



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

January 12, 2023

Present:

Commissioners Stan Chunn, Ken Ayers, Larry Bartel, Jade Bourke.
Chief John Nohr. DVC Ben Peeler. Logistics BC Abe Rommel. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

Remote: Commissioner David Town. DVC Mike Jackson.

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

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

Chief Nohr advised agenda item #3, a swearing in ceremony, will be pulled as the employee was unable to attend the meeting due to a school conflict. Commissioner Chunn advised there will be an executive session to consider the selection of real estate.

2023 OFFICERS

Commissioner Bartel nominated Commissioner Chunn for Chair. Second Commissioner Town. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner Chunn nominated Commissioner Town for Vice Chair. Second Commissioner Ayers. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

2023 COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Chair Chunn confirmed the following committee appointments:

- Clark County Fire Risk Management Group – Bartel
- FFFB – Chunn; Alternate Bartel
- Finance – Town and Bourke; Alternate Ayers
- BVFF – Chunn and Ayers; Alternate Town
- Cowlitz Tribe Liaison – Bartel and Bourke, Alternate Chunn

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Bartel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Bourke. Commissioner Bartel asked if the property damage from the recent vehicle tows would be processed through insurance. BC Rommel advised we are waiting on landscaping quotes and will depend on the repair costs. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Notice of FD10 Chief Sam Arola's retirement. DVC Peeler advised that Sam will be appointed to a vacant Commissioner position and Gordon Brooks will be the new fire chief. Thank you note and box of chocolate from some appreciative Ridgefield residents in thanks for the service provided. They are neighbors of FD13 Chief Shaun Ford. Gratefully acknowledged a \$12,000 donation from the family/estate of Woodland resident Bill Maitland. Funds will be applied to the purchase of much needed cardio

exercise equipment for the stations. This will be combined with the \$7,500 Adventist donation and approximately \$2,500 in the donation savings fund.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group

Chief Nohr shared that officers were elected at the January 4 meeting. FD6 Chief Maurer will be the agent and representative ; other officers are unchanged. Decision made to not change the deductibles.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board

Chief Nohr recapped the January 11 FFFB meeting. Response statistics reviewed. Advised that the fire sprinkler system pump that has caused so many issues has been removed. There is some additional work needed to shut off the electrical line. Staff are working with CCSO to address the work separation issues and timing to reclaim some needed space. Purchased a new washer and dryer. The additional CCSO cash carryover will be retained to address pending capital improvements per Commander Sample, who has returned as the CCSO contact.

Finance Committee

No meeting. No report.

WFCA Region VIII

No meeting. No report.

Local BVFF

No meeting. No report.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Town advised he received a notice from the County regarding a hearing to close Lancaster Road, which has been approved by the State. Discussion. Commissioner Town and DVC Jackson plan to attend the hearing.

STAFF REPORTS

Operations/Training/Logistics – Peeler

DVC Peeler summarized the December reports. Discussion 2022 operations statistics. Shared information on the holiday weather event. Discussed the new Countywide Nurse Triage Line to be funded by AMR and their pilot BLS ambulance program. EMS District 2 will be evaluating the program. Anticipate have 21 upstaffed positions by July 1.

Community Risk Reduction/CARES – Jackson

DVC Jackson covered the CRR and CARES activities for December with updates on current program activities. Advised that Chasity Boyce is the new single resource Community Paramedic, replacing Blaine Dohman. Recognized Josh Taylor for his efforts to keep up on plans reviews. Working with FD6 about setting up a CARES program in their district. ilani Resort project is moving forward – planning to open the end of April. Anticipating approximately \$140,000 in AADSWA funding to support the CARES program. Finalized the PeaceHealth contract. Hiring process initiated for the administrative assistant/analyst position partially funded by the

City of Ridgefield from an AWC grant. Advised that most of the plan review and inspections are in commercial construction; residential construction has slowed.

Chief's Report – Nohr

Chief Nohr reviewed the December Chief's report. Recapped significant incidents. The Cowlitz Tribe Foundation dinner is from 5-7 p.m. on February 13. Commissioner Bartel and Commissioner Bourke will attend the event and DVC Jackson was asked to attend in lieu of Chief Nohr. The remaining fire engine ordered was delivered last week and will be assigned to Station 151 when placed in service. Planning to dedicate Engine 22 to former Commissioner Johnson. Push in ceremony to be scheduled. Will be meeting with Cowlitz Tribe representatives to discuss the logistics of procuring the ambulances they have committed to fund. Firefighter Paramedic Captain Robert Harvey, Captain Eamonn Ryan and Chief Nohr will visit Braun NW in Chehalis to assess their factory and ambulance inventory. Noted that special order vehicles have an 18-24 month lead time. Scheduled to inspect a North Star Ambulance demo unit from Hughes Fire Equipment on January 26. Investigating the possibility of a Department of Agriculture rural grant for EMS equipment. Advised there will be a swearing in ceremony held for the seven lateral hires on January 31 at 7 p.m. Shared information on recent marine rescues. Notice from Karen Johnson Miller that there will be a memorial service for Wilma Johnson (former Commissioner Bob Johnson's widow) at Layne's Funeral Home on February 4 at 2 p.m.

IMPACT FEES

Chief Nohr advised the County Fire Chief's Association is continuing to work on getting authorization to assess impact fees in unincorporated Clark County. FD3 was unsuccessful in approaching the County on their own. The Chiefs waited until after the new council was elected to approach the Councilors as a group. The Chief's met last week and have divided the Council districts amongst the departments to focus contact as follows:

- District 1 – VFD Chief Blue and Chief Nohr
- District 2 – VFD Chief Blue and FD6 Chief Maurer
- District 3 – VFD Chief Blue and FD3 Chief Sorenson
- District 4 – VFD Chief Blue and FD3 Chief Sorenson
- District 5 – Chief Nohr and FD6 Chief Maurer

Will be bringing information forward to the Council about how important this issue is to the fire districts. Will also be approaching the cities of Ridgefield and La Center to implement the fees as Woodland already has impact fees in place. This action requires adoption of an updated capital facilities plan. Chief Nohr is targeting the second meeting in February to review the draft plan. Discussed the process of collecting and distributing impact fees. DVC Jackson advised that cities fund items off the plan when approved. The County will likely hold the funds for disbursement to those districts with a capital plan. Chief Nohr advised that Thurston County has implemented an unincorporated impact fee program.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – DRAFT RESOLUTION MRSC ROSTERS

Reviewed a draft resolution proposal to move from use of the Clark County Fire Risk Management Group small works and vendor rosters to professionally managed MRSC Rosters for use in the district's small works, vendor and professional services procurement processes. The current roster process does not provide an extensive or reliable database and current information is not easily accessed. Utilizing MRSC rosters will simplify the work for Finance and Logistics staff. DVC Peeler advised he had used MRSC Rosters when he was at FD13 and was very happy with the service. Cost was

estimated at \$300 - \$350 annually. Lengthy discussion. Motion by Commissioner Bartel to direct staff to register the district with MRSC rosters anticipating adoption of a resolution at the next regular meeting approving a contract with MRSC Rosters and establishing the contracting authority thresholds of the District Secretary without Board action prior to the execution of the contracts. Second Commissioner Ayers. Discussion. Will verify that the recommended contract authorization thresholds for the District Secretary are appropriate. Clarified that all expenditures greater than Board authorized department level budget appropriations must always be approved by the Board. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Following a 5 minute break, moved to executive session at 5:35 p.m. to discuss the acquisition of real property. Anticipated length of session 10 minutes. No action anticipated. Session extended 10 minutes at 5:45 p.m. Meeting resumed at 5:55 p.m.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief/District Secretary