



COLORADO FIREFIGHTER
HEART AND CANCER BENEFITS TRUST

**Minutes of the
Colorado Firefighter Heart, Cancer, and Behavioral Health Benefits Trust
2025 Annual Membership Meeting**

HELD:

October 21, 2025

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

John Willson – Louisville Fire Protection District, *Chair*
Sue Steward – Arvada Fire Protection District, *Vice Chair*
Michael Calderazzo – Boulder Fire Rescue
Devron McMillin-Morrison – City and County of Denver
Mark Novak – Vail Fire & Emergency Services
Melissa Rossback – South Adams County Fire Department
Kevin Reichenbach – Colorado Professional Fire Fighters
Jay Nelson – Red, White & Blue Fire Protection Dist.,

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

Chris Macklin – South Metro Fire Rescue Fire Protection District, *Secretary (Absent)*

INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Erik Birk – City of Westminster, Member Information Subcommittee
Amy B. Collins – North Metro Fire Rescue District
Gus Hendricks – City of Grand Junction Member Information Subcommittee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joe DePaepe – McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Jenniffer J. Alvarado – McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administration; Recording Secretary*)

Kyle Brown – McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Paula Lowder – McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Brennan Mendas - McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Chère Phillips – McGriff, A Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC Company (*Administrator*)

Bobby (Bo) Riley – Willson Williamson Fellman Dittman (*CFHC Trust General Counsel*)

Allison Slife – CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP (*Auditor*)

Michael Valdez – Special District Association of Colorado (*Director of Policy*)

Tiffany Lipsey – Director, Heart Disease Prevention Program, Colorado State University

CALL TO ORDER

Fire Chief Willson called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES AND STAFF

Chief Willson, Chair of the Colorado Firefighter Trust, welcomed the Member Representatives and other guests in attendance as well as the Trust Committee, Information Subcommittee Members, Administration staff, and Trust Counsel. Chief Willson thanked the staff for all they do.

CHAIR'S OPENING STATEMENT

Chief Willson proceeded with opening statements, encouraged those in attendance to get involved to help bring back the Behavioral Health (BH) funding reinstated. He summarized how the Trust has flourished since its inception of the Heart program in 2014 followed by the addition of Cancer in 2017, which have both continued to evolve. He spoke about the growth and program expansions to include Behavioral Health (BH) in February 2023 after previously adding breast, thyroid cancer, and lung in 2021, 2022, and 2024, respectively.

Further, Chief Willson added that the BH program was added on February 10, 2023 and continues to grow. The Program was used for the betterment of all firefighters who were taking advantage of its treatment offerings until the loss of its funding from the State. There were 45 members in attendance, and the audience commented on how well the Trust is working, especially the heart and cancer screenings. He thanked everyone for their continued support of all three Trust programs which are seeing incredible usage and success.

CONFIRM QUORUM BY ATTENDANCE AND PROXY

Joe DePaepe, CFHCBH Trust Administrator, confirmed that a quorum of the member participants was present, either by personal attendance of designated representatives or by proxy.

ACCEPT 2024 TRUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made to accept the 2024 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

CFHCBH TRUST AUDITOR JUNE 30, 2025, FISCAL YEAREND FINANCIAL REPORT

The Trust's Financial Auditor, Allison Slife, from CliftonLarsonAllen reviewed the June 30, 2025, yearend financial report to the members present. She reported that a clean opinion was issued for the Trust's yearend 2025 financials.

A motion was made to accept the 2025 Yearend Financial Report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE

Mr. DePaepe gave an update on the year-to-date financials for the Heart, Cancer, and Behavioral Health Award Programs. He provided earned contributions, losses, expenses, and retained earnings for each program. Mr. DePaepe discussed an update to the Behavioral Health Program with the loss of State funding. He then announced the recent receipt of \$250,000 funding from the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control and thanked them for their contribution. He also shared the type of treatment that was paid under the Behavioral Health program and highlighted the early detection grant under the Heart and Cancer Programs. Finally, he discussed that DOLA is accepting applications for volunteers and part-time firefighters because of HB24-1219.

OTHER BUSINESS / QUESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. DePaepe also discussed getting together to meet with other stakeholders to go back to legislation for more funding. Chief Willson also discussed the additional \$250,000 funding.

With Chief Willson's announced retirement, Sue Steward extended her thanks to him for all that he has contributed to the Trust program.

Chief Willson complimented the teamwork by the Trustees and Trust Administrator and thanked the Membership for their attendance and asked for their continued participation.

Tiffany Lipsey discussed the Science to Station conference in Loveland in November.

ADJOURNMENT

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

By: _____
Jenniffer J Alvarado
Trust Administration & Recording Secretary

By: _____
Chief John Willson
Chair