

## **The Palomar Mountain Community Fire Association**

Minutes of the monthly meeting of The Board of Directors, February 7, 2026.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Robert Carlyle. Board members present in person at the Community Center (Station 79 grounds): Robert Carlyle, Michael Pique, Keith Ronchetti, Tom Mendenhall, Mark Thompson. Also present in-person were Yvonne Vaucher and Cliff Kellogg. Elizabeth Getzoff and Lafe Ball joined by Zoom teleconference.

Pledge: Robert led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: None offered.

Minutes: The minutes from the January 3, 2026, meeting were approved.

Financial Report: Keith Ronchetti's written report (available at [palomar-fire.org](http://palomar-fire.org)) showed a balance of \$91,313.36, with an additional \$1220.29 held for CERT. No notable income or expenses. Keith will file our California forms 990N and 199N. The report was approved.

Station 79 Report: No captains in attendance, no report. Cliff Kellogg went up and knocked on the door of the crew quarters, no response. Matt Waters, one of our CALFIRE captains, has been transferred to the Rincon station.

County Fire Advisory (CFA) Board: Cliff Kellogg. The next meeting is March 2.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): No report. Robert said his recent email to Bill Leininger bounced back.

Community Center of Palomar Mountain (CCPM): Robert Carlyle, Chair. The next event is tomorrow afternoon's Super Bowl party.

Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council (PMFSC): Yvonne Vaucher says the State came through with a \$37,000 advance and a \$4,700 reimbursement for our CALFIRE grant. We currently have on-hand \$59,401 of which about \$19,000 is unrestricted. Elizabeth Getzoff says our CWPP submission still needs some work. At the January 8 San Diego County Fire Safety Council meeting, Tom Shoots gave a good presentation about the FIREWISE program. He is being replaced as the Community Risk Reduction Officer by Michael Cornette. Robert is moving forward on clearing along the sides of Pedley Road. Tom Mendenhall says SDG&E's contractor has been clearing around trees in Bailey's. No update on the Dead and Dying Tree Removal. Yvonne will ask the county for permission to put new water tanks, to be funded by an NRP (Neighborhood Reinvestment Program), on private property. The USFS has been burning piles in Jeff Valley. Jim Hamerly wants to promote lower tree density by education. Robert said that

about 15 years ago, the USFS recommended 6 trees per acre. Yvonne will ask USFS forester Dana Barre for guidance. The next FSC meeting will be 9 AM Saturday, February 28, in person at the CCPM and by Zoom.

Palomar Mountain Planning Organization (PMPO): The next meeting is 10 AM February 28, immediately following the 9 AM PMFSC meeting. SDG&E will be giving a presentation at the Pancake Breakfast and Annual General Meeting, May 23.

Old Business: the emergency telephone outside of Station 79. Discussion on placing an “out of order” sign on it. See note below.

Adjournment: 9:36 AM 02/07/2026. The next PMCFA meeting will be 9 AM Saturday, March 7, 2026, at the Community Center. We expect to have Zoom call-ins available. Michael Pique will be out of town and unlikely to join the session.

Note: immediately after adjournment, we met with Captain Jason Nangono. He demonstrated that the emergency telephone is now working. Good news!

Michael Pique, Secretary

Minutes approved by PMCFA Board 03/07/2026