



**Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue
Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes
911 N 65th Avenue, Ridgefield**

June 9, 2022

Present:

Commissioners Stan Chunn, Ken Ayers, Larry Bartel, David Town.
Chief John Nohr. DVCs Mike Jackson and Ben Peeler.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Chunn at 4:00 p.m.

Flag salute and moment of silence in remembrance of Commissioner Johnson.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Nohr read a card received from Ms. Marsha Williams of Gig Harbor, Washington. She had attended a memorial for Cowlitz Tribal Chair Dave Barnett. At the end of the ceremony, attendees were given flower arrangements that the Cowlitz Tribe had received in tribute to Chair Barnett. Ms. Williams had received the flowers sent by CCFR. She commented on the beauty of the arrangement and sent her thanks for the flowers. Chief Nohr read a letter from Woodland Ace Hardware thanking the firefighters for stopping in at a community event at the business and presenting safety information to the children.

Chair Chunn noted that with Commissioner Johnson's sudden passing, his committee assignments will need to be filled. Chair Chunn volunteered to be the CCFR representative to the FFFB. No opposition; Chunn to be FFFB representative. Commissioner Ayers volunteered to be the FFFB alternate. No opposition; Ayers to be FFFB alternate. Commissioner Town volunteered to be the Vice-Chair of the CCFR Board of Commissioners. No opposition; Town to be Vice-Chair of Board of Commissioners.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group

No meeting. No report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board

No meeting. No report.

Finance Committee

No meeting. No report.

Local BVFF Committee

No meeting. No report.

WFOA Region VIII

No report.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Bartel attended the Clark College groundbreaking ceremony on June 2 at Boschma Farms. He stated the school will be an excellent addition to the community. Commissioners Bartel and Town attended the Fire Cadet Graduation on June 2. Commissioner Bartel spoke of the quality of the program and the support that it provides CCFR.

Commissioners Chunn and Bartel, as well as Chief Nohr spoke about the ability to see Commissioner Johnson in his last hours before he passed. Chief Nohr noted that BC Konkright and the crews of Engine 22 and Engine 26 set up a small memorial procession to follow Commissioner Johnson to the funeral home in Battle Ground. Though it was very late at night, the crews from Fire District 3 Station 35 had their apparatus out with lights on in recognition of Commissioner Johnson. In addition, Fire District 3 Tower 35 was flying a US flag in honor of Commissioner Johnson. The Johnson family was very appreciative that the districts would honor Commissioner Johnson in this manner.

Commissioner Chunn spoke about how he was also able to see Commissioner Johnson before he passed. Commissioner Johnson had shared how proud he was of how many accomplishments the district has achieved.

Chief Nohr advised as he was out of town DVC Jackson was the point of contact for the Johnson family. They were appreciative of the work done by DVC Jackson and Chaplain LaPore.

Chief Nohr reported a memorial service will be held for Commissioner Johnson on July 30 at the ilani Resort. The time will be announced later.

CHIEFS' REPORTS

Chief Nohr stated that written reports would be delayed until the next meeting due to vacations, absences, and other circumstances. He noted that the SWACH annual report cited the CCFR CARES program and how it is one of the premier programs that SWACH is sponsoring.

Update on the new fire engine the commissioners were briefed about at the May 26 meeting. This engine is currently in the production pipeline at Pierce manufacturing. The apparatus is extremely close to our current specification. Staff members feel it would work well for CCFR. Chief Nohr mentioned that with Station 151 opening with a CCFR crew, we have dipped into our reserve engine fleet and the reserve apparatus are not adequate for daily use. The proposed engine is approximately \$847,000 including sales tax; the current CCFR specification for a new engine is up to \$895,000 plus sales tax. The current wait time on production is over two years. Chief Nohr stated that purchasing the engine in production will save money and have a new apparatus in service at CCFR by the end of the year. For these reasons, Chief Nohr urged the Board to support the purchase of the new Pierce fire engine from Hughes Fire Equipment. Motion to move forward with the purchase by Commissioner Bartel. Second Commissioner Town. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Nohr noted there will be an award ceremony at the June 23 meeting to honor the La Center High School staff members who performed live saving CPR on a student.

DVC Peeler reported our two recruits at the regional fire academy are doing well. There will be an academy graduation ceremony on June 23 at 6:00 p.m. at the Lacamas Lodge in Camas.

DVC Peeler advised the two new Pierce engines ordered last year arrived at the local dealer in Springfield, OR. They will be delivered to CCFR in 2-3 weeks to be outfitted for service. DVC Peeler thinks they could be in service by the end of July.

DVC Peeler reported Station 151 opened on June 5 with a CCFR crew. The station has been heavily used over the years by volunteers and CCSO deputies. The new crew did quite a bit of work to deep clean the station and bring it up to CCFR standards. We will need to bring in a landscape company to clean up all the beds and brush around the station so it will be more appropriate as a fire station.

Station inspections have started. The first inspection was at Station 29. It looked extremely good from strong work by the crews.

Three new Captains were promoted on June 1. They will be sworn in at a future meeting. Company officers are attending quarterly training sessions. The first two have focused on personnel management and coaching/counseling. They have been well received.

Commissioner Bartel asked if CCFR attends active-shooter training. DVC Peeler explained that there is a county-wide law enforcement and EMS plan. We have practiced, the most recently in 2019 before COVID. The plan is currently being looked at for revisions.

DVC Jackson reported that our summer college intern has started. She comes to CCFR from Eastern Kentucky University. She will be working on our Community Risk Assessment. Plans reviews continue to be strong. The Falls Reduction program continues to meet with residents. Community Risk Reduction had a booth at the Ridgefield Farmers Market. Other events on the horizon include Planters Days, 4th of July, and a safety fair at the ilani Resort.

DVC Jackson reported on research he had done regarding waiving permit fees for non-profits. CCFR essentially performs inspections on behalf of the cities. Research showed that Camas used to have a fee waiver program, but it became unusable, so they dropped it. The Clark County Fire Marshal did research and determined that it may violate rules on gifting of funds. He recommended we not give waivers.

Commissioner Town asked if we could dedicate one of the new fire engines to Commissioner Johnson as a memorial. Other Commissioners concurred. Chief Nohr believes it is possible and will investigate how it is done.

STATION 151 UPDATE

Most of the information covered under DVC Peeler's report. Crews are in the station and working hard. Dispatch issues have been identified and DVC Peeler has notified CRESA. Captain Fagan has reached out to the District 6 Battalion Chief and crews at Station 63 to set up drills and to go over agency expectations.

EMS LEVY UPDATE

We received the three EMS levy informational videos produced for CCFR. Chief Nohr explained the videos include a CPR demonstration and show the difference between two-person and three-person crew capabilities. The videos will be posted to our website and social media.

Chief Nohr and Commissioner Bartel met with the head of the Ridgefield HOAs. He was receptive to sharing information on the EMS levy. Chief Nohr will send him our information flyer to distribute to all the Ridgefield HOAs. CCFR will host a morning informational meeting on June 29 at 7:00 AM at Windy Hills Winery. This is similar to informational meetings that other agencies have held there. We will also hold open-house meetings at Station 21 on July 7 and July 14 at 6:00 p.m. Chief Nohr is looking for a place to hold an informational meeting in Woodland prior to July 15.

Chief Nohr will present a draft informational mailer for review at the June 23 meeting. This mailer will go out to all district residents the week of July 11.

Chief Nohr reported ambulance response to the district continues to be slow. This went on for several days last week.

Commissioner Bartel reported that he has scheduled CCFR to attend 18 different events to speak about the EMS levy. Chief Nohr thanked Commissioner Bartel for his diligence in setting up meetings with multiple groups across the district.

COMMISSIONER REPLACEMENT PROCESS

Chief Nohr handed out copies of information that DVC Jackson had collected about commissioner replacement. The information was from RCWs, the Municipal Resource and Service Center (MRSC), and attorney Brian Snure. CCFR has 90 days from the point of vacancy to appoint another commissioner. Based on this, CCFR must appoint by August 29. Qualifications were reviewed. DVC Jackson will draw up an application form that may be used. The Board must interview candidates in an open meeting. The candidate appointed by the Board will serve until the next General Election where fire commissioners are elected, which is November 2023. At that point, the seat is open, and someone may run for the remainder of the term. Since Commissioner Johnson's 6-year term started this year, the person elected in 2023 would serve another 4 years.

DVC Peeler noted that interviews should occur at the beginning of the designated meeting. The Board may then discuss the qualifications in executive session. The Board would then return to regular session and appoint the chosen candidate. That person could be sworn in and would attend the remainder of the meeting as a Commissioner.

Chief Nohr recommended interviews at the August 11 meeting. Staff will work backward from that date to develop the qualifications application and how to advertise the opening on our web site. The Commissioners concurred. Chief Nohr mentioned that Commissioner Johnson is still owed for one and possibly two meetings where his timecard had not yet been turned

in. Commissioner Bartel asked if Commissioner Johnson had any life insurance policies through the district. Chief Nohr to verify.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

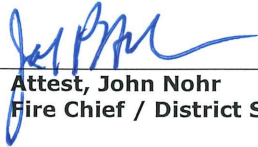
CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.



Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary