



Board of Directors

- Robert Taylor, Board President
- Dale White, Vice President
- Wyatt King, Secretary/Treasurer
- Matt Herb, Member
- Robbe Boren, Member

LFD Executive Staff

- John Tacy, Fire Chief
- Mark Fitzwater, DC of Operations
- Candace Hedding, Fire Marshal
- Russell Duerr, DC of Training
- Desiree Barker, Chief Administrative Officer

CALL MEETING TO ORDER AT 5:30 PM

FLAG SALUTE

MINUTES

Agenda item # 1 – Approval of April 14, 2026 Board Minutes

Secretary/Treasurer King made a motion to approve the board minutes, and executive minutes as written, Member Boren 2nd the motion.

Vote:

- Board President Taylor - Absent
- Vice President White - Yea
- Secretary Treasurer King - Yea
- Member Herb - Yea
- Member Boren – Yea

Motion Approved.

Agenda item # 2 – Approval of April 14, 2026 Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Member Boren made a motion to approve the budget committee meeting minutes as written, Secretary/Treasurer King 2nd the motion.

Vote:

- Board President Taylor - Absent
- Vice President White - Yea
- Secretary Treasurer King - Yea
- Member Herb - Yea
- Member Boren – Yea

Motion Approved.

Agenda item # 3 – Approval of April 14, 2026 Executive Session Minutes

Member Herb made a motion to approve the executive minutes as written, Member Boren 2nd the motion.

Vote:

- Board President Taylor - Absent
- Vice President White - Yea
- Secretary Treasurer King - Yea
- Member Herb - Yea
- Member Boren – Yea

Motion Approved.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

(Limited to 5 minutes per speaker)

There were no citizen comments.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item #4 – Political Strategist Presentations

Chief Tacy introduced Liz Loomis from Liz Loomis Public Affairs.

- Liz Loomis presented her company's services for helping fire districts pass ballot measures, explaining their three-phase project approach and communication strategy. She outlined their team structure, experience with local governments, and approach to messaging, emphasizing that they don't spin information but rather help clients communicate honestly with voters. The presentation included details about their implementation methods, which involve a combination of paid media, earned media, shared media, and owned media components, along with training for spokespersons and internal communication strategies.
- Liz explained her recommendation to postpone the levy discussion to May 2027 instead of November, citing the challenging political environment and her strategy of moving most clients' elections to 2027 to avoid being associated with the current federal issues. She noted that while the underlying political winds haven't changed, the timing shift provides breathing room to distance the local fire and EMS initiative from broader federal and state political tensions. Lebanon acknowledged Liz's insights about the political climate.

Chief Tacy introduced Betsy Schultz from PNW Strategies.

- Betsy provided a brief history naming Marion County and the City of Lebanon jail levy. She also has experience with politics at the state and local level. She presented her consulting services as geared specifically to each agency. It involves communication with the community, the Board, and utilizing the Pack. She recommended a May 2027 ballot measure instead of November. She proposed starting with polling in January-February, which typically costs \$7,000, followed by a 30-60 day initial contract to assess viability. She also suggested a question/answer session with the community similar to radio interviews.
- Betsy hires a half-time employee when needed and refers clients to vendors for services.

Agenda Item #5 – Resolution to Adopt and Categorize the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget

Vice President White opened the Public Hearing inviting comments or questions.

- There were no comments or questions.

President Taylor closed the Public Hearing to reconvene regular session.

Secretary Treasurer King made a motion to approve the Resolution 03-2026 Adopting the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget, Levy Taxes, and Make Appropriations as presented, with a total budget of \$15,995,078, and levy taxes at , \$2.26 per \$1,000 of assessed value. He also made a motion to approve \$1,033,341 for the general obligation bond. Member Boren 2nd the motion.

Vote:

Board President Taylor - Absent
Vice President White - Yea
Secretary Treasurer King - Yea
Member Herb - Yea
Member Boren – Yea

Motion Approved.

Agenda Item #6 – Resolution - Approval of Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Revisions and Appropriations

Vice President White asked if there were comments or questions on Resolution 04-2026. There were no comments or questions.

Member Herb made a motion to approve the Resolution 04-2026 Approving Budget Revisions for fiscal year 2025/2026. King 2nd. the motion

Vote:

Board President Taylor - Absent
Vice President White - Yea
Secretary Treasurer King - Yea
Member Herb - Yea
Member Boren – Yea

Motion Approved.

REPORTS

Agenda Item #7 – Financial Report

CAO Barker reported there was nothing noteworthy in the financial statements to report.

Agenda Item #8 – Union Address the Board

Union Vice President Jason Adamson reported a tentative agreement has been reached with LFD. The Union is reviewing and will report back in 10 days.

Agenda Item #9 – Volunteers Address the Board

There were no volunteers present.

Agenda Item #10 – Fire Chief Report

Fire Chief Tacy provided the progress report on the refurbishment. The apparatus is stripped, and mechanical work is being performed.

Member Herb expressed frustration with the burn line. He would like to see a more coordinated effort. Linn County Sheriff dispatch provides the message. The burn line is not updated timely. 10:00 updates delays burning. Chief Tacy will discuss this topic with the County Fire Chief.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:27 pm PER ORS 192.660(2)(d): TO CONDUCT DELIBERATIONS ON LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION at 6:35 pm

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

There were no other agenda items.

ADJOURN REGULAR SESSION AT 6:36 pm.

Dale White, Board Vice President

John Tacy, Fire Chief