

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE CONGRESS FIRE DISTRICT

HELD May 21st, 2026

A public meeting of the Congress Fire District was convened at 1:00 p.m. on May 21st, 2026, at the Congress Fire District Office. The following matters were discussed, considered and decided at the meeting:

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to Order at 1:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call: The following members of the Board of the Congress Fire District were present at the meeting; Brandi Bridges, Chair; Clerk of Board, Reggie MacDonald; Board Member, Jane Summers and Don Wessel. Member George Wickholm. Also, present; Fire Chief Bryan Smith and Secretary/Treasurer Kaitlyn Brinkley. FF/EMTs Captain Rodriguez Jr and Luis Pascual.
3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of April 16, 2026, were reviewed. Don made a motion to approve the minutes; George seconded the motion; All in favor; minutes are approved.
4. Approval of Financial Reports: Financial reports for the month of April 2026 - consisting of Balance Sheet, Cash Flow (Budget vs. Actual), Transaction List, Country Treasure Monthly Warrant Statement with Reconciliation, and County Treasure Monthly Capital Reserve Statement with Reconciliation were reviewed. Motion was made by George to approve the financial reports for the month of May 2026; Don seconded; all in favor; financial reports are approved.
5. Correspondence: None.
6. Fire Chief's Report: There were 33 calls for service last month, with response times remaining within national standards. The paramedic class has been completed, and Captain Grantham will be testing soon. The next class, which is already full, begins in September. The Fire Academy will also take place this September. We are now partnering with Granite Mountain Training in Prescott, and several individuals are signed up for their upcoming EMT class. The Basin Ops drill was held in April, with three trucks present for all three days. Currently, we have three trucks on assignment—one in California and two in New Mexico. Congress Fire assisted Wickenburg on the Jones Fire during the initial attack and again a few days later. We also need to advertise the sealed bid for the old Water Tender. Stage 1 Fire restrictions went into effect at 8 a.m. this morning.
7. Old Business: The Type 3 is currently undergoing reassembly. The mechanics have assured us that the truck will be delivered within the next 30 days.

8. New Business: Several employees have expressed interest in transferring their employment from Congress Fire to Williamson Valley Fire. The primary reasons for this change include eligibility for PSPRS, increased promotional opportunities, and access to overtime. Employees who transition will join PSPRS as Tier 3 members, requiring 25 years in the system to retire. The cost per employee is 9%, with the employer contributing 12%. Alternatively, employees may opt for a defined contribution plan and retire based on their account balance. Transitioning employees must complete an orientation shift at the other districts to learn station operations. Employment transitions will begin July 1. The anticipated budget impact is an additional \$40,000–\$50,000 annually due to PSPRS costs.

A motion was made by Reggie to approve the employee transitions, contingent upon individual choice. The motion was seconded by George and unanimously approved by the board.

9. No Executive Session required.

10. Call to the Public: None.

11. Adjournment: Next regular meeting is Thursday June 18th, 2026, at 1 p.m. Motion was made by Reggie that this meeting be adjourned; seconded by Don; meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Congress Fire District Governing Board

Secretary _____

Approved: _____