

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on December 11, 2024 at Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Hector. Commissioners Myrick and Farrens and Secretary/Chief Rocky Eastman were present at station 41. Guests included Deputy Chief Golden, Deputy Chief Adam Woiblet, City of Walla Walla Fire Chief John Knowles, Brian Jones and Megan Waite in person at station 41.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hector.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 26, 2024 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Myrick. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

CHIEF'S REPORT

The Fire and EMS response and transport reports for November were provided. Seventy-seven total responses for the month and fifty-three EMS responses with twenty-seven transports and seven airport transports. Maintaining a 70% EMS incident rate.

Boundary drop meeting held with the chief officers discussing items related to crew schedules and how to create more opportunities to train together. Have a second meeting scheduled for December 18th with the Locals to review their work on schedules and staffing.

One of the Type 4 engine pumps has been started. Work is still progressing.

Most of the required equipment for the new Type 1 engine will be moved over from the old engine. New hose has been ordered.

Training program is being moved from Vector solutions to Fire engineering. The cancellation of Vector solutions deadline was missed by two days, they are trying to hold us to the auto-renewal. A meeting with Vector Solutions and Chiefs is scheduled for December 19th to discuss further.

In 2016 our CAD system along with police RMS and Jail records was updated and the 10-year contract is coming to an end next year. It was decided by the consortium to remain with Tyler Technologies but switch to the cloud version. The proposed cost for the annual subscription and maintenance fees to be distributed among the users are going to increase. The estimated increase for Fire District 4 is approximately \$30k annually. More review and discussion will be completed to determine if the annual cost is distributed fairly.

Being the end of the year, several staff on vacation for the holidays.

The AFG grant is open again. After being declined in 2023, Fire District #4 is hosting the grant application collectively with City of Walla Walla Fire and College Place fire. This year the grant is applying for radio and communications upgrades.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

New volunteer members were presented for approval. Commissioner Farrens motioned to accept sixteen new members. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and it was carried out.

NEW BUSINESS

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 241101001 through 241101067 were presented for payment. Chief Eastman reviewed some of the big-ticket items. Fifty percent of the Social Security refund is being distributed this month, with 50% of the employee contributions processing through vouchers and 50% of the district's contribution processing through payroll. Commissioner Farrens motioned to approve the expense vouchers. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion, and it was carried out. The total for these was \$540,381.15.

Life insurance policy currently costs \$9,000 for \$15,000 policy. The WFCA offers a \$25,000 plan for \$8,667. Commissioner Farrens motioned to switch to the Life insurance policy with WFCA. Commissioner Hector seconded the motion and was carried.

Oregon contract at 53350 W. Ferndale Road has not been paid for 2023 and 2024 is over-due. Several attempts to contact property owner was made. Commissioner Myrick motioned to cancel the fire protection contract for 53350 W. Ferndale Road. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

Chairman Hector inquired about cancelling the December 23, 2024 meeting due to vacations and lack of agenda items. No opposition from the board or those in attendance. Therefore, Chairman Hector cancelled the December 23rd meeting.

AUDIENCE INPUT

City of Walla Walla Chief Knowles reported that the manager is going to name Deputy Chief Eric Wood as Acting Fire Chief in mid-January.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on January 8, 2024, at 4:00 PM.

Submitted by: Rocky Eastman, Secretary

Approved by: _____, Chairman