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

August 22, 2024

Present:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Ken Ayers, Larry Bartel, Jade Bourke. Chief John Nohr. ACs Eamonn Ryan and Mike Jackson. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Chunn at 4:03 p.m.

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS
Commissioner Bartel asked to add tax increment financing updates (TIF) to this and every agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Commissioner Bourke to adopt the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Bartel. Brief discussion on the $200 invoice for St26 fencing. No further discussion; call for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS
Thank you from Hannah Shields, City of La Center Outreach Director, for participating in the City's National Night Out event. Shared a thank you card from one of the three 2024 CCF&R Volunteer Association's public safety scholarship recipients.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
Ridgefield Mayor pro tem Jennifer Lindsay advised she is resigning her position with the City to pursue a teaching degree. Tonight will be her last meeting with the City and as the CCFR liaison. Thanked the Board for all their work and partnering with the City. A new liaison has not yet been appointed.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group – Bartel
No report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board – Chunn
No report.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
No report.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
No report.
Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers

No report.

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

EMS District 2 – Bourke
Recapped the August meeting. EMSD2 has a copy of the of the AMR contract and has until September 9 to take action. The fine fund balance is approximately $368,000. They have allotted $1,000 for a financial audit and $100,000 to hire a consultant in 2025. Funding for the MDC tablets and the some software have been authorized for the 2024 budget. Chief Nohr added that he has been trying to get partners for the call tracking software (i.e. Levrum) for a couple years. CRESA will manage the program. Commissioner Bourke commented that he is pleased that the district is accepting input from the fire districts.

Port of Ridgefield – Bartel
Commissioner Bartel reported the Port anticipates a population of 27,000 in 2045. A car wash is coming to Ridgefield. Moving forward with the last stage of the PWT contamination clean up in 2025. Authorized $701,000 plans contract for the Greeley bus barn downtown. Expected to cost $6.2 million. Presented the waterfront plans. Moving forward in coordination with the City of Ridgefield.

Port of Woodland – Town
Commissioner Town shared that the Port is investigating the purchase of the old fire station building downtown under a grant. Want to make an offer dependent on the results of the study. He attended the Port's August 8 budget meeting. The Port does have a contract with Cowlitz FD 1, but he wasn't able to determine for what or how much. Discussed revenues, or the lack of, coming from the property owned by the Ports. It appears that that the Port of Woodland may be significantly underpricing their rental properties. Worth a discussion. They have met with the City of Woodland to discuss the TIF. Met staff to staff. Have also met with Cowlitz PUD regarding utility infrastructure to be funded by TIF funds. The Port will take over the RV Park on August 23. Discussion. Commissioner Bartel commented that he would prefer that the mandatory TIF informational meeting include the elected officials and not just be staff to staff. Chief Nohr will communicate with the Port Director.

Commissioner Updates
None.

STAFF REPORTS

Operations/Training – AC Ryan
AC Ryan summarized the July Operations and Training report. Reminded all that Costco is scheduled to open on August 29. They will have a flagging company on site to manage the traffic flow. Recognized EMS Training Captain Robert Harvey for his efforts to organize the very successful multi-jurisdictional active shooter drills recently held.

Community Risk Reduction/CARES – AC Jackson

AC Jackson detailed the CRR and CARES reports for the month of July. Working with partners to onboard two new hires assigned to the CARES group. AAADSWA has renewed the falls program funding at $150,000 per year for three years. Carelon Behavior Health has extended the funding for the co-responder program for another year.

Admin/Logistics – AC Peeler
AC Peeler not present. Chief Nohr summarized the July Administrative Services report.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Nohr reviewed the July Chief's report. Expressed his appreciation to the Social Media team and their successful efforts in getting information out to the public. Expressed thanks to the community for supporting the EMS levy proposal.

Commissioner Bartel asked to have a construction schedule on the agenda in the next couple meetings. Chief Nohr advised he can put together the process, but will not be able to provide a date specific timeline. He may be able to outline quarterly progress goals, but there are a number of details to be worked out before a timeline can be developed. Will be tuned up once property is acquired, build plans, etc. Would like to see something in September. Will meet with Representative Maria Perez to discuss federal funding opportunities for fire districts. Negotiations have begun with the firefighter unit of Local 3674. Attended the August 13 Cowlitz FD 1 Board meeting to provide a tax increment financing briefing. They are also concerned about the financial implications of the Port of Woodland's proposal.

Shared the need for a compressed levy/budget adoption timeline to meet a request from the Cowlitz County Assessor's Office. Recommended moving the meeting dates from the 2nd and 4th Thursdays (4th is Thanksgiving) to the 1st and 3rd Thursdays in November. Discussed a permanent change for November and possibly December. Will add to the next meeting's agenda with a draft resolution.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
Commissioner Bartel reiterated the need to keep tax increment financing discussions on the agenda to keep the public informed on district actions. Suggested meeting with legal counsel to discuss potential action. An action plan is needed. Discussion. Chief Nohr will check on counsel's availability – will try for September 26. Suggestion for employees and citizens to send their questions to Chief Nohr. Waiting on the answer to a previous question submitted to counsel.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Attest, John Nohr

District Secretary/Fire Chief

Clark-Cowlitz
FIRE RESCUE

CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE
CONSENT AGENDA
August 22, 2024

1. Minutes
   - Board Meeting – July 22
   - No Meeting – August 8
2. Prepaid Invoices
   - $ 27,322.72 (US Bank VISA paid August 13)
     i. $ 26,397.60 EFT No. 2031 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     ii. $ 925.12 EFT No. 2032 (FFFB Fund 6254)
   - $ 6,821.68 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. $ 4,270.56 Chk Nos. 102335 – 102342 dated July 29
     ii. $ 2,551.12 ACH Nos. 1800 – 1801 paid August 1
   - $ 1,550.11 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. Chk No. 102334 dated July 29
   - $ 75,050.19 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. $ 55,068.63 Chk Nos. 102344 – 102384 dated August 15
     ii. $ 2,463.14 EFT No. 1961 paid August 15
     iii. $ 4,607.41 EFT No. 1962 paid August 15
     iv. $ 12,911.01 ACH Nos. 2004 – 2006 paid August 16
   - $ 657.41 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. $ 613.05 Chk No. 102343 dated August 15
     ii. $ 44.36 EFT No. 1959 paid August 15
   - $ 487,400.60 (CCFR Fund 6228 July Payroll Benefits)
     i. $ 401,030.13 Chk Nos. 22479 – 22487 dated July 3
     ii. $ 86,370.47 EFT 1934 paid August 8
3. Invoices
   - $ 13,216.27 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. Chk Nos. 102385 – 102394 dated August 22
     ii. $ 58.90 EFT No. 2035 paid August 22
     iii. $ 4,210.17 EFT No. 2036 paid August 22
   - $ 5,248.41 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. Chk Nos. 102395 – 102397 dated August 22
4. Payroll
   - July 1 – 31 paid August 8
     i. $1,132,433.96 Gross Payroll
     ii. $ 758,066.08 (net) ACH
     iii. $ 318.60 Chk Nos. 22494 – 22497
     iv. $ 144,268.80 Tax Deposit
   - July 1 – 31 Correction paid August 15
     i. $ 488.86 ACH No. 2028
5. July Use Tax paid August 15
   - CCFR $ 350.81

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6. Approved Commissioner Stipends

July activity paid August 8						
Name	Board Meeting	Committee Meeting	Assn Meeting	Educ	Other	Total Paid
Ayers	2					2
Bartel	2	2	1			5
Bourke	2	1			2	5
Chunn	2	1				3
Town	2	1			1	4

7. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
   - None

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair

Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair

Commissioner Larry Bartel

Commissioner Ken Ayers

Commissioner Jade Bourke