

The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on December 14, 2022 at Station 41.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Commissioner Myrick. Commissioner Hector, 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 Myrick.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 23, 2022 were motioned for approval by Commissioner Hector. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

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

Chief Eastman presented the 2023 Wages/Stipend Approval Sheet. Chief Eastman proposed a 10% increase for Part time FF/EMT Employees and add a compensation plan for volunteer paramedic. After a brief discussion Commissioner Hector motioned to approve 2023 wages. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

The 2023 WFCA Health Care Program Employer Application was presented. Chief Eastman proposed adding orthodontia to the dental plan for \$0.87 per employee. Commissioner Hector motioned to approved the addition of orthodontia and motioned to approve the WFCA Health Care Program application. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and was carried.

Chief Eastman advised the State Audit will be conducted remotely this year and should be starting soon.

### **CHIEF'S REPORT**

The Fire and EMS response and transport reports for the month of November was provided. Eighty-eight total responses for the month and fifty-eight EMS responses with thirty-six transports for the month.

Timothy Bowen and Paige Wood traveled to Las Vegas for National Registry practical testing and passed! Both still need to complete the written portion and Timothy is completing the paramedic program requirements.

Potential GEMT changes may be on the horizon. The federal Medicare/Medicaid program release new guidance for each state with approved GEMT programs. One of the significant proposed changes is that only cost associated with medical transports may be reported rather than the total cost for EMS services. This guidance and potential change in the state plan will reduce the reimbursement from Washington State for the GEMT program.

Deputy Chief Golden reported we received the back-up cameras and thermal imaging cameras, purchased with the grant money received from GESA. During annual truck check the back-up cameras and charges for thermal imaging units will also be installed.

Chief Eastman and Brandon McKinney traveled to South Dakota to complete the final inspection of the two new tactical tenders and Type 1 Engine. In order to lift the hood, the monitor had to be removed, we requested that be changed for ease of access. We are expecting delivery around the first of the year. The type 1 Engine was almost complete, most of inspection was completed. The engine is expected to be delivered later then the tenders. Chief Eastman and Deputy Chief Golden inspected and accepted delivery of the new Rescue Monday.

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Firefighter Bruner will be taking lead on stocking rescue and preparing for service, stickers are scheduled for Friday.

Chief Eastman stated the Auxiliary is sponsoring five Christmas families! They were awarded \$1,000 from the Association of Washington Business Holiday Kids' Tree Project. Deliveries are scheduled on Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Chief Eastman reported Firefighter Slater needed to extend his medical leave and may be able to return to light duty mid-January.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**TYPE 4 BEDS & TANKS BID OPENING**

Bid 1) Mallory	Bed & Tank (x2)	\$115,482 plus tax
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Commissioner Hector motioned to have the bid reviewed for compliance with the specifications and accept the bid from Mallory for \$115,482 excluding tax, provided all specifications are met. Commissioner Myrick seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Payroll and expense vouchers numbered 221201001 through 221201065 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 \$1,038,815.65.

**AUDIENCE INPUT**

None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Rocky Eastman, Secretary

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