

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 14th, 2023**

The meeting convened at 3:30 pm at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present at Station 40 were Chairman Les Riel, Chairman Tyler Brandt, Commissioner Ben St. Mary, Fire Chief Dale Hille, Fire Chief Ray Lamoureux, District Secretary Katelynn Roberts and Administrative Assistant Morgan Frost.

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

Commissioner Brandt asked that Hiring of 3 Career Firefighters in 2025 be added to the agenda under Unfinished business. Chairman Riel Made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, commissioner St. Mary seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

SECRETARY'S REPORT

- October 07, 2024 Payroll

PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES - None

CLAIMS REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL

Claims Requests Fire	\$	52,886.01
Claims Requests EMS	\$	3,205.87
Total Claims	\$	56,091.88

CORRESPONDANCE - None

CHIEF'S REPORT – Attached

Chairman Riel made a motion to approve the consent agenda as submitted. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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 opened the executive session at 3:34 pm and requested 10 minutes with all three board members and FC Hille only. At 3:44 pm Chairman Riel adjourned the executive session. The regular BOC meeting reconvened at 3:44 pm.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- FC Hille Separation Agreement

Commissioner Brandt informed everyone that there are some minor changes that need to be made to the separation agreement and requested it be tabled until the next BOC meeting on October 28th, 2024. There will then be signatures to finalize.

- Hiring of 3 Career Firefighters in 2025

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The board and admin staff discussed the hiring of 3 career firefighters in 2025 during the budget retreat and agreed to put it in place after the 1st of March. Commissioner Brandt made a motion to approve hiring 3 firefighters in March of 2025. Commissioner St. Mary seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- DRAFT Policy 04.01.01 Job Description – District Fire Chief

Chairman Riel made a motion to approve policy 04.01.01. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- DRAFT Policy 04.01.04 Job Description – Deputy Fire Chief

Chairman Riel made a motion to approve policy 04.01.04. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- Union Gap 96B Area

FC Lamoureux informed the board that Union Gap Fire Chief Gregg Cobb approached himself and City of Yakima Deputy Chief DJ Goldsmith about the possibility of annexing the UG parcels in the 96B area into the City of Yakima. As of right now, the UG 96B area is in the East Valley jurisdiction but the department does not respond to calls there. FC Lamoureux also informed the board that DC Goldsmith was supposed to get him more information on the subject and hasn't yet, he is hoping he will have more information by the October 28th, 2024 meeting and is requesting the subject be tabled until then.

- 2025 FIIRE Program Participation

FC Lamoureux informed the board that this is just a continuation of the agreement and although it is becoming permanent, the department needs to re-enroll. Chairman Les Riel, FC Lamoureux and Lieutenant CJ Erickson will all need to sign. Chairman Riel made a motion to approve the continuation of agreement for the 2025 FIIRE Program. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Chairman Riel informed everyone that the Washington Fire Chiefs Association discussed the salary increases for 2025 for staff and the increase will be 4.5%. Chairman Riel also mentioned that the WFCA is talking about the Fire Marshall still being a part of the State Patrol. FC Hille informed everyone he will still be speaking at the WFC Conference next May regarding PTSD.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

FC Lamoureux informed everyone that he and the Selah Fire Chief Jim Lang had a good meeting with the County Commissioners about impact fees in the fire service. FC Lamoureux also had a meeting with City Council member Danny Herrera and said if the County let's fire departments collect impact fees, then it will be county wide.

RC Lamoureux and West Valley Fire Chief Nathan Craig had a meeting with the Washington Surveying & Rating Bureau (WSRB) with Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) present since neither were getting any movement from the State Chiefs Association. WSRB has refused to change the staffing requirement since they updated it in 2014.

FC Lamoureux informed the board he has 4 volunteer interviews left to conduct and if all are viable, the department will have 13 recruits starting in January's recruit class. If District 5 decides to join, there will be 18.

The hot dog feed and open house at Station 42 was Saturday October 12th, 2024 and there was a good turn-out. Next year the department will purchase banners from Coca-Cola to hang along Terrace Heights Drive to create more awareness. The department would also like to incorporate a chili cook-off into the hot dog feed and open house for the public to judge.

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On Sunday night October 13th, 2024 around 7:00 pm the crew was called to a DOA female in the river down off of Marsh Rd. The crew had a meeting afterwards to discuss any ill feelings and all is well. There are no other details at this time.

SIGNING OF DISTRICT DOCUMENTS

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

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – 2025 Budget Hearing – Monday, October 28th, 2024 at 3:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business Chairman Riel made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 pm. Commissioner Brandt seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:13 pm.



Chairman Les Riel



Commissioner Ben St. Mary

Attest:



Vice-Chairman Tyler Brandt


District Secretary Katelynn M. Roberts