

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF THE CONGRESS FIRE DISTRICT

HELD February 19, 2026

A public meeting of the Congress Fire District was convened at 1:00 p.m. on February 19, 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 Congress Fire District were present at the meeting: Brandi Bridges, Chair of the Board, Reggie MacDonald, Clerk of the Board, and Jane Summers, Donald Wessell and George Wickholm members. Also present was Fire Chief Bryan Smith, Deputy Chief Anthony Tunis and Secretary/Treasurer Kaitlyn Brinkley.
3. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of January 15, 2026, were reviewed. Member Summers made a motion to approve the minutes, and Member Wickholm seconded the motion. All in favor; minutes are approved.
4. Approval of Financial Reports: Financial reports for the month of January 2026 consisting of Balance Sheet, Cash Flow (Budget vs. Actual), Transaction list, County Treasurer Monthly Warrant Statement with Reconciliation, and County Treasurer Monthly Capital Reserve Statement with Reconciliation were reviewed. Motion was made by Member Wickholm to approve the financial reports for the month of January 2026; Member Wessel seconded; all in favor; financial reports are approved.
5. Correspondence: None.
6. Fire Chiefs Report: There were 32 calls for service last month. Local response times have been 5 minutes and 8 minutes at North Ranch. Calls for small brush fires have started on Hwy 93. We have implemented some changes in our reporting systems; they have moved from NFIRS to NERIS. On our end, things have been working well, but on the federal system side, there is a mishap that is being worked on. FIT testing and ladder testing were completed. Congress only had one ladder that failed; it was taken to be repaired. The annual physicals were completed. We have a tier 5 system, and no one in the consortium was listed at 4/5. The Engine Bosses throughout the consortium are certified through the State of Arizona. They held their annual meeting to prepare for the upcoming wildland season and to complete refreshers throughout the consortium. We have not been requested on any deployments yet, but we believe it won't be long till we get a truck sent out.
7. Presentation om Yarnell Fire Management Contract: Chief Smtih presented the opportunity to have the Yarnell Fire District Consortium contract signed through Congress Fire; the

contract will be the same through Congress as it would be through Williamson Valley. Board Member Summers questioned, "What would be the practical effect on the agencies?" The agencies will work closer together; there will be no changes. Shared services would protect both agencies and be more of a cooperative, with shared personnel and equipment. The only change that would show is where the money they pay goes. They will get the same training plan and updated station as we did here. Clerk MacDonald questioned if there is any "financial and legal obligation with doing the contract through Congress, and asked YFD Board Member Southerland, what the reasoning is for Yarnell to join the consortium?" YFD Member Southerland responded with "We needed someone to be able to help us with our district, with our personnel, equipment, and the day-to-day operations." With Yarnell signing through Congress, it will be an integration between the districts.

8. No Executive Session required.
9. Possible vote on the Yarnell Fire Management Contract: Clerk MacDonald motions to approve the Yarnell Fire Management contract. Seconded by Member Wickholm. All in Favor.
10. Discussion and possible vote on the purchase of a new water tender: There is a vendor in Phoenix that converts Water Tenders for Fire Departments to use. They have a 2018 International with 100k miles that holds 2000 gallons with an 800-gallon pump, which is red, automatic, and wildland-compliant, for \$50,000. Our mechanics went over the water tender, and everything looked good. To purchase a new water tender, you will typically spend between \$300k and \$400k, and a used one will cost between \$100k and \$200k. We can use the funds to purchase this water tender out of the Capital Reserve account and sell the old water tender privately. A motion was made by Clerk MacDonald on the approval of the purchase of the Water Tender. Seconded by Member Wickholm. All in Favor.
11. Call to the Public: None.
12. Adjournment: Next regular meeting: Thursday, March 19, 2026. Clerk MacDonald made a motion to adjourn the meeting: seconded by Member Summers; all in favor, meeting is adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Congress Fire District Governing Board

Secretary _____

Approved: _____