

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on September 27, 2023 at Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chairman Myrick. Commissioners Hector and Farrens and Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present at Station 41. Guests included Deputy Chief John Golden, Megan Waite, and representatives from the Department of Fish & Wildlife.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Myrick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda was presented, no changes to agenda. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of September 13, 2023 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Financial Report and Secretary's Budget Report for August were presented & reviewed.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Protech completed the bed installation on one of the Type 4 Chassis' and it has been moved to Mallory for tank installation. The second one is still at Protech for bed installation, it should be moved to Mallory for tank installation next week.

Megan is attending the WFC Administrative Conference in Leavenworth next week.

Chief Eastman responded to the Trinity Fire that was approved for state mobilization. A request for State reimbursement of overtime was submitted. Commissioner Hector motioned to pay Chief Eastman overtime for the Trinity fire. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion was carried.

Commissioner Myrick would like an update to our policies to allow Chief Eastman and Deputy Chief Golden overtime compensation to be paid when working on State Mobilization and department is being reimbursed for their overtime pay. Chief Eastman will prepare for next meeting.

We have 16 new volunteer applicants interviewing this week.

Corps of Engineers has acquired a boat for water rescues and stand-by at events at Bennington Lake. The boat is being stored near the project office.

The Survey and Rating Bureau will be evaluating District 4 in 2024. We will schedule evaluation visit in late spring. Our current rating is a 5/6.

GUEST PRESENTATION

Steve Hall, Steve Dazey and Andrew Kolb from the Department of Fish and Wildlife Hunter Safety had used the classroom at Station 41 to provide two Hunter Safety Classes to local community members, they presented the department an appreciation plaque.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Hector presented a strategic planning update. The committee has identified 6 focus areas to prioritize. They are developing goals, creating objectives, and designing an implementation plan.

2024 Budget workshop is scheduled for October 11th at 3:00 p.m.

Regular meeting scheduled for October 25th was cancelled due to WFCA Conference.

Commissioners discussed and approved a 4% cost of living increase for non-represented employees for 2024.

Chief Eastman and Deputy Chief Golden revised a draft of key messages from Liz Loomis and presented it to the Board for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

An ambulance transport financial assistance application was presented for consideration. The patient was transported in February 2023 with an outstanding balance of \$350.00. They submitted the proper documentation. Based on their income they qualify for a 75% reduction. Commissioner Hector motioned to provide a 75% reduction (\$262.50). Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

AUDIENCE INPUT

None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: _____, Chairman