



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

March 14, 2024

Present:

Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Ken Ayers, Larry Bartel, Jade Bourke.
AC Mike Jackson facilitated the meeting. ACs Ben Peeler and Eamonn Ryan.
Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

Remote: Chief John Nohr

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

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Bourke to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Town. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group – Bartel

No meeting, no report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board – Chunn

Commissioner Chunn covered the March 13 meeting. Updated and signed the 2024 operations plan, which incorporates language about using one engine. Discussed options for replacing the engine provided by CCFR. Approved a joint logo for apparatus badging.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke

No meeting, no report.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel

No report.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers

No meeting. No report.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke

No report.

EMS District 2 – Bourke

Commissioner Bourke stated he understood that the RFP has come out. AC Peeler will provide information. Discussion held by the group to expand the purpose to include collaboration between the districts. Something to consider going forward.

Commissioner Updates

Four Creeks HOA is hosting a Port of Ridgefield TIA presentation. CCFR representatives will also attend.

STAFF REPORTS

Operations/Training – AC Ryan

AC Ryan briefly summarized the February Operations and Training report. Working on a staffing plan for Rescue 21. Captain Greg Pera has completed his probation. Commissioner Ayers praised AC Ryan on his presentation at the City of La Center council meeting.

Admin/Logistics – DVC Peeler

AC Peeler recapped the February Administrative Services and Logistics report. The ambulance transport RFP was published on March 6. Does contain language allowing CCFR to transport under certain conditions, but only within its boundaries. The Board will need to determine the level of service that will be provided. AC Ryan advised there is not enough staffing to provide transport services to every priority 1 and 2 call. Reaffirmed that CCFR will not take action that might harm neighboring agencies. AC Peeler noted that CCFR having a transport ready unit would free up an ambulance to be available. Also pointed out all of CCFR is in the 20-minute response area, while most of the neighboring agencies are in the 9 minute response area, which is part of the reason CCFR would be given the transport option. The sample contract was 5 years with a 5-year renewal, which is the same as the last contract. Doesn't feel this is in the best interest of EMS District 2.

Station 151 office remodel is on hold pending further discussion with CCSO. They have advised that they are not willing to give up any additional space.

The Accounting Assistant position is being finalized and expected to be posted soon.

Community Risk Reduction/CARES – DVC Jackson

AC Jackson detailed the CRR and CARES activities for the month of February. Reviewed the fee study results. Anticipate a resolution for adoption at the next meeting. Uptick in inspections for projects trying to get in before the fees increase. February was the busiest month since the inception of the program. The nurse position funded by SWACH through Camas Fire has started. Now responding to needs in the Camas-Washougal area. Submitted a grant application for additional help for the CARES program using opioid settlement funds. Also coordinating with Camas, Washougal, and Battle Ground to submit another AWC grant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved to executive session at 4:30 p.m. to teleconference with attorney Brian Snure regarding potential legal action by the district. Anticipated length of session 20 minutes. Possible action. Meeting extended 5 minutes at 4:50 p.m. Meeting resumed at 4:55 p.m. No action proposed.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Nohr summarized the February Chief's report. Discussed recent structure fires. Thanked the CARES team for participating in the View Ridge Middle School Biomedical Career Fair. Thanked the Cowlitz Indian Tribe Foundation for increasing their donation by \$250,000 to cover the full cost of the second ambulance. Have reviewed some of the numbers provided by the CIT for the 2024 contract payment. Will need further clarification and expect to have a number at the next meeting. Shared that Washougal Police Chief Steinbaugh was very appreciative of the efforts by the CARES team to assist one of their repeat customers who was placing a burden on the system.

TAX INCREMENT AREAS

Commissioner Bartel reported that the Board and the Boards of Clark Fire District 6 and the Port of Ridgefield met earlier to discuss the Port's proposed tax increment area. It was a positive meeting and the Port has committed to mitigate with the impacted agencies. Their lawyer advised that the law is retroactive, but our lawyer says it's not. Should find out which is correct. Regardless, the Port expressed their commitment to mitigate and this is written into their plan. Discussed partnership opportunities. Commissioner Chunn concurred and stated he felt more at ease after the meeting. Commissioner Town stated that the meeting was productive, that the Port was willing to work with the district, and very up front with their commitment to their community partners unlike the City of Ridgefield. Commissioner Bartel talked to a La Center council member who isn't aware of any plans to develop a tax increment area. Commissioner Town advised that the City of Woodland has signed an agreement with Tiberius Solutions, who was used by both the Port and City of Ridgefield. Will need to add the Port of Woodland as a standing agenda item under TIAs.

LID LIFT PROPOSITION

Provided copies of the 2017 levy proposition resolution, a draft resolution to be adopted, and a draft resolution from Clark Fire District 3. Reviewed the list of capital needs. Noted that the needs far exceed the revenues generated by the lid lift. Will need to plan on how those needs will be funded. Without a lid lift we will not be able to maintain current levels of service or the necessary capital and maintenance needs. Will need to adopt at either the April 11 or 25 meeting to meet the May 3 filing deadline for the August primary election.

SURPLUS ASSETS

Discussed a proposal to place two of the oldest apparatus into surplus for disposition. Motion by Commissioner Bartel to adopt Resolution No. 240314-1, a resolution placing Shop31, a 200 Pierce Saber and Shop 922, a 1995 Ford into surplus. Second Commissioner Town. Brief discussion on the use and history of the two rigs. No further comments. Motion passed unanimously.

POLICY REVIEW

Policies distributed for review and adoption at the next meeting. No changes were recommended at this time.

- Policy No. 710 Non-Official Use of District Property
- Policy No. 1024 Lactation Breaks
- Policy No. 1038 Family and Medical Leave
- Policy No. 1025 Smoking and Tobacco Use

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Commissioner Chunn proposed creating liaison assignments to our partnering agencies to keep an eye on what is happening. Commissioner Town will attend the Woodland Port meetings with Commissioner Bourke as alternate. Commissioner Bartel will attend the Port of Ridgefield meetings with Commissioner Town as alternate.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.



Attest, John Nohr
District Secretary/Fire Chief



CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE CONSENT AGENDA March 14, 2024


1. Minutes
 - Board Meeting – February 22
2. Prepaid Invoices
 - \$ 184,493.41 (CCFR Fund 6228 Payroll Benefits – Feb Med Ins Premiums)
 - i. Chk No. 22432 dated February 22
 - \$ 56,592.04 (CCFR Fund 6228)
 - i. \$ 4,017.82 EFT 417 paid February 26, 2024
 - ii. \$ 42,016.45 Chk Nos. 101981 – 102000 dated February 29
 - iii. \$ 10,557.77 ACH Nos. 438 – 439 paid February 29
 - \$ 1,367.71 (FFFB Fund 6254)
 - i. Chk Nos. 102001 – 102002 dated February 29
 - \$ 391,765.86 (CCFR Fund 6228 Payroll Benefits)
 - i. Chk Nos. 22433 – 22441 dated March 7
3. Invoices
 - \$ 103,305.41 (CCFR General Fund 6228)
 - i. \$ 76.25 EFT 595 paid March 14
 - ii. \$ 3,428.18 EFT 596 paid March 14
 - iii. \$ 43,722.02 Chk Nos. 102003 – 102040 dated March 14
 - iv. \$ 56,078.96 to be paid March 15
 - \$ 8,815.12 (FFFB Fund 6254)
 - i. \$ 2,840.06 EFT 591 paid March 13
 - ii. \$ 5,976.06 ACH 592 to be paid March 15
4. Payroll
 - February 1 – 29 paid March 8
 - i. \$1,049,552.44 Gross Payroll
 - ii. \$ 709,234.03 (net) ACH
 - iii. \$ 126,220.37 Tax Deposit EFT
5. February Use Tax paid March 14
 - CCFR \$ 1,335.76
6. Fund Transfers
 - \$50,000.00 EMS 6228 to Gen Fund 6228 – February 29
7. Approved Commissioner Stipends

February paid March 8						
Name	Board Meeting	Committee Meeting	Assn Meeting	Educ	Other	Total Paid
Ayers	2					2
Bartel	2				2	4
Bourke	2	1			2	5
Chunn	2				2	4
Town	2				2	4

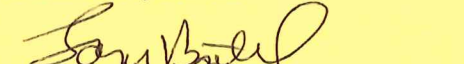


CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE CONSENT AGENDA March 14, 2024

8. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
- 101323 dated 4/13/23 – replaced March 14
 - 101576 dated 9/14/23 – replaced March 14
 - 101169 dated 3/9/23 – replaced March 14
 - 100812 dated 10/13/22 – replaced March 14


Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair


Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair


Commissioner Larry Bartel


Commissioner Ken Ayers


Commissioner Jade Bourke



Meeting Date

3/14/24

Stated purpose of this executive session:

- To consider matters affecting national security.
- To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate.
- To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease.
- To review negotiations on the performance of publicly bid contracts.
- To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee.
- To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment.
- To review the performance of a public employee.
- To evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office.
- To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency (present or via telephone conference) matters relating to agency enforcement actions.
- To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency (present or via telephone conference) litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party.
- To discuss collective bargaining negotiation strategies.

Meeting recessed at 16:30 Hrs

Anticipated length of session 20 Mins

Announcement of extended session 16:50 Hrs

Anticipated extended length of session 5 Mins

Meeting resumed at 16:56 Hrs

Action anticipated YES NO

Regulator Agenda action only - no action from exec. session

Reference RCW Chapter 42.30