

**RFA PLANNING COMMITTEE,  
SPECIAL MEETING OF CHELAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1 &  
DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2  
APRIL 20, 2022**

Chelan County Fire District 1: Commissioner Phil Dormaier, Commissioner Gordon Zimmerman, Commissioner Cam de Mestre (via phone)

Douglas County Fire District 2: Commissioner Dave Fennell, Commissioner Danny Johnson, Commissioner Ettore Castellente

Staff: Fire Chief Brian Brett, Jordan Givens, Terri Woods, Cindy Blaufuss

Guests: Kathy White, Dennis Wheeler, Mark Zielinski, Ron Roy, Marty Roy, Mitchell Williams

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the April 12 Committee Minutes, there was a second from Commissioner Zimmerman. The minutes were approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**DRAFT REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PLAN**

**DOR REVIEW OF MULTI-YEAR, 6% LEVY:**

A response is expected from the Department of Revenue by May 9; the attorney recommends leaving the multi-year, 6% levy increase in the Plan until DOR responds.

**GOVERNANCE:**

The Governance section of the Plan has been updated based on last week's discussion. The revised language states the governing board will be comprised of six members, three from each fire district. The fire districts will remain in place for the purpose of electing Commissioners.

Withdrawal language was added to the Plan. The RCW addressing RFA withdrawal is referenced in the Plan with language stating neither fire district will initiate a withdrawal in the first three years.

Commissioner Fennell made a motion to adopt the Governance section of the Plan. There was a second from Commissioner de Mestre.

Commissioner Fennell amended his motion to include approval of the Governance section and the withdrawal provision in the Plan. There was a second from Commissioner Zimmerman. The amended motion was approved.

**RFA NAME:**

According to the attorney, the organization is not required to include Regional Fire Authority in the name. The city of Wenatchee's attorney did not object to the use of Wenatchee Valley Fire Department.

Commissioner Fennell made a motion to adopt the name Wenatchee Valley Fire Department. There was a second from Commissioner Zimmerman. The RFA name was approved.

The Committee discussed additional wording in the Plan and recommended edits to pages 3, 10 and 14, as follows:

- Page 3, item 1 – replace “not kept up” with “been stressed.”
- Page 10, item D, 2 – relabel as “Future District Obligations” and insert “commitments, obligations and” before “expenses incurred.”

- Page 14, item 4.10 – replace “10-year” with “25-year” and insert a second sentence, “Said Plan to be reviewed and updated at a minimum of every three years.”

Commissioner Castellente made a motion to adopt the revisions to pages 3, 10, and 14. There was a second by Commissioner Zimmerman. The revisions were approved.

Language to revise page 13, item 1 will be considered at the next meeting.

**DRAFT BUDGET:** Chief Brett provided an updated budget summary beginning in 2023. Based upon the budget, a levy refresh will likely be needed by 2030-2031 to accrue additional funds to meet fleet and facility needs.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The next meeting is scheduled for 1:30, Tuesday, April 26 at Fire Station 11 in Wenatchee. The RFA Committee meeting will be followed by Special Meetings of Chelan County Fire District 1 and Douglas County Fire District 2.

There being no further business, the Planning Committee adjourned at 6:50.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Blaufuss