

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on August 11, 2022 at Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Farrens. Commissioners Hector and Myrick, Chief Rocky Eastman and Deputy Chief John Golden were present at station 41. Guests included 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 July 27, 2022 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Tri-county meeting is scheduled for August 13th at Benton 2, Commissioner Hector is planning to attend.

The July 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 July was provided. One hundred nineteen total responses for the month and sixty-three EMS responses with twenty-nine transports for the month of July.

Chief Eastman reported we have responded to several large incidents recently. Fires are burning a lot hotter than normal, making fire suppression difficult and increasing the danger to personnel.

Chief Eastman relayed Captain Box has been cleared and is back to full duty.

Chief Eastman reported minor accident with Tahoe. Minimal to no damage was done to the Tahoe. The other vehicle sustained damage to the bed and cab of pick-up, a claim has been submitted to insurance.

SCBA's will go in-service next week. The majority of our personnel have been trained and Chief Eastman feels confident that the SCBA's can go in-service.

Deputy Chief Golden described some of the improvements at the fairgrounds. New deck seating area around the arena with 54 boxes for seating 16 per box. New fencing around the grounds slightly changed the gates. The career staff will be touring the facility in preparation for the fair.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chief Eastman presented a revised and final Interlocal agreement with Walla Walla County for Walla Walla County Fuels reduction FEMA Grant project. The verbiage regarding home owner contact guidelines has been revised. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the agreement as presented. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 220801001 through 220801042 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 \$228,451.78.

The Port of Walla Walla will be operating one flight per day starting September 6 through the end of the year, due to pilot shortage. Our current contract states one flight per day as negotiable. Chief Eastman proposes a 40% reduction from the contracted three flight per day rate. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve a 40% reduction from the three flight per day contracted rate. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

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Chief Eastman inquired if the Board would like to negotiate a new contract with the Port of Walla Walla for ARFF services when the current contract expires at the year end. Commissioner Hector would like input from staff before moving forward, will discuss at next Labor Management meeting and report back at next regular meeting. Commissioner Farrens tabled discussions until next meeting.

Chief Eastman advised E3451 and E3456 will need replaced in the near future and would like to upgrade to type 4 engines. With the current the fulfillment time for new chassis' around 24 months we need to consider ordering chassis. Chief Eastman plans to build on the chassis in-house. Commissioner Farrens motioned for Chief Eastman to go to bid for 2 type 4 chassis. Commissioner Myrick seconded and was carried unanimously.

Due to a slight oversight an administrative member was added to the HRA VEBA account, our contract states all members of a certain employment class (i.e., admin or union members) receive the same benefit. Chief Eastman asked to have the HRA VEBA benefit added to administrative contracts. Commissioner Farrens motioned to add the same HRA VEBA benefit to administrative members contracts as is in the union contract. Commissioner Hector seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE INPUT

None.

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on August 24, 2022 at 5:07 P.M.

Submitted by: Rocky Eastman, Secretary

Approved by: _____, Chairman