

# **Fern Creek Fire Protection District Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes October 13, 2025**

In order to provide the highest level of public access, the Fern Creek Fire Protection District, in accordance with KRS 61.826 and recent Kentucky Supreme Court rulings, is providing access to all members of the public, both at a physical location at 4101 Bardstown Road, as well as via a video teleconference which can be accessed as presented on our website, [www.FernCreekFire.com](http://www.FernCreekFire.com). It is understood that any board member attending via video teleconference must be able to be seen and heard, and in the event that there is a technology issue, provided a quorum remains, that Trustee(s) will be able to attend the meeting, but may not vote until audio and video are reestablished. If enough Trustees are unable to vote due to remote technology issues such that a quorum no longer remains, the meeting will be adjourned.

## **Monthly BOT Meeting Video Teleconference**

The following Microsoft Teams link has been provided for those not able to or those choosing not to attend in person:

[Click here to join the meeting](#) (Recurring Meeting Link)

Meeting ID: 272 252 133 378

Passcode: 5TsKFn

[Download Teams](#)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ott at 4:01 p.m.

Board Members present: Henry Ott, Kenny Craigmyle, Scott Cunduff, and Robert Thompson. Tracy Deloch and Larry Ash attended virtually and could be seen and heard at all times.

Guests present: Chief Evans, Deputy Chief Early, Deputy Chief Recktenwald, Assistant Chief Burd, Assistant Chief Dwyer, James Sebastian, Dawn Nicholai, and Joyce Shelton. Captain Vinton was present at the beginning of the meeting, left for a fire incident, and did not return.

Guests who virtually attended included Major Beckett and several unidentifiable guests.

Matt Huelsman from Jones, Nale, and Mattingly, PLC was present, presented the 2024-25 Audit, and left the meeting.

Motion Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Craigmyle to approve the 2024-25 Audit as presented. MC unanimously.

Motion Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Craigmyle to approve the September Minutes as presented. MC unanimously.

Motion, Ash, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to approve the June, July, August, and September Financial Reports as presented. MC unanimously.

### **Announcements & Correspondence**

- Current bank statements are available for review.
- Denton Group September report: *See reports for details.*

**Items Noted:** As mentioned last month, the KY Fire Commission introduced a bill that would release the cap on fire districts for property tax revenue, changes for public notices, and other related items, and has potential for support. Update: The KFA will be holding a news brief for public awareness of the 1940s law that limits funding for fire districts and the need for removing the cap.

### **Old Business**

Performance Evaluation is still pending and requested to remain on the monthly agenda and noted in the minutes.

Update on Community Risk Assessment: In progress and will have evaluation on October 14 and 15, 2025 which will include information about Performance Evaluation process as well.

An update from Attorney Leach regarding deeds will be given in the November meeting.

### **Chief and Committee Reports**

Chief Evans: Items of Note:

- The Ready Rebound Program that was implemented in late 2024/early 2025 is proving to be successful with the ROI of 143% and 233 days of work saved by ensuring early appointments and testing when needed.
- The department has now sent two invoices to Louisville Metro for payment for runs made into the Metro area with no payment received to date. It is noted that some other departments have received payment. The invoices have been resubmitted with changes in the presentation of data and should receive payments soon.
- The new fire apparatus should be ready for delivery in mid-November with an In-Service date of sometime around the first of 2026.

Chief Officers: Nothing to report.

Committees: Nothing to report.

## **New Business**

Motion Ash, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to approve the changes in SOP 301 Personal Time Off (PTO) as presented which is needed for the shift changes in January 2026. MC unanimously.

Motion Cundiff, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thompson to approve the changes in SOP 300 Holidays as presented which is needed for the shift changes in January 2026. MC unanimously.

Motion Cundiff, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thompson to approve spending \$120,000 to update Station #64 in preparation to be fully staffed by July 2026 with money from the Building Reserve (not budgeted for FY 2025-26). MC unanimously.

The following motions were made for allocations and expenditures with surplus funds from FY 2024-25 except where noted:

Motion Craigmyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to approve adding the following to the current budget line items:

- Add \$100,000 to grants for matching and paying grant writers.
- Add \$200,000 to Fire Apparatus Reserve.
- Add \$66,873 to Ambulance Reserve.
- Add \$200,000 to health insurance benefits for the expected increase to premiums.

MC unanimously.

Motion Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to approve up to \$50,000 for 2026 for the implementation of the 'Deferred Comp Option #2' that was presented for future consideration and implementation by the Benefits Group in November 2024. Motion includes a January 2026 timeline for a one-time \$250 deferred comp deposit for each fulltime employee, is subject to annual consideration and renewal depending on projected budget and income, and requires BOT approval prior to each calendar year. MC unanimously.

Motion Ash, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to spend \$160,000 to complete the Fuel Station Project for all stations. MC unanimously.

Motion Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ash to approve making a bid to Lagrange Fire for a fire engine in the amount of \$275,000 from Fire Apparatus Reserve (\$200,000 previously approved and an additional \$75,000). MC unanimously.

Motion Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Craigmyle to surplus the chassis from totaled ambulance and sale for estimated amount of \$2,000 on GovDeals and/or other advertising platforms. MC unanimously.

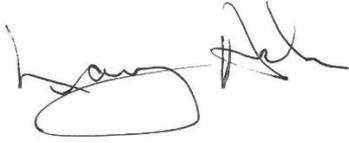
It was noted that a pinning ceremony for recent promotions will be held on Tuesday, October 14, 2025 at Fern Creek Christian Church at 6:00 PM.

It was noted that on Thursday, October 16, the department will be participating in a Trunk or Treat event at Fern Creek High School.

Discussion held regarding Arby's property and it's potential interest by the department.

**Adjournment**

Motion Craigmyle, 2<sup>nd</sup> Cundiff to adjourn at 4:52 p.m. MC unanimously.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Ash". The signature is stylized with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Larry Ash, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joyce Shelton". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Joyce Shelton, Recording Secretary