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

June 27, 2024

Present:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Larry Bartel, Ken Ayers, Jade Bourke. Chief John Nohr. ACs Ben Peeler and Mike Jackson.

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

Flag Salute.

Introduction: New employee Shannon Johnson, Accounting Assistant.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS
Request by Commissioner Town to discuss strategy related to the Port of Woodland tax increment financing plan.

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Commissioner Bartel to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Town. No discussion. Call for the vote. Unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS
WFCA update on fire commissioner compensation rates increasing to $161 per meeting. Due to CCFR's size and budget, the commissioners are allowed up to 12 meetings per month, for a total of 144 per year. Discussion. Will the additional committees and meetings that have been authorized, the commissioner pay line items may need adjustment.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group – Bartel
No report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board – Town
No report.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
The committee met earlier in the day to review the year-to-date budget figures. Most is on track, but an amendment will be necessary. Training and replacement overtime are trending towards being over-budget. Chief Nohr noted that several employees are out for injuries or family medical leave.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
No report.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers
No report.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke
No report.

Local BVFF – Chunn
No report.

EMS District 2 – Bourke
No report.

Port of Ridgefield
Commissioner Bartel advised the last Port meeting mostly covered what Ridgefield is working on. The Port is moving forward with the waterfront development plan. Costco is expected to open sometime in August. Road improvements will start in December. The Port Commissioners requested a copy of the CCFR capital facility plan and stated they would support the fire district's actions to implement fire impact fees.

Port of Woodland
Commissioner Town reported the Port is moving ahead with purchasing the RV park on the riverfront. They may extend Rose Way. There will not be a port meeting on July 4. The Commissioners did not approve a request for public comment on their agenda.

Commissioner Updates
None.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Nohr advised the fire sprinkler ordinance is on the City of Ridgefield Council meeting agenda this evening. AC Jackson shared information on the proposed ordinance. Woodland Planter's Days were a success. Bill Iyall has been reelected as the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Chair. Chief Nohr has requested an update meeting with Chairman Iyall. Neighboring citizen has requested to cut the lower Station 25 field for hay. Approved. Chief Nohr will follow up with a use agreement. Wildland season has begun with a short WSP mobilization to Yakima. Discussed a mutual aid response to Cowlitz FD 5 for a grain elevator fire. Monitoring the July 4 weather conditions. Scheduled staffing may eliminate the need to call in additional staffing. Chief Nohr is working with the City of Woodland to complete the transfer of assets following the 2020 annexation. Met with Clark County Community Development to discuss the path to implementation of fire impact fees. Attended the Clark County Council fireworks workshop on June 26. There may be restrictions on the types of fireworks allowed. Provided input on the impacts of fireworks to fire departments. Captain's promotional testing is complete. There are three on the list. Two were lateral hires and had the qualifications necessary to test, but not quite enough longevity to promote per the terms of the contract with Local 3674. FF Bryson Lemire will promote to captain effective July 2. FFs Joe Baliff and Cutter Wicks will be next to promote in 2025. Legal counsel conducted research for a legal opinion on TIF. Nicolette Garcia has come forward as an administrative support volunteer. She will be updating the district website and social media pages.

Information about the proposition has been placed on the district website. Scheduling three community information events on July 8 at Station 29, July 16 at Station 26, and July 23 at Station 21. All held at 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Notification/informational card to be mailed.

Burn ban is still scheduled to begin July 15. Discussed fire marshal services in Clark County. Will schedule an executive session with counsel to discuss a confidential TIF legal opinion shared with the Board members. Discussed the strategic plan. Planning to include the neighboring agencies in the process.

CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN
Final draft of the plan distributed for review. Approved to share the draft plan with the neighboring agencies. May need some minor edits. Discussed the district's WSRB rating, which is now a 4, with some areas higher due to a further distance to a station and water supply. Expressed appreciation for everyone's work to lower the district's rate. Noted that Districts 3, 6, and 10 are using the same format for their plans. Final will be presented for adoption at the next meeting.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
Discussed the need for a strategy to deal with TIF impacts to the district. There are now three moving forward with a total potential of 14. Discussion. Commissioner Town asked if the current law modifications are enough or is more action needed. The Woodland Port TIA may also impact the City of Woodland's ability to grow. Noted that TIF is on the WFCA list of legislative priorities. Chief Nohr will approach Cowlitz County Fire District 1 about giving a presentation on TIF.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
Ridgefield Mayor Pro Tem Jennifer Lindsay expressed appreciation on being able to review the draft capital facilities plan. Asked about application of impact fees and their use. Discussion. Intent for all to be the same throughout.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 5:04 PM.

Attest, John Nohr
District Secretary/Fire Chief

Clark-Cowlitz
FIRE RESCUE

CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE
CONSENT AGENDA
June 27, 2024

1. Minutes
   - Board Meeting – June 13
2. Prepaid Invoices
   - $ 15.00 EFT 1475 (WA DOL)
3. Invoices
   - $ 43,872.42 (CCFR General Fund 6228)
     i. $ 4,213.94 EFT 1480 paid June 27
     ii. $ 21,418.09 Chk Nos. 102254 – 102272 dated June 27
     iii. $ 18,240.39 ACH 1500 – 1502 to be paid June 28
   - $ 3,507.96 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. $ 3,054.48 Chk Nos. 102251 – 102253 dated June 27
     ii. $ 453.48 EFT 1476 paid June 27
   - $ 2,551.12 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. ACH 1503 – 1504 to be paid July 5
4. Fund Transfers
   - $100,000.00 EMS Levy 6226 to Gen Fund 6228
5. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
   - None

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair

Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair

Commissioner Larry Bartel

Commissioner Ken Ayers

Commissioner Jade Bourke