

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
August 26th, 2024**

The meeting convened at 3:30 pm at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present at Station 40 were Chairman Les Riel, Commissioner Tyler Brandt, Commissioner Ben St. Mary, Fire Chief Dale Hille and his wife Paula Hille, Interim Fire Chief Ray Lamoureux and his wife Stephanie Lamoureux, District Secretary Katelynn Roberts, Administrative Assistant Morgan Frost, Lieutenants Blake Reeves and CJ Erickson, Firefighters Travis Young, Jay Cruz, Jack Wutzke and Volunteer Firefighters Carl Valmonte and Nathan Uriostegui. Captain Trevor Lenseigne and Firefighter Fletcher Larson attended via zoom.

Chairman Riel called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Riel lead in the pledge of allegiance.

LIMITED OPEN PUBLIC INPUT for items NOT on the Agenda – Public comment for items that are on the agenda are allowed as the item comes up for discussion during the meeting.

Chairman Riel noted there was no public input at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Riel made a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner St. Mary made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the adjustment of moving consent agenda item 5.d Correspondence regarding the Union Letter supporting the RFA to 7.d. after Unfinished Business. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- Fund Balances as of July 31st, 2024

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- August 12th, 2024 Regular BOC Meeting Minutes

CLAIMS REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL

Claims Requests FIRE	\$	9,478.76
Claims Requests EMS	\$	<u>1,403.65</u>
Total Claims	\$	10,882.41

CHIEF'S REPORT – Attached

Executive Session - RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging or disciplining an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public.

Chairman Riel called the executive session at 3:31 pm and requested 20 minutes to start. At 3:48 pm, Chairman Riel requested IFC Lamoureux join the executive session until the end of the original 20-minute limit. At 3:51 pm Chairman Riel requested 5 additional minutes with all members in attendance already. Chairman Riel adjourned the executive session ended at 3:56 pm.

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NEW BUSINESS

- Reclassification of Chief Hille to Safety Officer / Chief Hille Correspondence

Chairman Riel suggested the department get a lawyer involved to discuss the possibility of moving FC Hille to Safety Officer in order to appoint IFC Lamoureux to Fire Chief. The board made the decision table until they had a discussion with our Labor Attorney Sofia Mabee and discuss at a later date. FC Hille explained that if he is reclassified as a safety officer, the Department of Labor and Industries will consider him working and he will lose any benefits/payments he is receiving. Chairman Riel made a motion to keep FC Hille on administrative furlough pending a conversation with Sofia Mabee. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Deputy Fire Chief Recruitment Document

IFC Lamoureux put together a recruiting document to find a Deputy Fire Chief for the board to review. The concerns of the board are what response time are we looking for, and what the salary range will be. The board made a decision to table the topic under unfinished business until the next meeting on September 9th, 2024.

- Authorization for the Fire Chief to have Station 41 Appraised

IFC Lamoureux asked for the boards permission to seek out companies that will do an appraisal of Station 41. Commissioner Brandt made a motion to approve moving forward with having Station 41 appraised. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Appointment of New Fire Chief

Commissioner Brandt made a motion to appoint Interim Fire Chief Ray Lamoureux the new Fire Chief of Yakima County Fire District 4. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Fire Chief Oath of Office

Chairman Riel verbally presented IFC Ray Lamoureux the Fire Chief Oath of Office verbally in front of all those in attendance. Swearing him in as the new Fire Chief of Yakima County Fire District 4.

- City of Moxee Annexation

The City of Moxee is looking to annex the area that Station 40 is located at into Moxee, not changing anything at that station directly. The Aho development is looking to build 126 new homes. The board suggested making it a requirement of the developers to put up a 10-foot rock wall around the station to prevent anyone who is not part of the department from getting on to the property. In order to annex the area, the City of Moxee needs 60% of the assessed value but are already planning on expanding north regardless. The department has made the decision to sign a petition if approved. FC Lamoureux will also look into having the city put in more hydrants, power and sewer for the training facility. Commissioner Brandt made a motion to approve signing a petition for the annexation of Station 40 property into City of Moxee. Chairman Riel seconded. Commissioner St. Mary opposed. Motion carried 2 to 1.

- City of Yakima Annexation Options

The department discussed the 6 options there are when it comes to the annexation proposal from the City of Yakima. The commissioners have decided they will do their own homework on the subject and will possibly be getting ahold of Brian Snure, the department's attorney, to educate the department on its options moving forward.

CORRESPONDANCE

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- Union Letter Supporting RFA

The Local 469 Union representatives presented the board with a letter in their support of joining an RFA with City of Yakima. Chairman Riel expressed to the board that it was a very well written letter and that their thoughts would be considered moving forward.

- NFPA 1710 Fact Sheet

The Union representatives also presented the board with an NFPA 1710 fact sheet with the requirements for response times in a covered district area.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Everyone is registered for the WFOA Annual Conference in Spokane at the end of October and Chairman Riel has requested AA Frost attend as well.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

FC Lamoureux informed the board that he is working with AA Frost and FF Young to organize a couple public education / fire prevention events. One being an open house and hot dog feed at Station 42 in Terrace Heights on October 12th, 2024, and the other will be a movie night at Station 40 in Moxee in the apparatus bay. The department will be showing a kid's movie on November 15th, 2024 with popcorn and snacks on a projector screen.

FC Lamoureux also informed the board that the volunteer recruitment has gone well and the department has had 4 additional applicants, making the number for academy 12-15. West Valley Fire Department has also expressed their interest in the academy.

Volunteer Dominic Feldi will be starting his EMT classes this week. FC Lamoureux and DS Roberts have also completed the State Mobilization paperwork for the volunteers to get paid and for the district to be reimbursed for the career staff helping at the brush fires.

SIGNING OF DISTRICT DOCUMENTS

Due to the Commissioners attending the meeting in person, documents will be held for signatures after the meeting.

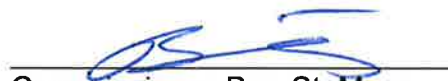
NEXT REGULAR MEETING – Monday, September 9th, 2024 at 3:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business Chairman Riel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:41 pm. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.



Chairman Les Riel



Commissioner Ben St. Mary

Attest:



Vice-Chairman Tyler Brandt



District Secretary Katelynn M. Roberts