HOODLAND FIRE DISTRICT #74
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 14, 2026

Board Members: Nora Gambee, John Drake, Kirk Peterson, and Terry Niedermeyer. [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]. Four voting members in attendance.
Staff and Volunteers: Scott Kline; Division Chief, Brian Henrichs; Division Chief, and Kelli Ewing; Office Administrator
Guests: Pat Erdenberger, Marti Bowne, and Walt Mayberry

1. Call to Order: By Nora Gambee at 7:02 PM

2. Roll Call

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by John Drake

4. Persons to be Heard

   A. Pat Erdenberger – Representing the Hoodland CPO, Mt. Hood Wildfire Partnership, and Hoodland Emergency Communication Network.

      i. Expressed support of Terry Niedermeyer's proposed Oregon Telecommunication Backup Power legislative concept. Emphasized the need for at least 72 hours of cellular system back up power during emergencies in rural communities and thanked Terry Niedermeyer for his extensive work.

   B. Marti Bowne – Representing the Rhododendron CPO, Mt. Hood Corridor Wildfire Partnership, and Hoodland Emergency Communications Network.

      i. Expressed support of Terry Niedermeyer's proposed Oregon Telecommunication Backup Power legislative concept. Concerned about the community's isolation, the failure of cellular service during power outages, and the importance of reliable backup power for emergency communications.

   C. Walt Mayberry – Representing the CPO/HOA Neighborhood Workgroup of the Mt. Hood Corridor Wildfire Partnership.

      i. Expressed support of Terry Niedermeyer's proposed Oregon Telecommunication Backup Power legislative concept. Described emergency communications as a longstanding priority. Cited communication failures during winter storms and major wildfires and stated that cellular service is essential for 911 calls, evacuation routes, and county emergency alerts. Appreciates the amount of research and time Terry Niedermeyer dedicated to this proposal.

Out of Order

12. New Business

B. Oregon Telecommunications Backup Power Legislative Concept

i. The Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) requested input from Oregon Special Districts regarding potential legislative proposals. In response, Terry Niedermeyer developed the Oregon Telecommunications Backup Power Legislative Concept.

ii. The proposal addresses the lack of backup power at many cellular communication towers. Currently, many cell towers do not have sufficient backup power to remain operational during extended power outages. There is no Oregon law requiring wireless or wireline telecommunications carriers to maintain backup power when the electrical grid is unavailable.

iii. Recent emergencies have demonstrated that the loss of cellular service during extended power outages can leave residents, visitors, and emergency responders without reliable communication. These communication failures have made it difficult for people to call 911, receive emergency alerts, obtain evacuation information, or communicate with family members during critical situations. Requiring backup power at cell towers is intended to help maintain essential communication services when they are needed most.

iv. The legislative concept would require facilities-based carriers to maintain 72 hours of on-site backup power at cell sites and wireless nodes in designated high wildfire hazard zones.

MOTION MADE: By John Drake to authorize Terry Niedermeyer to submit the Oregon Telecommunications Backup Power legislative concept and supporting documents to the Special Districts Association of Oregon for consideration in its 2027 legislative program.
2ND: By Kirk Peterson
DISCUSSION: None.
VOTE: Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

Resumed Order

5. Board Officer Elections

A. President

MOTION MADE: By John Drake to appoint Nora Gambee as Board President
2ND: By Terry Niedermeyer
DISCUSSION: None.
VOTE: Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

i. Leanora Gambee appointed Hoodland Fire District #74 Board President for FY 2026-2027.

B. Vice-President

MOTION MADE: By to Nora Gambee appoint John Drake as Board Vice President
2ND: By Terry Niedermeyer
DISCUSSION: None.
VOTE: Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

i. John Drake appointed Hoodland Fire District #74 Board Vice President for FY 2026-2027.

C. Secretary/Treasurer

MOTION MADE: By Nora Gambee to appoint Terry Niedermeyer as Board Secretary/Treasurer
2ND: By John Drake
DISCUSSION: None.
VOTE: Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

i. Terrence Niedermeyer appointed Hoodland Fire District #74 Board Secretary/Treasurer for FY 2026-2027.

6. Fire Station Project

A. Station Project Update

i. Limiting attendance of vendors at meetings to reduce costs. There will be vendors present at the August meeting.

ii. Board Members were given a tour of the construction site tonight and were updated on what is happening. The project remains two to three weeks ahead of schedule.

iii. The District is awaiting the main building permit and the right-of-way permit that is needed to bring water beneath Salmon River Road.

iv. PGE service documents and payment have been completed, while an easement remains tied to the property transfer. PGE has reached out to ODOT regarding the traffic-signal package. ODOT continues to review the package.

v. Inline's initial billing is under review, and Otak and Inline are expected to present the guaranteed maximum price amendment at the August meeting.

vi. Seven potentially hazardous trees were identified on adjacent county property. There is an onsite meeting planned with Clackamas County on how those trees can be mitigated.

vii. DC Scott Kline will be touring Gresham Fire's station 76 and Hillsboro's Station 9, to look at the finish on their bay floors and see how it is holding up as well as what maintenance is required.

viii. Reviewed the 4-week construction outlook. Under slab utilities, radon mitigation, retaining wall backfill, drainage, and rebar work are underway.

ix. The concrete pour is scheduled to begin soon. Inline has notified neighboring residents of the early start time, and measures are being implemented to minimize noise and reduce the impact on the surrounding neighborhood.

x. ODOT and the Forest Service can utilize some of the excavated rock, reducing hauling and disposal costs.

xi. Training ground design work has begun and is expected to take several months.

xii. Salmon Valley Water will allow two connections, fire sprinkler and domestic service. Any garden water would come from the domestic line and be metered. The Board will decide later how the garden will be charged. Temporary water and access remain available to the garden.

xiii. A handrail has been installed to improve safe access to the garden. The gardeners have also been helpful in enhancing site security by notifying Inline of any suspicious activity. Increased rodent activity has been observed because of the construction.

7. Approval of Minutes

A. Board of Directors Meeting & FY 2026-2027 Budget Hearing Minutes on June 9, 2026

MOTION MADE:	By Kirk Peterson to approve the Board of Directors Meeting & FY 2026-2027 Budget Hearing Minutes on June 9, 2026
2ND:	By John Drake
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	Motion Passed. 3 Ayes and 1 Abstain [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Abstain). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

8. Communications

A. Board Upcoming Reminders

i. Special Board Meeting – Monday, July 27, 2026, ~ 7:00 PM

ii. Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, August 11, 2026, ~ 7:00 PM

iii. Hood to Coast BBQ – August 28, 2026, ~ 12:00 PM

iv. Hoodland Fire Picnic – Saturday, September 12, 2026, ~ 12:00 PM

v. OFDDA Conference [Hood River] – November 5 – 7, 2026

B. Safety Meeting Minutes May 21, 2026

i. Board members were reminded that all are welcome to attend Safety Committee meetings. The July Safety Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 16 at 11:00 AM.

9. Reports

A. Chiefs Report: Fire Chief Price [On Vacation]

B. Staff Report: DC Henrichs

i. Working with C-800 to get the GRMS radio antenna up.

ii. CCOM user fees continue to go up. Working with Clackamas County to try to help lower the fees.

iii. A Hoodland Fire team was sent out with Brush 351 to Eastern Oregon on the Olive Creek Fire Conflagration.

iv. A/C in training room needs repaired. Currently working on getting a quote for a mini split.

v. There is a total of six students, with four of them being new, currently being housed at the Government Camp Station. Additional lockers and refrigerators were purchased to accommodate them. Future improvements may include an additional wall, egress window, and HVAC balancing. The recent Student Academy was completed successfully with no injuries.

C. Staff Report: DC Scott Kline

i. In June there were 70 calls, average turnout time of 1:45 and an average time of arrival of 10:20. Two vehicle fires, burn complaints, a couple MVA's, and one special rescue.

ii. Energy Trust of Oregon and Cyber Security grants are in progress.

iii. Working on FEMA reimbursements from the December 2025 Storm.

iv. Company inspections are temporarily on hold due to wildfire season and reduced staffing.

v. Discussion on plan reviews and land-use matters, including a proposed shipping-container storage facility, a potential donated structure for a burn-to-learn, a landlocked parcel, and a proposed wedding venue.

vi. The July 4th Timberline Rim parade had strong community participation and no calls during the event. CERT members joined and the kids received Fire District swag.

10. Finance

A. Financial Memo

i. Budget reports include last fiscal year as well as this fiscal year. Approximately $40,000 of donation revenue came from a family trust and goes into the general fund.

ii. Discussed the budget, tax income, balances, and the reserve accounts.

B. HFD Fire Station Project Costs

i. All project costs are updated. DC Kline explained that Otak serves as project manager and monitors the budget, permits, testing and construction coordination. Mackenzie continues design clarification and responses to requests for information, while Inline manages construction and subcontractors. Special inspections, geotechnical work, radon testing, and other project services are tracked through Otak and HFD.

11. Unfinished Business

A. Volunteer Relations Update

i. There has been a positive atmosphere among volunteers, seasonal employees, students, and new members. Training participation and station involvement have increased, with multiple pieces of apparatus frequently responding to calls. A few members are on personal leaves of absence, but overall volunteer relations are going well.

B. Review Board Liaison Positions/Board Liaison Update

i. CERT Members came in and cleaned out the shed. Approximately 600 lbs. was taken to the dump.

ii. The Support Group's June 16 Bike Helmet event distributed approximately 34 helmets to children in the community.

iii. The Board revisited its plan to invite District groups to provide quarterly reports, so they remain engaged and have regular opportunities to address the Board. Staff will reach out to the groups to encourage their participation.

12. New Business

A. Second Reading to Delete Policy #110 Cell Phone Usage

i. Members who previously had District sub-accounts have now transitioned to their own cell phone plans. As a result, Policy #110 Cell Phone Usage is no longer needed.

MOTION MADE:	By John Drake to approve the Second Reading to Delete Policy # 110 Cell Phone Usage.
2ND:	By Kirk Peterson
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

C. Agenda Suggestions for Next Month's Meeting

i. No additional agenda items were suggested; however, the Board discussed the next quarterly dinner. The dinner was tentatively moved to October 12, 2026, due to a scheduling conflict on October 5, 2026. John will be hosting with other Board Members providing sides and dessert.

13. Motion to Pay Bills

MOTION MADE:	By Kirk Peterson to Pay Bills as submitted.
2ND:	By John Drake
DISCUSSION:	None.
VOTE:	Motion Passed. 4 Ayes [1 Absent]. Nora Gambee (Aye), John Drake (Aye), Kirk Peterson (Aye), and Terry Niedermeyer (Aye). [Cliff Fortune (Absent)]

14. Board Member Comments

i. Kirk Peterson – Thank you Nora and Feleicia for hosting the last Board Dinner.

ii. John Drake - Thanks to DC Scott Kline for the large print 4 week look ahead of the construction project.

iii. Terry – Thanks to DC Scott Kline for the construction site tour.

15. Executive Session. None.

16. Other New Business. None.

17. Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT: By Nora Gambee at 8:32 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelli Ewing

Kelli Ewing, Office Administrator

Notes Typed By: Christina Harris, Administrative Assistant