

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on February 24, 2021 via Zoom online.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Larry Hector. All Commissioners and Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present via Zoom. Guests included Brian Jones, John Golden, Sebastian Schieff & Megan Waite.

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Commissioner Farrens. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was not completed due to the meeting being online.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 10, 2021 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Farrens. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was unanimously carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

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

WFCA legislative report for February 19, 2021 was reviewed. House Bill 1332 offers relief to business's who reported a loss of 20% or greater in 2020. Business owner can apply for payment options without penalty. Chief Eastman reports if approved portion of our 2021 property tax revenue could be delayed.

Snure Seminars 'Bid Law, Procurement and Public Works' is scheduled for Friday, February 26, 2021 from 9:00 am to noon. A recording will be available for those unable to attend the live webinar.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Firefighter/EMT testing was completed February 23. We received 13 applications, 5 are our residents. All 13 applicants tested. We will be finalizing the list by the end of the week. Results will be sent to applicants next week. The list will remain good for 2 years.

Paramedic Todd Reiswig had an off-duty injury to his shoulder requiring surgery. Todd will be off regular duty for 6-8 weeks. All of his shifts are covered thru end of March. Jose Tolentino has been moved to C-shift in his absence.

Commissioner Hector reports the Labor management quarterly meeting discussed shift coverage for Paramedic Tim Doggett, who is out on maternity leave and Todd Reiswig, who is out with an injury leaving only 2 other medics. Assisting with coverage of paramedic shifts are Chief Eastman, Jordan Benjamin and Kara Thonney. Filling the vacancy left by Blake Nass was also discussed, Chief Eastman requested to move forward with the hiring process once the eligibility list is finalized next week. After a brief discussion, the board approved filling the vacancy.

Commissioner Hector had some questions for the apparatus committee, Chief Eastman inquired how the commissioners would like the response. Commissioner Hector stated the committee could present answers as they become available.

Training Facility bids were all rejected by the City of Walla Walla. Captain Knowles is clarifying the specifications for bids and they will be re-advertised.

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Chief Eastman reports the snow sliding off the roof of Station 41 Building B caused damage to the heater vents on the roof. Grassi will be completing repairs. Dangerous conditions were notice at the man doors as the snow was falling from the roof, a plan to rectify the situation will be made.

Chief Eastman announced we will be receiving the SFY 2020 GEMT Interim Settlement revenue for 2020 in the amount of \$70,756. This is in addition to our normal monthly billings for GEMT. It will take approximately 60-90 days to receive the funds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chief Eastman presented Resolution 2021-01 amending policies 100-003, changing verbiage from Assistant Chief to Deputy Chief; 500-007 updating job description for Deputy Chief; and personnel policy manual version 1.01 adding VEBA cash-out option available. All changes were voted for and approved at February 10 meeting. Commissioner Farrens motioned to approve resolution. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was unanimously passed.

Chief Eastman reports we have two of our members that our realtors assessing the value of the 604 Abbott Road property. Chief will discuss with current tenant about possibility of purchasing property.

The commissioners will resume in-person meetings March 24th. A Zoom platform will still be available.

Walla Walla City council meeting has annexation of property off of Cottonwood on the agenda. Commissioner Myrick had questions regarding ramp down. Chief Eastman reports our ramp down agreement is for 5 years.

NEW BUSINESS

None

AUDIENCE INPUT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:05 PM

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

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: _____, Chairman