



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & FIREWISE BOARD REGULAR  
MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING TO BE HELD VIA HYBRID - IN PERSON AND ONLINE  
MEETING ROOM LOCATED AT 102, 9 FIREHOUSE RD.  
TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO**

**MONDAY, JULY 6, 2026 AT 10:00 AM**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTICE OF MEETING**

The meeting was called to order by Henry Caldwell at 10:00am. Present were Henry Caldwell, Bob Thomas, Michael Chandler, and Jim Woodard.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

- A. Discussion and approval of today's Agenda

Today's Agenda was approved. (Motion: Jim, Second: Bob, Unanimous)

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Discussion and approval of minutes of the June 1, 2026, meeting.

The minutes of the June 1, 2026 meeting were approved. (Motion: Jim, Second: Bob, Unanimous)

**4. PUBLIC SAFETY**

- A. Wildfire Risk Reduction Program – Henri Hammond Paul  
(These are the elements of the Program that resulted from the Council requested 60-day study on wildfire risk reduction. Not all items will be discussed.)

- 1. Execute High-Impact Mitigation (Fuel Reduction, Defensible Space, Vegetation Mgt)

Bob, Michael, Henry and Jim are identifying high risk properties and plan to send letters asking them to apply for Garrett's Wildfire Risk Reduction Program.

- 2. Expand Workforce Capacity (Crews/Contacts)

Our fire crew has been supporting numerous fires in New Mexico and Colorado. This provides valuable training as well as additional income for the firefighters and the Village. Henri discussed the goal of increasing the EMS and Firefighter staff so that the Village could provide 12/7 coverage. Cuts from Taos County have made that goal harder to achieve.

- 3. Build Community Forestry & Mitigation Program
  - 4. Align with CWPP Update

The grant that was to pay for this activity was denied. The Village found some resources and the CWPP update has begun. A steering committee has been established and is meeting to structure the document.

5. Establish Wildfire Mitigation Fee/Funding Mechanism

Henri said that they are examining the Angel Fire program and are examining how best to structure the program. (Flat fee vs fees based on lot size, utility bill vs a property tax addition and so forth.)

6. Strengthen Policy Tools (Ordinances, Enforcement) Propane Tanks?

The Village is creating a better organized data base of ordinances to deal with questions like: “Are underground propane tanks required for new construction?”

7. Advance Under Grounding (Phased)

One of the grants being pursued could be used for undergrounding power lines (CWDG see below). Also underground of power lines is now fourth in priority on the ICIP submitted to the state.

8. Improve Ingress/Egress

9. Maintain Grant Strategy

Henri stated that the Village is applying for two grants:

- 1) Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) a US Forest Service Grant Program and
- 2) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant a FEMA Grant Program.

10. Continue Firewise/Education/Home Assessments

**5. FIREWISE BOARD**

A. Firewise Camera – Henry Caldwell

No new information. Company has not replied to a request for information

B. Kachina Road Bypass Status – Henri Hammond-Paul or Gabe Vasquez

The road has been cleared and is passible for emergency use. Gabe monitors the road for rock fall weekly.

C. Natural Gas Extension Update – Bob Thomas

D. Miscellaneous Items

**6. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DATE, TIME & PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE/FIREWISE BOARD**

08/03/2026-REGULAR MEETING. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee/Firewise Board of the Village of Taos Ski Valley will be held as a hybrid in-person and on-line meeting on August 3, 2026, at 10:00 am in Room 102, 9 Firehouse Rd., Taos Ski Valley, NM and the Agenda, Agenda attachments, and Zoom Meeting link will be available to the public on the Village website at <https://www.vtsv.org>.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

ATTEST:

James B Woodard

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Jim Woodard, Secretary

*Marlene M. Salazar*

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Village Clerk, Marlene Salazar