

Tangent Rural Fire Protection District

Board of Directors

Minutes

April 8, 2026

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:00.

II. ROLL CALL

Board of Directors:	President Chris Meyer Vice President Paul Strombeck Secretary Scott Richards Director John Dunn Director Bruce Riley
Staff:	Fire Chief Chuck Chapin Division Chief Chris Hunt Office Administrator Denny Conrad
Volunteer Associations:	President Amanda Wray
Citizens:	None present

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning, Priority Planning and Organizational Assessment

Roy Emery works for SDAO. He has been doing these assessments for 6 years. He has worked with both smaller and larger departments/districts. Training a new person. The chief has all the same priorities as a bigger department.

In December, Chief Chapin, Chris Meyer and Roy Emery talked about strategic planning/priority planning. Since Tangent Fire has had a number of chiefs over the last 5 years, how do you know what you are doing is where you want to be? How do you know you are compliant? During the conversation, Emery suggested it would be more effective to do an organizational assessment. It looks at the various areas and weighs against NFP standards and best management practices. It is assessed from the ocean perspective on things. We don't say you are not doing something correctly, but here is the best practice. Consider modifying what you are doing or if there are some violations and your chief and the board have a conversation over the recommendations and then prioritize what those recommendations are. Take two or three of those priorities, and that becomes part of the chief's performance goals. Part of the chief's monthly report, he can report on the progress in achieving those successes. Once those are completed, take a couple more priorities, understanding the chief has a bigger picture and may knock off a couple of lower priority things. This should give you three to five years worth of things to work on.

Emery could start mid-July. He requests information ahead of time. He does not schedule the first meeting until all the information has been sent to him. He will review policies and any plans. This gives him an understanding of the district to then ask informed questions. He does not want to waste anyone's time.

The board asked if he would evaluate our apparatus and give suggestions about the direction of what we think we need or go in a different direction that we are not aware of? Emery said to make sure the district was not changing direction again and again. That is just a waste of money. He is very conscientious of taxpayer money. You don't necessarily have to buy new ones, but you have to buy quality.

In the report, he does not look at the district's growth, but will get that information from the chief and board with the financial analysis. This will give an idea of the future when the expenses are going to cross the tax base revenue. He likes the five-year financial plan, and it needs to continually be updated. The board can then see the impact of their decisions with the updated plan and can plan for what needs to be done.

The cost is not to exceed \$7500. There are no grants. We could use the 8 hours that we receive from SDAO for this year, but if we need to use their services later it would be at their hourly rate.

The chief believes moving forward with this assessment is a good idea.

It is super valuable that Chief Chapin has lived the process of having so many chiefs and their ideas about how to move forward with the district.

Emery's perspective will come from all the angles.

Emery will have interviews with all the principals first, then delve into some other areas. This generally gives some idea of where you are or are not.

An invoice will be next fiscal year. The report should be ready by August and

September.

The board thanked Roy Emery for presenting this again with all the board members present.

Discussion ensued:

The board agrees it is a good idea to have an outside person looking at our district. This will be a good reset for the district and we have the funds, Engine 72 is slated to be replaced in 2028. With good maintenance, we could get another 5 to 10 years.

Engine 72, Engine 73 are changed every six months.

Personnel is what the board is concerned about and the results from the report.

Last year we had 57 unanswered calls. Having a lieutenant, we will be able to get a truck out the door.

155 times, no volunteers came to the call.

We only have four in-district volunteers. (One has been pulled for not being able to get on the ground to perform CPR, but he is working on it.)

Out of district volunteers and not coming back in for calls. By the time they arrive, the call is over.

What is best for the taxpayers? Are these acceptable stats? The answer is no!

The light rescue may relieve some of this issue.

Get a truck out the door by adding paid staff.

At what point will Albany not be able to come to our calls? They call volume is also increasing.

We are looking at different models to solve the issue. Starting June 1, we will have two volunteers per shift and a paid lieutenant to get a truck out the door. This is for nighttime and weekends. The volunteers will stay overnight. We are looking at bedding and other things that is needed. One of the students will meet with the chief to give ideas as to what is needed.

Action: Director Riley moved for the Motion to go forward with the Strategic Planning presented by SDAO. Director Dunn seconded the motion. Upon voting, it Passed, Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0.

A. Resolution of Dissolution of Linn County Emergency Telephone agency (ETA) — Authorization

Disbanding the ETA .

It is not valid today. We do everything through Linn County Fire Defense Board. Linn County Sheriff also has a seat there.

Because a past board member signed the agreement, they would either like a board member to sign or give Chief Chapin authorization to sign the resolution of dissolution of Linn County Emergency Telephone Agency. (ETA).

The money goes towards grants. This year we will get a \$17,000 grant for radios. Implementation of 911 started in 1986.

Motion to giving Chief Chapin the authoration to sign the resolution of dissolution of ETA for Tangent RFPD.

MOVER:	Director Bruce Riley
SECONDER:	Secretary Scott Richards
AYES:	President Chris Meyer, Vice President Paul Strombeck, Secretary Scott Richards, Director John Dunn, Director Bruce Riley
NAYS:	None
RESULT:	Passed

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizens present or attending with Teams.

IV. APPROVAL OF

A. Minutes

Motion to approve Minutes of March 11, 2026 as submitted.

MOVER:	Secretary Scott Richards
SECONDER:	Director John Dunn
AYES:	President Chris Meyer, Vice President Paul Strombeck, Secretary Scott Richards, Director John Dunn, Director Bruce Riley
NAYS:	None
RESULT:	Passed

B. Financial Report

Motion to approve the financials as submitted.

MOVER:	Director Bruce Riley
SECONDER:	Vice President Paul Strombeck
AYES:	None
NAYS:	None

RESULT:	Passed
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V. STANDING REPORTS

A. Volunteers Association – Wray

No report was submitted for this month.

Updates:

Purchasing the cooking trailer from Brownsville. They did not accept our offer, but will still allow us to borrow it.

They do not want any money for borrowing the trailer. They just want to be a good neighbors. We fill the propane tanks before returning the trailer. We have also offered to help with repairs if needed.

B. Fire Chief – Chapin

Additional comments during the meeting:

LCFDBB Meeting — Corvallis FC presented some changes in the wild land fire in Linn and Benton counties. With the changes, a new mutual aid agreement will need to be signed.

Light Rescue Build — Chief signed all documents for changes with Hughes Fire. It is ahead of schedule.

Habitat for Humanity — Now have a flyer that we can give to our residents of Tange that may need help with ramps, etc. There is no paperwork for homeowners. Habitat for Humanity takes care of it.

Had a user group meeting with dispatch and local fire chiefs. We are changing how we will get dispatched for residential fire alarms for calls coming in after hours with alarms for chirping fire alarms or dead batteries. This will make us be better prepared for the call.

Fire prevention — Circle K leaking underground tanks. Talking with the chief about which would be better for them to put in: underground or above ground.

Tyree Oil staging — Stage fill truck about 10 trucks. A permit will be need for this process.

SCBA and mask flow testing — They came back good. Our tanks will be due for hysteresis testing: 20 tanks next fiscal year 2026-27 and 20 tanks the following fiscal year 2027-28.

Volunteer requirements/Student program — New requirement for volunteers so we can handle our own calls instead of Albany or Lebanon will be in place on June 1. No student program next fiscal year.

Discussion:

Board: Since we are the Strategic Planning assessment, should we hold off on hiring any new personnel?

Chief Chapin: We could hold off on hiring. Our goal is to identify if a truck did not go

out because there was no driver or no crew. We have changed our run forms to capture this information. We now have an engine academy to get more drivers. We stopped the student program. It takes 16 weeks before they are ready to respond. The lieutenant positions with an A, B, C shift will guarantee a truck out the door. There will always be an officer here to be able to get a truck out the door.

In our budget revenue, we did not add the 3% for taxes to be conservative.

Light Rescue can get out the door. Our calls are 80 to 85% medical. Feel good about the light rescue.

Brush rig or type 3?: We will wait until we get Emery's report. In the budget there is money for new apparatus, but we will wait until we get the report from Emery.

What is best for the taxpayers, and what is best for the community? That is what is important.

C. Division Chief – Hunt

Additional comments during the meeting:

Engineer Academy — The focus this year is engineers and officers. Currently, they are checked off to drive but not to pump. Should be done by mid-May. Amandy, Manny, Zack, Jett, Christy, and Sal.

New EMT's — Our plan to have everyone certified to EMT level. EMT have a broader scope. They have more skills and are able to give more medications. Only 2 people that are not EMT's.

New Firefighter — She is certified as a firefighter 1 and going through our skills that we do: pulling our hose, using our air packs. It should be a quick turn around.

New Academy starting next month.

D. Activity Report – Chapin

Total YTD calls is at 80. This is an decrease of 5 from 2024, increase of 3 from 2023, and decrease of 21 from 2022 and up 10 calls from last month.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

B. Awards Banquet

The banquet went well. Thanked Conrad for a job well done.

Good speakers. Dr. Griffin and his wife Melissa. On his social media, he posted a clip from his talk at our banquet.

Volunteers were affected by the speakers.

Friday night, there were 39 people in attendance. About had were from our department.

VIII. GOOD OF THE ORDER

A. Board Meeting & Public Hearing — May 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

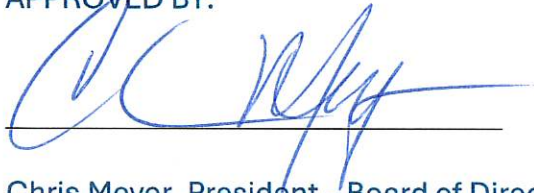
Discussion of the Teams and the quality of the transmission. We will put the equipment in the middle to see if it helps. Also our internet speed has increased. Scott Richards received his 8-year pin for being on the board of directors.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

President Meyer adjourned the meeting at 8:23.

Minutes submitted by Denny Conrad
Office Administrator

APPROVED BY:



5/13/26

Chris Meyer, President – Board of Directors Date

Chief's Report

April 2026

Meetings Attended:

- Staff Meetings
- LCFDB Meeting
- Light Rescue Build
- Habitat for Humanity
- Meeting with Fastech (Website)

Fire Prevention:

- Set back review for private buildings
- Circle K fuel tanks
- Tyree Oil staging
- LBCC AG Center onsite inspection

Equipment:

- SCBA and Mask Flow testing
- E-73 new battery

Administration:

- Budgeting Process
- Banquet
- Volunteer requirements/Student program

Chris Hunt
Board Report
4/8/2026

Engineer Academy

We currently have 7 people going through our engineer academy along with a handful of current engineers attending for a good refresher. This class covers the hazards of responding with lights and siren, the physics involved in pumping water through hoses, and how to troubleshoot issues that could arise.

New EMT's

Three members recently completed the EMT course offered in Sweet Home. Jackie Goldman has already taken the National Test and received both the National and State EMT Licenses. The other two will be taking the test soon.

New Firefighter

Laura Harrell has recently joined Tangent Fire. She moved here from the Oregon coast where she was a volunteer firefighter. She is already certified as a Firefighter I and is working through all of the Tangent specific skills so she can start responding.