The minutes of the regular meeting of the Fire Commissioners of Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 held on September 23, 2026, at Station 41.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Myrick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
The meeting agenda and minutes of the regular meeting of September 9, 2026, 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 for August were presented with a revenue reported through April from the County Treasurer.

Recap of SE WA Fire Commissioner Meeting from Chief Golden.

Custom ambulance build is up to 600 days, we are scheduled to replace in 2028 and probably need to start planning. Consider repurposing current box on new chassis vs building custom or stock/demo models.

Budget workshop scheduled for October 14th at 3pm, before the next regular meeting.

Public Budget meeting October 28th at 3:45pm.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Paradise fire has been turned over to Walla Walla Ranger District. Land use agreement for use of hydrant at station 45 was closed out.

Pump testing is wrapping up all engines, E3411 has a leak and needs some plumbing repairs.

Tood had to have emergency surgery last week and has a 20lb restriction and on light duty for the time being.

Ethan Zehner has his HESI test scheduled for paramedic certification. Steve and Wyatt are almost finished with clinicals at Kadlec, Ryan is just starting clinicals.

Viorel was at the mechanics conference last week.

Open House Saturday, October 3rd from 11a-2p

Medical insurance premiums are increasing 18.5% in 2027,

FEMA Grant application with the City of WW and CP for new portable radios. We were awarded a $1 Million for portable radios! The district will have to match 9% equating to around $55k.
Chris Lee has been a great advocate for us to apply for grants and get the right grants to the right organization.

Station alerting moving forward. Been gathering supplies and setting up, will start running wires after the open house.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Proposed rate increases for 2027 Ambulance mileage rate at the recommendation of Systems Designs, our ambulance billing provider. Has not increased since 2017 when we started ambulance transport. Commissioner Farrens motioned to increase the Ambulance mileage rate to $18/mile. Commissioner Hector seconded the motion and was carried.

Propose EMS standby rate change to $105 / hour, a 5% increase to cover the costs of providing service. Commissioner Hector motioned to approve the rate increase. Commissioner Farrens seconded the motion and was carried unanimously.

Side-by-side update – working on getting in-service. Working on deciding on tracks and enclosures.

Commissioner Myrick inquired if there has been any budget requests from members.

NEW BUSINESS
None

AUDIENCE INPUT
None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01 PM

The next regular Walla Walla County Fire District No. 4 Commissioner Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 14th at 4:00 P.M.

Submitted by: Chief John Golden

Approved by: _____, Chairman