



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & FIREWISE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
MEETING TO BE HELD VIA ZOOM
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 AT 10:00 AM**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTICE OF MEETING

The meeting was properly announced. Attending were Henry Caldwell, Michael Chandler, Kent Kiel, and Bob Thomas.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Discussion and approval of today's Agenda

The agenda was discussed and approved. (Motion: Kent, Second Michael, Unanimous)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Discussion and approval of minutes of the May 4, 2026, meeting.

The minutes of the May 4, 2026, meeting were discussed and approved. (Motion: Kent, Second Michael, Unanimous)

4. PUBLIC SAFETY/FIREWISE BOARD

A. Wildfire Risk Reduction Program – Henri Hammond Paul

These are the program elements Henri outlined in response to the Village Council request for a 60-day study to develop wildfire risk reduction program for the Village of Taos Ski Valley. Not all elements were discussed at this meeting.

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

Garrett Hansen outlined the progress in preparing the Fire Department to begin treating lots whose owners have requested support. This includes buying equipment and organizing the Fire Department personnel for on the ground treatment.

2. Expand Workforce Capacity (Crews/Contacts)

The goal is to expand the Fire Department to support 24/7 onsite coverage for TSV. Recent cuts in the Taos County .25% GRT program have made this goal much harder to achieve.

3. Build Community Forestry & Mitigation Program

Garrett and Henry have been discussing a program modeled on the one in Angel Fire, using a mandatory fee based on lot size. They hope to use the program to support a 24/7 onsite coverage and to provide slash and onsite chipper support for Village lots. Informal discussions with the Village Council have indicated support in general. Henri expects to bring the program to the Village Council for formal discussion this month.

4. Align with CWPP Update

The Village has found some funding to support a contract to renew the CWPP. Work is expected to begin this month.

5. Establish Wildfire Mitigation Fee/Funding Mechanism

As discussed above, there is an ongoing effort to establish a mandatory fee-based program within the Village. The Firewise Board may be called upon to indicate support to the Village Council. Henri indicate a willingness to draft such a motion for consideration next meeting.

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

Henri expressed concerns with a heavy-handed approach to fuel reduction enforcement. It would create a negative environment, and the Village is not staffed to support the effort required. Henri did say he was checking with legal regarding treatment of heavily fueled lots at no cost to owners w/o their expressed approval.

7. Advance Under Grounding (Phased)

Henri has been discussing this with Kit Carson. They have expressed a willingness to support continuing the undergrounding effort. But so far, he has not gotten a firm commitment.

8. Improve Ingress/Egress

No report

9. Maintain Grant Strategy

No Report

10. Continue Firewise/Education/Home Assessments

Initially Chris Hanson was going to perform an assessment. However, this effort has shifted to a Firewise Board effort to identify the lots in the Village most in need of fuel reduction. The effort has begun in Amizette. Garrett will cross check Henry's list and verify the approach.

B. Firewise Camera? – Henry Caldwell

Henry is looking into a camera/software approach to identification of a wildfire in the Canyon in its early stages. Henry will provide a report if the company replies to his inquiries.

C. Lot Identification for Treatments Progress – Chris Hansen

See above. This effort has transitioned to a Firewise Board activity.

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

Henri stated that work had begun. He will provide a more comprehensive report next meeting

E. VTSV Recycling Program Update – Henri Hammond-Paul

Henri stated that TSV is at the table in the implementation of a Regional Land Fill recycling program begun in the response to a NMN grant from the Governor. This is a long-term effort and need not be examined each meeting

F. Natural Gas Extension Update – Bob Thomas

Discussions continue with Upper Twining lot owners. Christof reported that the TIDD paid for the Natural Gas extension to the Blake. Bob will talk to a TIDD member.

G. Miscellaneous Items

No Report

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

July 6, 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 07/06/2026, 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>.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

ATTEST:

Secretary, James Woodard

Village Clerk, Marlene Salazar