

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on May 10, 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, and Brian Jones 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 April 27, 2022 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

The Tri-County Fire Commissioners meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2022 at West Benton Fire and Rescue in Prosser. Commissioner Hector stated he would be attending. Discussed items for the agency report at this meeting. The list included the drill tower project, new SCBA's, apparatus deliveries later this year, Deputy Chief position, and the challenges we have experienced with retention and recruitment.

CHIEF'S REPORT

The Fire and EMS response and transport reports for the month of April was provided. Seventy total responses for the month and forty-nine EMS responses with twenty-six transports for the month of April.

Chief Eastman gave staffing update. Members Cody Orange-Worden and Jes Goodson completed their last working day near the end of April. Conditional offers employment have been accepted by Ariel Morfin and Brian Gourdin. They both are expected to start on June 6th. Temporary summer hires Logan Bartlett and Kole Stubblefield started last week to help cover day shift. Other summer hires will start in June.

A full scale MCI drill is scheduled for May 12, 2022 starting at 6:00 pm. The location will be Walla Walla Airport. The drill is required by the FAA every three years. Several area fire, EMS, and law enforcement agencies are participating in the exercise.

The drill tower building has been completed and an open house was held earlier today. The facility is very nice and will serve the needs of fire agencies for many years. Final completion of the site work is ongoing this week. The Fire Commissioners and Chief Eastman expressed their appreciation and thanks to Chief Knowles for leading the project.

The 2022 Structure Recruit Academy is completed and graduation will be May 13, 2022, 6:00 pm here at Station 41.

In 2018, Walla Walla County Emergency Management submitted a grant application to FEMA for a Fuels Mitigation project in the Walla Walla County urban interface area. The grant has finally been awarded. Fire District 4 will be the lead for identifying and scheduling projects for the grant. Phil Tonn is the contact and lead person for the fire district. The grant is for \$45,750 with a 25% local match and all funding must be utilized by April 2024.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chief Eastman presented the updated policies for Charging for Services policy, section 300-008, and Policy 400-001, Pay for Volunteer Members. After a discussion, Commissioner Farrens motioned to approve Resolution 2022-02: Amending Policies and Procedures. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 220501001 through 220501047 were presented for payment. Chief Eastman reviewed some of the big-ticket items. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the expense vouchers. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried. The total for these were \$146,103.34.

Chief Eastman and Commissioner Hector reported on the contract negotiations with Local 4514. A tentative agreement is nearly completed with one item the local wishes to discuss in a little more detail. It is expected to have a final agreement for consideration at the next regular meeting. Commissioner Hector expressed his appreciation for the positive dialog Local 4514 negotiation team has brought to the meetings.

AUDIENCE INPUT

Deputy Chief Golden thanked the board for the SCBA's purchase. Training for the new SCBA's occurred last night and the units are very nice and will protect our members.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on May 25, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Rocky Eastman, Secretary

Approved by: _____, Chairman