ambulance) was towed by Pete's Auto to Pahrump (no cost to us as it is warranty work) for repair of the transmission.

E. Committee Reports
  a. Water Kiosk
    a.i. Generator functioned perfectly during the outage.
    a.ii. Still pursuing shade structure.
    a.iii. Discussion of need for lighting and perhaps camera for safety.
  b. Fundraising
    b.i. Update on planned events.
      b.i.1. Did some measuring during the outage event at the community center to get layout of event.
      b.i.2. Budget: Made a preliminary of about $5k. As we get real costs and amounts the budget will change to probably use 100% of the $7.5k.
      b.i.3. Film premiere moved to Shoshone flower building. So budget is kind of separated between the premier/catered dinner and the rest of the event. But need to work out cost/revenue sharing and document all agreements.
      b.i.4. If we have budget surplus, we should spend it on infrastructure to help with future events (shade, generators, sound systems, etc.).

F. Long-Term Planning
  a. Fire Stations
    a.i. County putting together RFP (after review by new public works director).
    a.ii. They will send letter to start grant clock soon.
  b. Recruitment
    b.i. Woodall to finalize flyers.

VII. Old Business

A. Update on radio communications.
  a. Not much changed since last month.
  b. Email from Noam: Yes, we're planning to use the internet connection at the Substation. We're working to configure a special box called a Gateway that would connect the Shoshone paging radio to the Dispatch console in Independence. This takes some networking wizardry, and that is the part we're working on. Once it's configured, we'll test it. And once tested, we'll perform the installation in Shoshone. I don't have an exact timeline because it depends on how long it takes to get everything configured correctly - the 4 elements that need to talk to each other are the Dispatch console, the two County firewalls in Independence and Shoshone, and the Gateway.

VIII. New Business

A. Charleston View update.
  a. Bonanza Peak and County open house 7/1 @5:30pm at the Mission.

B. Review bids received for surplus fire apparatus.
  a. Mayer moves to approve Zellhoefer bid for yellow 1975 International OES fire truck. Should that not pan out, Wadleton will get it for his lower bid. Zelwer seconds. Carries 5-0-0.

C. Discuss and approve repair cost of Brigadier fire engine.

a. Covered during fleet mechanic's report.

D. Review and approve resolution for adoption of discretionary Accumulated Capital Outlay.
   a. McNeal moves to approve resolution. Woodall seconds. Carries 5-0-0.

E. Review and make any needed changes to board policy sections 2250, 2251, 2255, 2260 and 2290.
   a. Sections 2250, 2251 and 2255 reviewed for approval next month.

F. Discuss and approve cost of stuffing local PO boxes via USPS Every Door Direct Mail program with announcement flyers.
   a. Decision was made to use the direct mail program for the Tecopa and Shoshone post office boxes, but for Death Valley Junction, Lutze has the contact email for the person who works up there and we can just send a letter to them to post next to the mailboxes.
   b. Necessary for assessment meetings, town halls, special meetings.

G. Update on special assessments.
   a. Jerry and Lutze will contact Angie.

IX. Good of the Order

X. Public Comment: 3 minutes per participant

XI. Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting

A. Cooling center protocol/procedure for future outages/events and how to get HHS on the hook for them, not us.

XII. Adjournment & Schedule next Regular Board Meeting: Thursday July 16th at 6PM in Tecopa. Flinchum and McNeal will be traveling. Woodall moves to adjourn. Mayer seconds. Carries 5-0-0. Flinchum adjourns meeting at 7:31.

Prepared by:

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Mike Jerry, District Administrator/Secretary

I, Robin Flinchum, Chair, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Meeting Minutes of the June 25, 2026 Regular Business Meeting, Board of Directors, Southern Inyo Fire Protection District.

Robin Flinchum, Board Chairperson	Eliza Woodall, Board Secretary