

**ELK CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF
DIRECTORS MONTHLY MEETING**
Thursday, October 23rd, 2026 @ 18:00 hrs Via Zoom and In Person

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Moment of Silence for Fallen Responders
4. Public Comment Period
5. Additions or Deletions to, and Approval of the Agenda
6. Review and Approval of September, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
7. Financial Matters
8. Chief Ware's Report
9. Old Business
 - a. CBA Update
10. New Business
11. Adjournment

Firefighter Line-of-Duty Deaths

September 1–30, 2026

This is a working summary of deaths reported during September 2026. It includes reported on-duty fatalities and a separately identified occupational-cancer death.

On-duty and incident-related deaths

- **September 4 — Firefighter/Paramedic Eric Handlin, 53.** Odessa Fire Rescue, Texas. Handlin died following a stroke after a medical emergency at the fire station. USFA-related reporting classifies the death as stress/overexertion.
- **September 4 — Firefighter Eric Phillips.** Raymond Fire Department, New Hampshire. Reported to have suffered a medical emergency while responding to a call and later died at a hospital.
- **September 7 — Firefighter Joe Flake, 65.** Wellston Fire Department, Oklahoma. Suffered a medical emergency while operating at a grass fire with a structure involved.
- **September 9 — Battalion Chief Sean Kevin.** Chicago Fire Department, Illinois. Reported to have died after returning home from his shift.
- **September 9 — Fire Fighter Jesús Eduardo Olimpo Gutierrez Toral, 25.** Oregon. Reported to have died after being injured when he was struck by a tree on the Austin Fire in Mount Hood National Forest.
- **September 21 — Greg King and Ryan Cutter.** Helicopter Pilots. Both were killed when their helicopter crashed during water-bucket operations on the Dome Fire in Yosemite National Park.
- **September 23/24 — Junior Firefighter Bryce Kaufmann, 17.** A.F. Dobler Hose & Ladder Company, Pennsylvania. Reported killed in an e-bike collision with a vehicle while responding to an emergency call.

Occupational-cancer death reported in September

September 9 — Wendall Pascarelli, 59. Yutan Volunteer Fire Department, Nebraska. Cancer-related line-of-duty death.



Fire Department Monthly Status Report

October 14 , 2026

OPERATIONS (September)

- Volunteer firefighters- 52 hours
- Reserve Firefighters- 81 hours of staffing at station 1.
- Average Response Time 10:36
- 180 Training Hours

September - Emergency Incidents 150

1. Fire	1
2. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) & Rescue	99
3. Hazardous Situation (No Fire)	14
3. Public Service	11
4. No Emergency	25
6. Special Incident	0
	150

September- Mutual Aid Received by Elk Creek

Elk Creek received mutual aid 14 times

September - Mutual Aid Elk Creek Provided to Other Agencies

Elk Creek provided mutual aid 4 times

September - Ambulance Transports- 54

Operational Updates

Fire and EMS

- Call highlights
 - None of Note

- Academy
 - All fire academy recruits completed Hazardous Materials Awareness/ Operations training and are currently completing state testing.
- Training: Members have completed the mandatory firefighter physical agility testing for the year. Elk Creek also had several CPR classes over the month for members and the public.

Fire Prevention

- October is Fire Prevention Month and the theme this year is "Safe Charging is a Superpower" focusing on best practices related to lithium-ion batteries. The National Fire Protection Association reminds you to only purchase listed electronics, use manufacturer-approved chargers, and practice safe charging. More information is available on the table near the front doors.
- Fire Marshal Rush is participating on the Jefferson County Unified Land Use Code advisory committee. The ULUC is the combination of multiple documents that currently exist, combining these documents into a single document, called the ULUC, is a goal of the County to improve efficiency and clarity for staff, residents, and applicants. The ULUC was also available for public comment with multiple community meetings hosted across the county including one in Conifer.
- Thank you to Captain Shine and the Fuels Crew for supporting Field Day at Elk Creek Elementary, and to Captain Shine and Lieutenant Evers for delivering fire safety presentations at West Jefferson Elementary. Together, these events gave us the opportunity to engage positively with close to 300 students, teachers, and parent volunteers.
- September was also the Big Chili Event in Evergreen. It takes a lot of effort to help set up cook and run some of the events. While this list doesn't include everyone, I wanted to recognize the following people:
- **Volunteers:** Martha Beckwith, Vicky Shine, Barbara Stockton, Sheena Tamburlin, Brian Moore, Atlas Trefethen, Sharon Trilk, Kelly Fontaine, Katie Moser, Hazel Hankins, Walter Huber, Ryan Tinkey & family, Charles & Lisa Elliot, Aidan Queisner, Scott Aaronson.
- Hazel Hankins: Ran the kids' challenge and reset the course all day.
- Aidan Queisner: Stepped up independently and helped in all areas.
- Atlas Trefethen: Led the Honor Guard and helped run the kids/adults challenge events.

Food & Results:

- Charles & Lisa Elliot: Took 2nd place for Veggie Chili and fed the crew brisket, pulled pork, mac & cheese, and beans.
- Tinkey Family: Made an incredible, crowd-favorite green chili.

Firefighter Challenge:

- Walter Huber: Represented Elk Creek, out-competing rivals 15–20 years younger.

