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

July 25, 2024

Present:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Larry Bartel, Ken Ayers, Jade Bourke. Chief John Nohr. AC Eamonn Ryan.

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

Flag Salute.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY
Newly promoted Captain Bryson Lemore introduced by Chief Nohr. Oath of Office administered at the end of the meeting.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS
Chief Nohr – Administrative Benefit Summary update.

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Commissioner Bourke to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Bartel. Discussed the purchase of a $5,000 lawn tractor for St25. The St29 crew has been assigned to manage lawn care at the station, which is a large area No further discussion. Call for the vote. Unanimously approved.

COMMUNICATIONS
Kudos message sent to Chief Free at Camas regarding services provided by CARES team members nurse Stefanie Betancourt (Camas-Washougal Fire) and CCFR falls prevention specialist Hailey Landon. Thank you to Sam Lewis and the CARES team in helping someone acquire a wheelchair. Report from the Bureau of Labor Management showing the CPI-U for Seattle Tacoma Bellevue is 3.8% over the 12 months ending June 30. Advised negotiations will begin shortly with the Local 3674 Firefighter unit. Received a notification letter from the Port of Woodland that they are evaluating tax increment financing. The greater impact is to Cowlitz 1. Will need a more accurate map of the potential TIA. Thank you from Clark County Public Health for Chief Nohr's participation in the heat study.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group – Bartel
Commissioner Bartel advised the group held a short meeting to conduct general business. Nothing to report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board – Town
No report.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
June finance report distributed to the Board.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
Commissioner Bartel shared information from the July WFCA Board meeting. Noted that the claims provider suffered a significant data breach. Claim processed was stopped pending resolution. Offering 2 years complimentary monitoring for those affected. The WFCA health committee hasn't been able to run reports to determine usage for rate increases. Feel they have enough funds to cover any increases for one year. Trying to get the State Fire Marshal's office out of WSP. Noted that insurance companies are dropping a number of homeowner's insurance policies in high-risk areas. They are now using drones to assess properties. Report on management malfeasance by the Commissioners and Chief of Mason Fire District 12. All have resigned.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers
No report.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke
Have a meeting scheduled, but not sure of the location.

Local BVFF – Chunn
No report.

EMS District 2 – Bourke
No report.

Port of Ridgefield
No report.

Port of Woodland
Commissioner Town discussed the fire on Martin's bar. Port is looking to trade land next to the port office for property on the river. Sand drag property owner wants to will the property to the Port with restrictions. Waiting on a shortened TIF project wish list. Timelines have been posted on the Port website.

Commissioner Updates
Commissioner Bartel shared information on increased legal and development fees for developers. All the new regulations from the State seems to only benefit the lawyers and consultants. Commissioner Town suggested scheduling joint brush fire training with the Port of Woodland.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Nohr summarized the June Chief's report. Noted that wildland fire season has begun. Current a 3-person brush unit and task force leader have been dispatched to Oregon. The ambulance is at a fire in SE Washington. BC Rommel is out with his team in Oregon. AC Peeler is working remotely (from here) on an EMAC assignment.

No attendees at the July 16 informational meeting at St26. Several visitors for the July 23 meeting at St21. Conducted station tours. Informational flyer mailed to all district residents. Thank you to Brigid Taylor for ideas on public outreach.

No action on the Hillhurst property. The City of Ridgefield has expressed interest in the property. Asked Ridgefield City Manager Stuart about the city purchasing the neighboring 2 acres on behalf of CCFR. Another parcel has become available further south on Hillhurst, but may be too far south. Services may not be available. Would prefer to stay within the city limits.

Discussed boat responses. VFD assists Portland. Limits to trailering the boat to another jurisdiction. Dependent on need, might go as far as Olympia, but obligation is on the Columbia and Lewis. Would not want to not have the boat during the busy summer month. Lake Chelan is too far; though the boat reimbursement rates are quite substantial.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
Chief Nohr presented a proposed update to the Non-represented Employee Benefit Summary. Had been on the to-do list, but slipped through the cracks. Advised that represented LEOFF employees may receive up to 3-years accrual cash out upon retirement and notification of intent to retire by July 1 of the year prior. These personnel are eligible for full retirement at age 53. PERS employees are not eligible for full retirement until age 65. Chief Nohr proposed allowing non-represented employees a similar separation benefit; also requiring written notice of separation by July 1 of the year prior. Motion by Commissioner Bartel to approve the update to the non-represented employee benefit summary as proposed. Second Commissioner Town. Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None.

OTHER
Commissioner Town advised the endorsement of CCFR's lid lift proposition is on the City of Ridgefield agenda tonight. Chief Nohr will attend the meeting.

Participating in the July 26 La Center Our Days parade.

National Night Out is August 6. CCFR will attend events at all three cities.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:43 PM.

Attest, John Nohr
District Secretary/Fire Chief

Clark-Cowlitz
FIRE RESCUE

CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE
CONSENT AGENDA
July 25, 2024

1. Minutes
   - Board Meeting – July 11
2. Prepaid Invoices
   - $ 21,012.62 (CCFR General Fund 6228)
     i. US Bank VISA EFT 1762 paid July 15
   - $ 25,000.00 (CCFR Capital Fund 6224)
     i. Chk. No. 102315 dated July 16
3. Invoices
   - $ 7,780.58 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. $ 7,596.64 Chk Nos. 102316 – 102317 dated July 25
     ii. $ 183.94 EFT 1763 paid July 25
   - $ 46,796.93 (CCFR General Fund 6228)
     i. $ 4,176.41 EFT 1766 paid July 25
     ii. $ 28,902.15 Chk Nos. 102318 – 102333 dated July 25
     iii. $ 13,718.37 ACH 1783 – 1786 to be paid July 26
4. Fund Transfers
   - $43,000.00 EMS Levy 6226 to Gen Fund 6228 on July 31
5. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
   - None

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair

Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair

Commissioner Larry Bartel

Commissioner Ken Ayers

Commissioner Jade Bourke