

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on March 27, 2019, at Fire Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Emilio Buttice. All Commissioners and Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present. Guests included Debbie Mobley, Brian Jones, Dean Atkinson, Bill Box and Dean Farrens.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Buttice.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 13, 2019 were approved as mailed.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The WFCA Legislative Report of March 21, 2019 was handed out and discussed.

The Treasurer's Financial Report for February was approved as presented.

The Secretary's Budget Report for February was presented, reviewed and approved.

The Annual Personal Financial Affairs forms are due by April 15, 2019. Commissioner Hector has submitted his.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Eastman asked Mechanic Dean Atkinson to update the Board on the status of the wildland engines. Engine 3441 is near completion with only a few minor things left. Everything has been tested and is pumping good. The new Mobe truck bed has been delayed. Dean is working on getting quotes on a bed and if the original order can be canceled, we will go that route on our own.

The FAA ARFF inspection is scheduled for next week. Bill advised we are prepared for the inspection and is confident it will go well. Commissioner Hector is asking about the number of flights currently coming in and out of Walla Walla and coverage. Chief Eastman advised currently there are three flights going out and three flights coming in on Sunday, Monday, Thursday, and Friday. The other three days have two round trip flights.

District #4, City of Walla Walla Fire, Walla Walla Police Dept. and College Place participated in Rescue Task Force active shooter training at North Hall. Providence Saint Mary Medical Center provided a Twenty Thousand dollar grant for vests in which District #4 received four of these vests; two on Aid 3421 and two on Rescue 3441. This has been great training and will have more to come. Firefighter Blake Nass and City Firefighter John Knowles are working on a policy to put in place on Active Shooter.

District #4 crews built a prop and have been training at North Hall with the City and College Place on Get Out Alive. This prop is capable of taking down and putting back together and this training has also been great training for all departments.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Chief Eastman gave an update on the continuing discussions on the exploration of an RFA. Representatives for volunteers, career, College Place and Local 404 were in attendance. Some of the main topics of discussion were possible issues between volunteers and career at all entities. Commissioner Hector as well as Lt. Bill Box spoke about relationships and continuing to work on building those relationships between all departments. Representatives for the volunteers will take back and ask what roles they expect to have and more details. Chief Eastman advised they are looking at hiring a consultant. This consultant will be a shared cost of \$50,000.00 to \$60,000.00.

Commissioner Hector motioned to move forward with hiring a consultant. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

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Chief Eastman advised the Board that Paramedic Brandon Cadwell may be looking at an additional surgery. We will know more after his next appointment in April. That being said a conversation took place on options for paramedic staffing while he is out. Chief Eastman is moving forward with hiring four summer hires with the possibility of one being a paramedic. Other options discussed were hiring a temporary paramedic, hiring a full time paramedic rather than using part-time paramedics to fill Kelly days, and vacations, and to not backfill Brandon while on light duty and utilize the current EMS levy agreement between the County and Walla Walla City, for ALS on B shift when needed through 2020. Each option has pros and cons. More discussion to follow at future meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Firefighter Casey Sewell will report on his Phoenix ride along experience.

Due to other engagements, Chief Eastman is asking the Board for a change in date for the second Commissioner meeting in April. It was agreed to have the meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 PM instead of April 24<sup>th</sup>.

**AUDIENCE INPUT**

Dean Atkinson shared his experience on a transport in Rescue 3441 due to Aid 3421 being out on another call. The Rescue is not the ideal set up for transports and if we are going to continue with this route for transports he is hopeful the Board will approve an additional ambulance.

The Board went into an executive session at 5:30 pm per RCW 42.30.140 relating to collective bargaining for 15 minutes. The regular meeting reconvened at 5:45 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:46 pm.

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on April 10, 2019 at 4:00 P.M. at station #41.

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman