



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

March 23, 2023

Present:

Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Ken Ayers, Larry Bartel, Jade Bourke. Chief John Nohr. DVCs Mike Jackson and Ben Peeler. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Chunn at 4:02 p.m.

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

Chief Nohr advised that the Draft Capital Facilities Plan will be pulled from the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Bourke to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Town. Clarification on expenditures. Operative IQ inventory program fee is an annual renewal. Exterior lighting project at St23 was budgeted. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chief Nohr advised he received a response from legal counsel regarding Ridgefield's proposed tax increment financing (TIF) plan. Thank you letter from former La Center Mayor Greg Thornton who has been a strong advocate for the department. Liz Cerveny is the Mayor pro tem. CCFR was mentioned in an MRSC article regarding CARES program services in the State. Thank you card from Ms. Marie Holland regarding the department's help with an injured cat. Acknowledged Captain Chenoweth, FF Tarabochia and FF Shelton as the assisting crew. Internal email commending the participating crews and training division for the efforts put in to the lateral hire academy. Reflector article on the E151 push in ceremony.

DVC Jackson introduced the CARES team members. Maddie Pearl, Falls and Environmental Risk Program. Chasity Boyce, Community Resource Paramedic. Jeanie Wadiak, mental health professional from SeaMar who is working with us as part of the Carelon co-responder program. Brooke Marling, Community Resource Paramedic. Chalea Johansen, CRR/CARES administrative assistant. 6 months of funding for this position is funded by an Association of Washington Cities (AWC) grant through the City of Ridgefield. Sam Lewis, CARES program coordinator.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen Brigid Taylor suggested more outreach on the new programs. Chief Nohr and DVC Jackson advised that a plan for media release on the programs is in process; but is somewhat tied to the funding organization's schedule. Care is also being taken to not overwhelm the new programs, some parts of which are still in the implementation process.

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.

WFOA Region VIII – Bartel

No report.

Local BVFF

No report. No report.

Commissioner Updates

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Nohr talked about the recruit swearing in ceremony held on Monday, March 20 held at St. Mary of Guadalupe church up the road from St21. The 15 members start the 13-week firefighter academy on Monday, March 27. After an additional week of EMS training, the new employees will be placed on the line. Anticipating 5-7 hires for a fall academy. Retirements and resignations are accounted for in the hiring plan. A recruit open house event will be held on Saturday, April 15 from 11am – 2pm. Advised that Clark3 Assistant Chief Barb Widlund retired today. Met with Local 3674 to answer questions regarding the CARES and co-responder programs. Researching property locations for a new station in Ridgefield. There are several viable options. Met with Clark6 to discuss joint response and logistics operations at Fairgrounds St151. Chief Maurer indicated they may be able to joint staff in July. Reviewing policies for compatibility. Clark6 anticipates using their own apparatus. Chief Nohr suggested the Board may wish to schedule another joint board meeting with Clark6 in the next few months. Issued a new challenge coin to each Board member. Discussed CCFR's 48/96 schedule and how it would work with the Clark6 24/48 schedule at St151. Discussion. Chief Nohr is checking with Local 3674 on schedule flexibility. The draft capital facilities plan will be sent out next week for review and discussion at the next meeting. The CFP will set the groundwork for CCFR to collect fire impact fees where allowed. Working with DVC Jackson on the calculations had the impact fees been in place, over the last 5 years CCFR would have collected approximately \$1,916,800 in fees from the development in the three cities.

Extensive discussion on the City of Ridgefield's proposed TIF tax increment area which was presented at their March 15 Council meeting. Chief Nohr also shared the information provided by legal counsel. The TIF allows for taxes on improvements and increased value to be reallocated to the city for pre-designated infrastructure improvements. The city has estimated the financial impact to CCFR at \$19 million over a 25-year period. Will need to assess how this loss of revenue will impact the ability of CCFR to provide services. Chief Nohr advised he has invited Ridgefield City Manager Steve Stewart to present the city's plan to the Board and share how the city will mitigate the impacts to CCFR. Unknown how or if this will impact the EMS levy. Lengthy discussion. CCFR Administration and the Board expressed concerns over the projected financial impact to the district. This taxing

method is new to cities and there is little clear information available at this time. There are a lot of questions. Staff will continue to research the issue.

Discussed the timing for renewing the lid lift, which is expiring this year. Will discuss options at the next meeting.

Reported that the County Chiefs will be meeting with Clark County Administrator Kathleen Otto to continue the discussion on authorization fire impact fees in the unincorporated areas of the county. Working to get the issue before the County Council.

Chief Nohr plans to attend the Clark6 Board Workshop on April 17 regarding St151. Commissioner Chunn will contact Clark6 Chair Rocky Haines to schedule a joint meeting sometime in May.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kathy Streissguth advised that the Fort Vancouver Regional Library is also concerned about the city's TIF plan and its impact on the library system. She will get a point of contact for Chief Nohr.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.



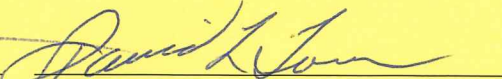
Attest, John Nohr
District Secretary/Fire Chief



CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE CONSENT AGENDA March 23, 2023

1. Minutes
 - March 9 Board Meeting
2. Prepaid Invoices
 - \$ 34,561.03 (US Bank VISA) paid March 13
 - i. \$ 34,561.03 ACH 601 (General Fund 6228)
 - ii. \$ 1,644.57 ACH 602 (FFFB Fund 6254)
3. Invoices
 - \$ 956.36 (FFFB Fund 6254)
 - i. Check No. 101201
 - \$ 180.00 (Capital Fund 6224)
 - i. ACH 603 to be paid March 27
 - \$ 86,177.11 (CCFR General Fund 6228)
 - i. \$ 40,430.40 Chk Nos. 101202 – 101223 dated March 23
 - ii. \$ 4,655.72 EFT 605 paid March 23
 - iii. \$ 21.41 EFT 623 paid March 23
 - iv. \$ 41,069.58 ACH 628 – 630 to be paid March 27
4. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
 - 101219 – print error: paid by EFT 623


Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair


Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair


Commissioner Larry Bartel


Commissioner Ken Ayers


Commissioner Jade Bourke