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

October 9, 2025

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

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 approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Town. Commissioner Town asked about expenses for drainage work and garage doors. Chief Nohr explained about drainage repairs at Station 22 and the bioswale at Station 23. The apparatus bay doors are all being replaced at Station 26 due to ongoing maintenance costs of the old doors. Commissioner Chunn asked about item #6 on the consent agenda with nothing listed. Nohr explained that it was a mistake and there should not be an item # 6. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Town explained why he left the September 25, 2025, meeting without explanation due to a family emergency.

COMMUNICATIONS
Chief Nohr advised on a thank you note from the Woodland Senior Enrichment group. CCFR allowed use of the building at Horseshoe Lake by the group during the time CCFR had reserved the building. This allowed the group to hold a strawberry shortcake feed.

COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORT
Ridgefield Council Member Katie Favella provided an update on the City's activities. Splash pad is up and running safely; 56th Avenue roundabout is back to normal, striping on Pioneer to be completed this week with lights and sidewalks coming next; Roundabout artwork for new location; Public Safety sales tax second reading coming up; a new bicycle pump track will be dedicated on Tuesday October 15; the Main Street Walk is on November 1st.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group
Commissioner Bartel advised the group met on September 30 to discuss next year's policy; recommending we go back to VFIS for better service; will get a bid from Gladfelter for management liability at $10M plus $10M; all deductibles are

now $5000; total price for group at approximately $463K; this is approximately $100K less than last year.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board
No report.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
No report.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers
No report.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
The Region meeting was held on October 6 at the Cowlitz County 911 Center. Discussed TIF, updates from WFCA; The Executive Director of WFCA has announced his retirement for May 1, 2026; Board to start process for replacement

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

EMS District 2 – Bourke
Commissioner Bourke noted the next meeting is Monday October 13.

Port of Ridgefield
Announced that 9 of the 11 contaminated yards in downtown Ridgefield have been cleaned up; the project will close out when the last two are completed. PoR anticipates $57K in TIF revenue next year.

Commissioner Updates
Commissioner Bourke shared a request from the American Legion for a fire department presence at the Veteran's Day remembrance ceremony at Overlook Park in Ridgefield on November 11.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Nohr reported on speaking at the Region VIII meeting; time to get things in for the legislative process; CARES team received BHA endorsement on October 1st and now runs 24/7; working with CRESA to get proper call types in the dispatch system. Nohr reported on a State Auditor report on CARES teams from across the state; Chief Jackson testified in Olympia in support of CARES programs; Nohr noted that ALS staffing in 2025 through August was at 98.7% of the time, which is a dramatic increase from the 56% coverage prior to the EMS levy.

EMS District 2 continues to work on the contract with AMR, which will likely have much higher rates than the current contract; this trend is being noted across the country and in the Portland-metro area; Nohr recommends that CCFR match the AMR rates for system consistency. Chief Peeler explained that ambulance rates must be submitted to the Office of Insurance Commissioner prior to November 1st. Motion by Commissioner Bartel to match EMS District 2 contract price for ambulance transport. Second by Bourke. Peeler confirmed that Board can move to a lower price but cannot go higher than amount remitted to OIC. Motion passed unanimously.

CCFR apparatus committee has met for final design on two new engines coming in 2026; Nohr noted that The Columbian did a thorough story on the dramatic increase in apparatus prices; CCFR apparatus prices have gone up over 50% in a five-year period; Rep. Gluesenkamp Perez has introduced a bill to limit the dramatic price increases.

Nohr met with Ridgefield City Manager about the bond proceeds to be used for purchasing a station site; Nohr, Peeler, and Ryan met at the site to review with realtor; Nohr met virtually with Jim Nelson at DA Davidson to discuss current bond rates, payments and potential loan amounts; Nohr also met with a bond attorney from Pacifica Law Group to discuss bond counsel, as the attorney we previously used has retired.

Nohr reviewed preliminary information from the Statistical Response Analysis provided by CityGate; Nohr to send suggested edits back to CityGate.

Nohr pointed out new signage allowing people in designated public areas of the fire stations, but not the other areas.

Commissioner Chunn spoke about trees at Station 25 that may be a danger to the station; advised contacting the DNR Forester to find out about trimming or removing the trees.

TAX INCREMENT AREAS – UPDATE
Another TIF stakeholders' meeting to occur on October 14th in preparation for the broader stakeholder meeting at AWC in Olympia on October 28th.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None.

Commissioner Chunn reminded group that the next meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will occur on October 30th due to the WFCA Conference.

Meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary

Clark-Cowlitz
FIRE RESCUE

CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE
CONSENT AGENDA
October 9, 2025

1. Minutes
   - Board Meeting – September 25, 2025
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2. Prepaid Invoices (September Use Tax included)
   - $2,571.95 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. $2,571.95 EFT 2829 & 2830 Paid October 7
     ii.
3. Current Invoices
   - $3,897.76 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. $ 3,885.32 Chk nos. 104156 - 104158
     ii. $ 12.44 ACH 2883 to be paid October 10
   - $149,365.52 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. $105,888.90 Chk Nos. 104115 - 104155 dated October 9
     ii. $ 599.48 Chk Nos. 104159 dated October 9
     iii. $ 42,877.14 ACH Nos. 2875-2882 Dated October 10
     iv.
4. Payroll
   - September 1 - 30 paid October 8
     i. $1,393,825.42 Gross Payroll
     ii. $ 920,654.89 (net) ACH
     iii. $ 194,660.35 Tax Deposit EFT
   - September Payroll Benefits
     i. $ 9,527.13 ACH on September 29
     ii. $452,794.40 Chk Nos. 23011 – 23019 October 7
     iii. $99,381.99 ACH Paid October 7
     iv.
5. CCFR Fund 6228 Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants – None
6.
7. FFFB Fund 6254 Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants – None

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair

Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair

Commissioner Larry Bartel

Commissioner Ken Ayers

Commissioner Jade Bourke