



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & FIREWISE BOARD MEETING AGENDA
MEETING TO BE HELD VIA HYBRID -
[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81500041207?PWD=6DPGXIU85PBFAZWZTBZGRDCYSBNEI.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81500041207?pwd=6DPGXIU85PBFAZWZTBZGRDCYSBNEI.1)
IN PERSON AND ONLINE MEETING ROOM LOCATED AT 102, 9 FIREHOUSE
RD.

TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 AT 10:00 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTICE OF MEETING

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Discussion and approval of minutes of the August 3, 2026, meeting

4. PUBLIC SAFETY/FIREWISE BOARD

A. Public Safety/Firewise Board Membership, Purpose, and 2026–2027 Work Plan — Henri Hammond-Paul

Discussion of Board membership renewal, the advisory role of the Board, and identification of priorities and work items for the coming year.

B. Firewise Assessment of Village Properties — Board Discussion

Discussion of Village property assessments and opportunities for the Board to support Firewise implementation, outreach, and mitigation efforts.

C. Speeding on Village Roads — Chief Vigil / Board Discussion

Discussion of speeding concerns, enforcement activities, and potential community or policy recommendations.

D. Wildfire Risk Reduction Program — Staff Update and Board Work Session

Brief overview of the Council-directed Wildfire Risk Reduction Program and discussion of areas where the Board can assist with implementation, research, education, community engagement, or recommendations to the Governing Body.

1. Execute High-Impact Mitigation (Fuel Reduction, Defensible Space, Vegetation Mgt)
2. Expand Workforce Capacity (Crews/Contacts)
3. Build Community Forestry & Mitigation Program
4. Align with CWPP Update
5. Establish Wildfire Mitigation Fee/Funding Mechanism
6. Strengthen Policy Tools (Ordinances, Enforcement) Propane Tanks?
7. Advance Under Grounding (Phased)
8. Improve Ingress/Egress
9. Maintain Grant Strategy
10. Continue Firewise/Education/Home Assessments
11. Member Comments and Requests for Future Agenda Items

E. Miscellaneous Items

F. **2026–2027 Board Priorities and Assignments — Discussion**

Identification of 3–5 priority work items and Board members interested in helping lead or participate in each effort.

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

10/05/2026-REGULAR MEETING. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety/Firewise Board of the Village of Taos Ski Valley will be held as a hybrid in-person and on-line meeting on October 5, 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



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & FIREWISE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**MEETING HELD VIA HYBRID - IN PERSON AND ONLINE
MEETING ROOM LOCATED AT 102, 9 FIREHOUSE RD.**

**TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 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. Members present were Henry Caldwell, Bob Thomas, Michael Chandler, Kent Kiehl and Jim Woodard.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 6, 2026 meeting were approved. (Motion: Bob, Second: Kent, Unanimous)

4. PUBLIC SAFETY/FIREWISE BOARD

A. Time to Renew the Public Safety Committee Membership

Jim stated that it is time for existing committee members to have their membership renewed by the Mayor and Village Council. Henri suggested that this be handled in the same way as the CIAC membership. He would post the opportunity on the Village website and submit both the existing members as well as any new expressions of interest to the Mayor and Village Council.

B. Firewise Assessment of Village Properties

Jim and Henry stated that around twenty letters had been sent to property owners of high priority lots asking them to submit applications for lot treatment to Garret Hansen. At least one recipient has responded. There was a vigorous discussion regarding the best way to communicate with property owners.

C. 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 were discussed.)

Henri started with some comments regarding using the Public Safety Committee to share safety issues (not requiring immediate action on the part of Village Residents) with the community by sending us a "Sit Rep" so people could ask us about issues. He tried this with a Sit Rep on the Wheeler Peak fire. There was general agreement with this approach.

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

2. Expand Workforce Capacity (Crews/Contacts)

Henri stated that so far this summer the Village has sent Fire Fighting Teams to several locations across the State. This provides valuable training experience to the Fire Fighting Personnel as well as providing a net return of resources to fund the Fire Department.

3. Build Community Forestry & Mitigation Program

4. Align with CWPP Update

A steering committee of stakeholders for the CWPP Update has been established and is meeting regularly.

5. Establish Wildfire Mitigation Fee/Funding Mechanism

General funding mechanisms for the Fire Department would almost certainly require a ballot measure. The time is short and the work great to make this falls election cycle. There is concern that rushing forward could jeopardize the whole effort long term. Further,

short term solutions including resources from the County and the firefighting revenue have allowed more time to make this happen.

6. **Strengthen Policy Tools (Ordinances, Enforcement) Propane Tanks?**
The current building code is complicated and confusing. Jordan Yutzy (the new Village Planning and Zoning Director) and Henri are rewriting the code to make it easier to enforce. However, the current code requires propane tanks to be buried. Previous inspectors have not enforced this part of the code. Jordon will enforce the code and not permit above ground tanks on new construction. People who were recently approved with above propane tanks will be asked to voluntarily bury their tanks. Forcing people to bury tanks would require Village Council action.
7. **Advance Under Grounding (Phased)**
Based on recommendations from this Committee and the Village Council, Henri is trying to set up a meeting with the CEO of Kit Carson and the Mayor and himself to establish assistance from Kit Carson to move this project along this summer. The Village has some resources but needs direction as to next steps from Kit Carson.
8. **Improve Ingress/Egress**
9. **Maintain Grant Strategy**
10. **Continue Firewise/Education/Home Assessments**

D. **Firewise Camera? – Henry Caldwell**

E. **Natural Gas Extension Update – Bob Thomas**

F. **Miscellaneous Items**

Charging a fee for Ambulance Service was discussed. Licensing for fee is a challenging process right now, but it is being pursued. In any case this is not expected to be a large revenue source.

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

September 14, 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 09/14/2026, 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>.

ADJOURNMENT

ATTEST:

Secretary, Jim Woodard

Village Clerk, Marlene Salazar