

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on April 13, 2022 at Station 41.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Farrens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 23, 2022 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The March Commissioners Activity Reports were reviewed and approved by each Commissioner.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The Fire and EMS response and transport reports for the month of March was provided. Seventy-three total responses for the month and fifty-six EMS responses with thirty transports for the month of March.

Chief Eastman gave staffing update. Member Cody Orange-Worden submitted his formal resignation notice, with official last day of April 25th. Cody will reimburse District for paramedic tuition paid. Member Jes Goodson resignation letter is expected today, with his last day being April 28th. Chief Eastman has interviewed two new candidates and will be preparing conditional offers, offers will be made by end of this week, with a start date around May 23. First week may be spent at ARFF training in Pasco. Timothy Bowen and Zach Hubbard will also be attending the ARFF class.

Chief Eastman presented new volunteers for approval. Wyatt Bloom, Hannah Granchukoff, Alexander Lindstrom, Joonsung Park, Jonah Staigle, and Brian Tampa have all complete the background check and are in the process of having physicals complete. Chief Eastman asked to approve the six new members pending physical exams. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve new volunteer members. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

Awards Banquet is Saturday, April 23rd. Chief Eastman asked Commissioners to arrive at 5:00 pm to greet members. Confirmed Commissioner Farrens will give a speech as chairman of the Board and asked Commissioner Hector to lead the years of service pinning.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Myrick inquire about the drill tower progress. Chief Eastman advised the northern half of the lot has the concrete pad completed and the building is expected to arrive around May 2nd.

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 220401001 through 220401053 were presented for payment. Chief Eastman reviewed some of the big-ticket items. Commissioner Farrens motioned to approve the expense vouchers. Commissioner Hector seconded the motion and was carried. The total for these were \$551,446.55.

Commissioner Eastman presented the Charging for Services policy, section 300-008, and asked the Commissioners to consider updating the fees to cover district expenses. Chief Eastman also asked to review and revise the points structure for EMS stand-by's to better compensate our volunteer members. We are seeing an increase in the number of events requiring EMS coverage. After brief discussion the Commissioners asked Chief Eastman to bring suggested updates to next meeting for further discussion.

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Commissioner Farrens gave report from Washington Fire Commissioners Association seminar. He several updates to Washington Open Public Meeting Act some of which have already gone into effect.

Commissioner Hector asked about ARFF services at the airport and whether the contract was worthwhile. He inquired whether Port of Walla Walla employees could be trained to provide ARFF Service. Chief Eastman reported that the Port of Walla Walla is very happy with the quality service Fire District 4 provides and that going to a model where a port employee stands by for ARFF services will not provide the needed experience for an emergency incident.

AUDIENCE INPUT

None.

At 4:55 pm Commissioner Farrens called for an executive session as allowed by RCW 42.30.140 relating to collective bargaining issues and negotiations. The executive session will be for 15 minutes.

At 5:10 pm, Commissioner Farrens announced that the executive session will be extended for another 30 minutes.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 P.M.

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on April 27, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Rocky Eastman, Secretary

Approved by: _____, Chairman