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

December 4, 2025

Present:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Larry Bartel, Jade Bourke.
Chief John Nohr, AC Eamonn Ryan. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

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 Bartel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second by Commissioner Town. Discussed the drainage mitigation project at Charter Oak St22. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS
Chief Nohr shared a thank you/commendation from PeaceHealth Hospital for life saving care provided to a patient.

COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORT
Ridgefield Councilor Katie Favela provided an update on various city projects. Hometown Celebration will be held on Saturday, December 6. A new indoor holiday market will be sited in the old bus barn. Centerpiece to be installed at the new roundabout. The city is challenging the results of the County land and agriculture study for the comprehensive plan. Report on speed enforcement for the past month.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group
No report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board
No report.

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
The committee met earlier to review the proposed 2026 budgets and is recommending adoption.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers

No report.

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
No report.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke
Commissioner Bartel advised the District was well represented at the tree lighting ceremony.

EMS District 2 – Bourke
Meeting on December 11. Anticipate the approval of the AMR service contract.

Port of Ridgefield
Commissioner Bartel attended the meeting and provided the Port with information on CCFR ambulance service, tax increment financing, and planned station construction projects in Ridgefield and Woodland. Advised that the TIF legislation may be updated to exempt EMS levies as those taxes are already restricted by law to be spent on EMS expenditures.

Commissioner Updates
Motion to excuse Commissioner Ayers by Commissioner Chunn. Second Commissioner Town. No discussion. Motion passed.

The joint workshop with Clark Fire District 5 was held on December 2. There was no formal agenda. The open discussion will cover mutual issues and opportunities including funding, history, the CARES program, and legislative issues. Minutes will be provided for review at the next meeting.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Chief Nohr advised there is no update on the purchase of property in Ridgefield. Land survey assessment and pre-application review for Woodland St29. The project is moving forward. Sent a request to the City of La Center requesting the implementation of fire impact fees. Meeting next Friday to discuss further. Response received from Mayor Strobehn in support of the concept and a request for more information on the process.
Sent the same information to the City of Ridgefield. Ironing out minor details on the BC contract. Anticipate having the bargaining agreement available for review and approval at the next meeting. Provided an update on the boathouse fire. Waiting on the County Fire Marshal's office for the cause of origin report. Will provide updates as the repairs progress. Thank you to Maureen Groat for coordinating the family gift donation program for Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Thanked Outer Rim Bicycles in Ridgefield for donating two kid's bikes to the program. Kindness 911 has also made a $500 donation to NHN on behalf of CCFR.

Chief Nohr advised that the legislators are working to address the issue Clark Fire District 3 EMS levy in not being able to run an EMS levy as part of their district lies in EMS District 1. The law currently does not allow for multiple EMS levies in a fire district. Only two agencies in the state are affected at this time.

WFCA Legislative Day will be held on January 29 in Olympia. Chief Nohr is coordinating the meeting schedules. Commissioner Bartel advised he will attend.

TAX INCREMENT AREAS – UPDATE
The next online stakeholder meeting will be held on December 12. Working to finalize language for the recommended updates to the legislation that is acceptable to the TIF advocates.

2026 BUDGETS
Discussed the proposed resolution to adopt the 2026 budgets. Motion by Commissioner Bourke to adopt Resolution No. 251204-1, a resolution adopting the District's 2026 budgets. Second Commissioner Town.

Discussion. Chief Nohr reiterated the importance of a healthy carryover in anticipation of a softening in the economy. Much of the carryover will cover one-time facility repair projects. The budget includes bond revenue and capital expenditures for the stations in Ridgefield and La Center and several new positions including 2 firefighters, 2 firefighter paramedics, and an HR Manager. There is overlapping funding for the planned retirements: an administrative assistant, a payroll/accounting assistant, and the Finance Manager. Funding is continued for vacancies such as the civilian facilities coordinator. Advised the District will continue to have staff at the administrative front desk and a live person answering the phones.

No further discussion. Call for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

RECORDS INDEX – RESOLUTION NO. 251204-2
Chief Nohr recapped staff's recommendation that the District not establish or maintain a public records index. Research into the process to establish an index based on a preliminary assessment of the number of records held by the District indicates that creating and maintaining an index would be an unduly onerous burden. Chief Nohr shared the methodology used to estimate the amount of time it would take to index the identified records stored by the District at this time, which is referenced in the resolution.

Motion by Commissioner Bartel to adopt Resolution No. 251204-2, a resolution to order that the District will not establish a public records index. Second Commissioner Bourke. The District will continue to follow the guidance in the State records retention schedule. After approval, the resolution will be filed with the County Auditor. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

LATE EDITIONS TO THE AGENDA
None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None.

Reminder that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 18. The 2025 budget amendment will be presented for adoption. Commissioner Bartel advised he has completed his swearing in process.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary

Clark-Cowlitz
FIRE RESCUE

CLARK-COWLITZ FIRE RESCUE
CONSENT AGENDA
December 4, 2025

1. Minutes
   - Board Meeting – November 20
2. Prepaid Invoices
   - None
3. Current Invoices
   - $ 22,988.70 (FFFB Fund 6254)
     i. Chk Nos. 104313 – 104315 dated December 4
   - $ 252,198.90 (CCFR Fund 6228)
     i. $ 233,106.03 Chk Nos. 104267 – 104312 dated December 4
     ii. $ 2,463.14 EFT No. 3389 paid December 4
     iii. $ 262.50 ACH No. 3388 to be paid December 5
     iv. $ 16,367.23 ACH Nos. 3548 – 3556 to be paid December 5
4. Payroll
   - November Payroll Benefits (UNUM Disability & Life)
     i. $ 9,590.35 ACH 3370 paid November 26
5. Use Tax
   - $ 429.03 CCFR November Use Tax paid December 3
   - $ .56 FFFB November Use Tax paid December 3
6. Approved Commissioner Stipends

Month of November to be paid December 8						
Name	Board Meeting	Committee Meeting	Assn Meeting	Educ	Other	Total Paid
Ayers	2					2
Bartel	2	1				3
Bourke	2					2
Chunn	2	1				3
Town	2					2

7. Voided/Destroyed Claims Warrants
   - None

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Chair

Commissioner David Town – Vice Chair

Commissioner Larry Bartel

Commissioner Ken Ayers

Commissioner Jade Bourke