

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on March 10, 2021 at Station 41 and via Zoom online.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Hector. Commissioners Myrick and Farrens, Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present at station 41. Guests included John Golden, Sebastian Schieff, Johnny Knowles and Megan Waite in person at station 41 and Brian Jones via zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hector.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 24, 2021 motioned for approval by Commissioner Farrens. Commissioner Hector seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The February Commissioners Activity Reports were reviewed and approved by each Commissioner. Commissioner Farrens and Myrick noted that their February paycheck was for 3 January meetings rather than 4 as approved for their January Activity Reports. Chief Eastman will verify the reports and correct the error in the April vouchers.

WFCA legislative report was reviewed.

Reminder the Snure Webinar on March 12, 2021 at 9:00 am – Fire Service Employment Law.

Chief Eastman stated the Annual Personal Financial Affairs is due by April 15, 2021. Commissioner Hector completed, Commissioners Farrens and Myrick are the in process of completing.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Eastman reviewed EMS transports for the month of February. Thirty-Four transports were completed in February.

Training Facility update provided by City of Walla Walla Fire Captain Johnny Knowles. Captain Knowles reports specification have been refined and will go out to bid soon. The City of Walla Walla staff will decide whether to bid the training tower with the site work or separately. Bidding together will increase the cost of the project as the general contractor will mark-up the cost of the tower. Still have a goal of being completed before winter 2021. Commissioner Hector commended Captain Knowles on his efforts.

Chief Eastman reports the walk thru at 604 Abbott has been completed. Members Todd Wright and Ben Wolfram accompanied Chief Eastman and will be providing a market analysis. The current occupants are interested in purchasing if within their price range. Todd Wright and Ben Wolfram work for different realtors in the Valley and would be willing to co-list the property. Commissioner Myrick inquired about any updates or upgrades that would need to be completed before sale, Chief Eastman reported the septic tank would need to be pumped.

Apparatus Committee has continued to meet weekly and are currently working on specifications for a new rescue/ambulance.

Chief Eastman and Deputy Chief Golden interviewed three candidates for the Firefighter position yesterday. Chief Eastman felt we had three great candidates and will be making a conditional employment offer pending background clearance and reference checks.

Chief Eastman reported that Todd Reiswig is going to be out longer than originally anticipated. Due to the physical demand of his position the doctor would like him to allow more recovery time to allow for full healing. Possible return to light duty in 4 – 6 weeks with potential full return in mid-May.

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Chief Eastman reports he will be hiring 4 seasonal firefighters for the summer. We will offer positions to the candidates on our list before we advertise. They will work from approximately early-June through September.

We interviewed 10 new volunteers, we are proceeding with background checks and physicals. The new recruits will be starting Red Card training in April.

Firefighters Kyle Crosswhite & Jose Tolentino completed ARFF training last week in San Bernardino, CA. They will continue training in-house and be certified by end of April. Chief Eastman reports the Port of Walla Walla is reimbursing us for 50% of the ARFF training.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 210301001 through 210301056 were presented for payment. Chief Eastman reviewed some of the big-ticket items. Commissioner Farrens motioned to approve the expense vouchers. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried. The total for these were \$196,941.75.

Policy & Procedures Section 300 needs reviewed before for next meeting.

2020 Annual Report has been completed; Commissioners will review reports.

AUDIENCE INPUT

Captain. Knowles reported the intersection at Plaza Way and 9th street will be under construction beginning in April. Also, Poplar street will be under construction this spring/summer.

Captain Knowles stated the joint training program has made exceptional progress with Target Solutions. Captain Knowles commended Lt. Box on his outstanding job, he has been great! Currently the training officers are working on incorporating NFPA 1410 standards.

Deputy Chief Golden commented that the shift Lieutenants have done an outstanding job with training our members and residents and that is evident when you look at the eligibly list. Our residents are the top 5 on the eligibility list.

At 5:05 PM Commissioner Hector called for an executive session as allowed by RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the performance of a public employee. The executive session will be for 1 hour.

At 6:10 PM the regular meeting reconvened.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on March 24, 2021 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: _____, Chairman