

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THORNTON RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
25999 Thornton Rd., Thornton, CA. 95686
March 12, 2026**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Allan called the regular meeting of the Thornton County Fire Protection District Board of Directors to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Directors Present: Jim Allan, William Stokes, Jose Torres and Paul Guzman
Absent: Frank Yoka (excused)
Staff Present: Fire Chief Alberto Garcia and Secretary Diana Tidwell

GUESTS ATTENDING:

Don Massengill and Travis Castle

AGENDA:

On motion of Director Guzman, seconded by Director Torres, agenda for March 12, 2026, meeting approved. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Travis Castle introduced himself. He is running for San Joaquin County Board Supervisor position in upcoming June 2026 election against Steve Ding.

COMMUNICATION RECEIVED:

None

READING OF THE MINUTES:

On motion of Director Guzman, seconded by Director Torres, minutes for the regular meeting on February 12, 2026 approved. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT & BILL LOG:

On motion of Director Guzman, seconded by Director Torres, financials and bill logs for February 2026 in the amount of \$86,124.72 approved. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE MEETING:

None

FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Association participating in a boot drive on April 19, 2026, to support muscular dystrophy.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Directors Yoka and Torres still need to complete 700 forms which are due the end of the month.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. On motion of Director Guzman, seconded by Director Torres, approve purchase and set up of First Arriving in the amount of \$2049. Annual fee is \$899 and will increase by 5% each year. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

CHIEFS REPORT:

- A. Chief Garcia reviewed the Alarm and Fire Prevention Reports, and each board member received a copy. Alarm reports show 14 calls for the month of February 2026, for a total of 38 calls on the year, a decrease of 48 calls from last year.
- B. Chevron to be inspected at the end of March and weed abatement will begin on April 1st.
- C. There are no updates on grants.

Thornton Rural Fire Protection District – March 12, 2026

- D. Two intern candidates passed screening and are being fitted for PPE and uniforms. There are two additional candidates showing interest in the intern program. Chief would like to hire two additional interns to help cover once strike teams deploy.
- E. The district is in need of new radios for strike teams. Estimates are showing approximately \$36,000 for four radios. Chief Garcia is looking in to possible grants.
- F. There are no station updates.
- G. All department training and the monthly North County continue as scheduled.
- H. Engine 17-1 siren will need to be replaced. Engine 17-2 still has existing issues and the primer cable has been replaced. Engine 17-3 is in service and the suction screen has been replaced. Water tender 17-1 is in service with no issues to report. Chief 17-1 still waiting on code 3 grill lights.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

None

CLOSED SESSION:

None

ADJOURN MEETING:

On motion of Vice Chairman Stokes, seconded by Director Torres, the Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

DIANA TIDWELL