

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on October 27, 2021 at Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m. by Chairman Hector. All Commissioners and Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present. Guests included Deputy Chief John Golden, and Brain Jones.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hector.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of October 13, 2021 and the Budget meeting of October 19, 2021 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Myrick. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

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

The Tri-County Fire Commissioner Association meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2021 at BCFD#4 Station 430 starting at 9:00 am.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Eastman reported the testing process and masking for the members with accommodations is going well. A couple of break-through covid cases have occurred this past week but each are feeling better now.

The City of Walla Walla awarded the bid for the Training Facility upgrades and the contractor may start some of the excavation before the end of the year. The completion date is scheduled for the end of May 2022.

Cody Worden, Jon Spracklen, and Alex Bruner are completing the Columbia Basin College Paramedic program and are doing very well. Alex will complete the program in June 2022 with the others completing in December 2022. They are each very busy with ride time and clinicals.

Jon Spracklen will be attending ARFF training in California December 13 – 18, 2021.

We received funding from Walla Walla County from the American Recovery Plan Act this week. The funding is for \$500 per EMS certified member who responded to EMS calls in 2020 during the early stages of the COVID 19 pandemic. The total amount received was \$18,500. These funds will be distributed to members in November.

Fire District 4, College Place Fire, and Walla Walla Fire are working together to purchase new SCBA's in 2022. We have budgeted for these in the 2022 budgets and will save money by completing a multi-agency purchase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Farrens and Myrick gave an update on the WFCA conference held last week in Tulalip, WA. It was well attended and had many excellent classes.

NEW BUSINESS

Bid opening for new ambulance/rescue. We received one bid and it was from Braun Northwest. The bid price before sales tax was \$233,638 with a 300-320 day delivery.

After a brief discussion, Commissioner Farrens motioned to award the bid to Braun Northwest based upon Chief Eastman's satisfactory review of the bid proposal. Once the satisfactory review is completed, Chief Eastman is authorized to sign the contract. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hector and unanimously approved.

The 2022 Budgets were reviewed and discussed. No changes were desired by the Board. Therefore,

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Resolution 2021-05; A Resolution Requesting the County to Levy Taxes was presented. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve resolution 2021-05. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Resolution 2021-06; A Resolution Adopting the 2022 Budget was presented. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the resolution. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved and signed.

The 2022 Budget includes hiring an additional FF/EMT. Chief Eastman would like for this position to start at the first of year and would like to move forward with the hiring process from our current list. After a brief discussion the Board approved hiring the additional FF/EMT and directed Chief Eastman to move forward with hiring.

Chairman Hector reported that hearing members in the training room is difficult and would like to see if we can enhance the sound system in the room. Chief Eastman and Deputy Chief Golden will explore options for microphones that can plug into our current sound system in the room.

The 2022 wage increase for Chief Eastman was discussed. After a brief discussion, the board set the increase at 5% for 2022. Chief Eastman thanked the board. The 2022 wages sheet for all positions will be presented at one of the meetings in November for formal approval.

AUDIENCE INPUT

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on November 10, 2021 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: _____, Chairman