

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on December 13, 2023 at Station 41.

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

### **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 November 22<sup>nd</sup> and the minutes of the special meeting of December 11, 2023 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

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

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) announced that, effective January 1, 2024, the rate adjustment for commissioner compensation will be \$161 per day with a new annual compensation limit of \$15,456.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

The Fire and EMS response and transport reports for the month of November were provided. Seventy-three total responses for the month and forty-four EMS responses with thirty transports for the month.

Type 4 engines were delivered Monday from Mallory. The career staff will begin working on them in January, after the annuals are completed. Lt. Slater will head installation of the plumbing, Lt. Tonn will stock and organize the tools and compartments, and FF Sewell will oversee the installation of the electrical. Our goal is to have the trucks in service by May.

Washington State Survey and Rating Bureau site visit is scheduled for June 4, 2024.

Captains test was completed by 4 members, all passed. Existing captains and those just completing the test were offered the opportunity to interview for the Training Officer position. Four are interested in interviewing.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Monday nights department meeting was discussed. The meeting was to discuss a potential department levy lid lift with department members. Overall, the discussion at the meeting went well, there were some good questions from members. A brief discussion about the needs of the fire district and how to best share those needs with citizens of the fire district.

Strategic planning committee has a draft plan completed; the plan will be presented to the Board for review at the next meeting and to the membership for review. The next planning meeting is

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scheduled for January 16, 2024 with plans for a final document for the board to consider in late January or early February.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 231201001 through 231201060 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 was \$403,814.25.

E3414 is in Spokane to repair the sticking butterfly valves. Valves were replaced, that did not fix the issue. They are working through the repair.

The 2024 Wages and Stipends was presented for approval. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the 2024 Wages and Stipends. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

**AUDIENCE INPUT**

None.

At 5:18 PM Commissioner Myrick 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 for approximately 10 minutes.

At 5:30 PM the regular meeting reconvened. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 27th, 2023 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Chief Rocky Eastman

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_, Chairman