

Lane County Fire Defense Board

Eugene Springfield Fire

February 19, 2026

**Minutes/Financials** - Motion to approve L. Dragt 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Zeni - Unanimous

**CLCC:** No Report

**OSFM:** Brent provided a written update via email regarding OSFM items. Look for an email about the 2026 Summer staffing grant.

**LCSO:** No Report

**ODF:** Discussion about a 'call before you burn' phone line that is the works that would be above LRAPA backyard burning line. Spring training is coming, watch for updates on various Wildland level training. Contact person is Brent Peterson

**Region 5:** Classes and upcoming events hosted on the Region 5 Website.

**Lane ESD:** Row River donated an engine which will be stored at LFA.

**LCC:** Most recent meeting cancelled due to low participation.

**Emergency Management:** Emergency management hiring process for the Lane County Emergency manager position is underway and in phase 3.

**Radio:** USDA grant awarded to Lane County has been approved and the financial packets have been pre-approved. March 3<sup>rd</sup> the Board of Commissioners will sign approval. Fire West radio system will cut over to the new radio network on Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>. Discussion about interconnectivity with Deschutes County and the potential to bridge radio communication between the agencies.

**Wildland:** Preparing to order the thermal cameras for the trailers. Next month we're having a wildland committee meeting. Please reach out with needs regarding the Lane County Conflag Matrix - the matrix is currently sparse.

**Old Business:**

ASA Taskforce: Next meeting is Friday following our regular meeting.

Tablet Command: Patch is maybe close - possibly March.

## **New Business:**

Protocol App:

Upper McKenzie Fire District Ambulance Discussion: Chief Zeni provided a proposed code change to the Lane ASA committee terminology in the Lane Code. Proposal was handed out in person. Request was for support from the Fire Defense Board to support this change and proposal to Lane County Board of Commissioners.

*Chief Zeni made a motion for the Fire Defense Board to provide a vote of support to Lane County Board of Commissioners proposing a change to Lane County Code 18.100.015 regarding definitions and amendments to the Lane Code. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Bucich. Voting: Yes:                      No:*

Before voting, there was discussion to the “why” and what current rules are or bylaws for the current ASA Advisory Committee. There was a discussion about the purpose of the proposal.

Chief Zeni after discussion requested to withdraw the request to gather a little more information based on the bylaws of the committee and to approach this at a future meeting.

## **Motion withdrawn.**

Chief Zeni provided a second update and proposal document to the members present in the room. The presentation included a description of WHY - Upper McKenzie Fire District is asking to have permission to staff and deploy an ambulance, licensed, and provide ambulance a support and reduce delivery of service times in their own community. They are not seeking to change the ASA, seek revenue, or make substantial changes to the system. The District would like to be able to transport patients to intercept a responding ALS medic unit or intercept a landing zone for air transport of a priority patient.

Chief Zeni proceeded to make a motion to seek support of the Lane County Fire Defense Board regarding proposed redline amendments for Lane County Code Chapter 18. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Bucich.

Discussion opened for participating members. The group learned that Lane County Legal Counsel is reviewing the proposed amendments and seek that Lane County understand and provide the supervision for compliance within someone seeking to

follow this process. Lane County does have this request and is evaluating the request before submitting it to the committee after vetting it or counsel. This happens before it would move either way to the Public Health Committee. Substantial discussion in the room.

Call the Question: **The question was called and there were two vocal votes in support but unclarity in the vote and no additional votes, the measure is deemed to fail.**

**Protocol App Presentation/Discussion:** Dan Chase presented a desire to incorporate an app to how we host the Lane County EMS protocols. This would replace the online hosting. Dan spoke about options in the research they are finding for protocol apps and the associated services. The primary app is currently being used by Lifeflight. The ideal suggestion would be to have everyone in Lane County on the same platform. This also pulls down the protocol from the public forward facing websites for accessibility for the public. The County app program would require an annual subscription of \$15,000 per year by the users. Discussion about potentially funding this through partnership with Lane Fire Defense Board with ESF. The funding could be taken from Firemed funds that are passed to the Fire Defense Board annually. The recommended app is Hand Heavy.

*D. Bucich made a motion that the Fire Defense Board direct ESF to move forward with a contract to use Hand Heavy app for hosting protocols. The Funding would be derived from Firemed funds normally passed through the Fire Defense Board annually.*  
*L. Dragt 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **Motion passes unanimously.***

Information sharing completed for those in person and online.

Meeting Adjourned: