



Special Meeting Minutes Snowmass Wildcat Protection District and Basalt Rural & Fire Protection District: July 7, 2026 3 p.m.

Others in attendance: Chief Thompson, Finance Director Thompson, HR Director Thomas (Lifesize), Deputy Chief Cornelius, Secretary Diamond, Colin McAweeney (Lifesize), Division Chief Taylor (Lifesize), and Facilities Director Klein (Lifesize).

Basalt Meeting Call to Order: 3 p.m. President Van Walraven, Vice President Duroux, Treasurer Young, Board Member Williams, Board Member Foster (Lifesize).

Basalt Board Motions:

Approval of Basalt Minutes, May 19, 2026: Treasurer Young made a motion to accept the May 19, 2026 board minutes. Vice President Duroux seconded the motion. There was no discussion; all members favored passing this motion.

Basalt Board Sales Tax Rate Motion: Board Member Williams motioned to approve the .55% tax rate parity to be on the November ballot in 2026 and rescind the 1.5% motion from the last meeting. Vice President Duroux seconded the motion. There was no discussion, and all Board members favored passing this motion unopposed.

Adjournment from the Basalt Board Meeting: Treasurer Young motioned to end the meeting. Board Member Williams seconded the motion. All Board Members favored ending the meeting, with none opposed, and the meeting ended at 3:53 p.m.

Snowmass Wildcat Fire Protection Board Meeting Call to Order: 3:01 p.m. President Striegler (Lifesize), Vice President Heivly (Lifesize), Board Member Arthur (Lifesize), Treasurer Boineau (Lifesize), Board Member Spitz (Lifesize).

Approval of SMV Minutes, May 19, 2026: Board Member Spitz made a motion to accept the May 19, 2026 board minutes. Treasurer Boineau seconded the motion. There was no discussion; all members favored passing this motion.

Snowmass Board Sales Tax Rate Motion: Treasurer Boineau moved to let the .75 mills sunset, approve a tax parity rate of .55% for the November 2026 ballot, and rescind the 1.5% motion from the last meeting. Vice President Arthur seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment from the Snowmass Board Meeting: Vice President Arthur motioned to end the meeting. Treasurer Boineau seconded the motion. All Board Members favored ending the meeting, with none opposed, and the meeting ended at 3:54 p.m.

Sales Tax Discussion

Chief Thompson informed both Boards that they both previously voted to move forward with a 1.5% sales tax. Chief Thompson informed the Board that after speaking with the town manager in Snowmass Village, he believed the data was incorrect and he had identified discrepancies in the DOR report. Colin from TischlerBise said the missing revenue sources included: online sales, food delivery services, Airbnb and other third-party lodging bookings, and taxable activity within the fire district but outside municipal boundaries. Colin explained that the updated analysis, including data from both Pitkin and Eagle counties, showed that a 0.55% sales tax in both fire districts would generate approximately \$3.5 million, meeting the funding target.

Board Members discussed whether to reduce the proposed rate from 0.55% to 0.50%, maintain or reduce the proposed property tax (mill levy) to consider providing property tax relief while shifting more funding to visitor-generated sales taxes, and discussed whether or not there is a need to ask more than one question on the ballot.

Chief Thompson reminded the Boards that the proposed expansion includes 15 new employees to support large-scale fuel reduction projects. Chief Thompson said the wildland team is expected to generate revenue during non-fire seasons and operate out of Old Snowmass. Finance Director Thompson advised the Boards that, without the sales tax, reserves would need to be used, and additional staffing could not be supported. Vice

President Heivly stressed the need to preserve transparency regarding the financial plan.

Consensus was reached to provide the updated TischlerBise financial analysis to council members at next week's meeting, which will be held before the Snowmass Town Council.

President Van Walraven pointed out a typo in the TischlerBise presentation on page 4: the names need to be Basalt Rural & Fire Protection District and Snowmass Wildcat Fire Protection District, but it says Roaring Fork Fire Rescue.

Non-Agenda Items: Treasurer Young shared a positive account of a neighborhood medical emergency response, praising emergency personnel. Treasurer Young plans to write letters of appreciation to the responders and the Sheriff's Office.

Adjournment

Click here to watch this meeting in its entirety: <https://youtu.be/OHGiN41U6yM>