

**MINUTES
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2**

July 14, 2022
East Wenatchee, WA

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Dave Fennell, with Commissioners Dan Johnson and Ettore Castellente present. Chief Brian Brett also in attendance. Personnel in attendance District Secretary Terri Woods.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

- **GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC COMMENTS split with Public Comments moved to the third agenda item, leaving Good of the Order at the #10 spot.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

- N/A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the Minutes of June 9th, 2022 as presented. Unanimously passed.**

FINANCIAL REPORT (June 2022)

- Treasurer's Report-Fund Totals indicated a balance of \$9,766,416.98
- Receipt Register indicated receipts of \$62,953.33
- Budget Position Report reflected account activities in all funds.

PAYROLL & VOUCHERS

June Expenses were submitted as follows:

General Expense Fund:

- Claims totaled \$797,589.34
- Payroll for June 3rd - \$323,850.21. Payroll for July 5th processed early by Douglas County in the amount of \$344,885.95
- The following payroll changes were approved:
 - Probation completed for recruit firefighter James Jahr, approved as FF-III 7/1/22

Special Projects Fund:

- Claims totaled \$201,154.17

Commissioner Castellente moved to approve June and July's payroll and June's vouchers in the amount of \$998,743.51. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Chief Brett addressed the Board on Public Disclosure Commission Complaint No.110057. The PDC received a complaint from Douglas Miller on June 29, 2022. Alleged violations of RCW 42.17A.555 by Officials of Douglas County FD #2 & Chelan County FD #1 by using or authorizing the use of their Fire Districts resources to distribute newsletters that supported a ballot measure.

MINUTES

JULY 14, 2022

PAGE 2

CORRESPONDENCE - continued

Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 1 and Douglas County Fire Protection District No. 2 "Fire Districts" have jointly submitted the following denial of all allegations in the referenced Complaint. The complaint provides no specific facts in support of its conclusions, contains irrelevant information and cites to evidence that has no bearing on the complaint or the actions of the Fire Districts.

The Fire Districts' publication of its 2022 Spring Newsletter was an objective and fair presentation of the facts related to the Regional Fire Authority ballot issue. The 2022 Spring Newsletter was the single objective and fair presentation of the facts permitted under the PDC rules and was distributed on a jurisdiction wide basis in a format that is a normal and regular means the Fire District uses to communicate with its citizens. The remaining allegations in the complaint do not identify any actions reflecting the use of public resources and were also denied.

The District's normal and regular publication and distribution of a single objective and fair presentation of the facts in its 2022 Spring Newsletter is authorized by PDC rules and did not violate RCW 42.17A.555. The Fire Districts respectfully requested that the complaint be dismissed.

STAFF REPORT

- Operations:
 - Chief Brett will speak to the Douglas County firefighters on spending overall. OT costs have been forecasted to run over budget with several long-term disabilities and Covid absences / exposures.
 - DCFD has insured all apparatus are in a response ready position this wildland season. Significant deficiencies on the reserve fleet have been identified and steps taken to supplement equipment as needed. Lack of interagency backup recognized since Covid.
 - The Argument Against the Measure in the Douglas County Voter's pamphlets contains factual errors. Statements intended to correct the factual misstatements have been released to the press as well as posted on CCFD1 & DCFD2's websites.
 - Captain White obtained his Fire Investigation Technician Certification. Board Congratulations and discussion of future growth of Fire Investigation team.
 - Recruit JJ Jahr completed probation, moved to Firefighter III July 1, 2022. Board Congratulations

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Facilities:

Dave Dormaier, station 3 & 4 Project Manager virtually addressed the Board via phone. Cost overruns due to increased lumber costs, subcontractors rising expenses, infrastructural for station 3 in Rock Island and measures to incorporate cost savings were examined and considered.

- Sta4 – Moving towards close-out at Station 4 with HBHansen. Warranty items to take care of storefront windows and failing concrete, investigation measures at this time.

MINUTES

JULY 14, 2022

PAGE 3

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - continued

- Sta4 / Sta1– Open House plans initiated for Fire Prevention Week
 - Sta17 – Asphalt Improvements: Price Quote of \$15,348 – does not include training ground – Tabled by the Board
 - Pangborn Modular Housing – Bids close today at 5pm for water damage repair. Insurance to reimburse cost.
2. Personnel
 - The Board considered the financial sustainability of hiring three firefighters. Academy start dates at North Bend discussed. Waiting for RFA vote for final determination.
 3. Apparatus:
 - Eng5 1996 Darley OOS – out of service ... outsourced repairs at \$21,000 plus tax.
Commissioner Castellente moved to approve funding repair costs with a second by Chairman Fennell. Motion passed.
 - The Board reviewed the November 13, 2019 purchase of the Tower, past commissioner Dawn Collings and past commissioner Rick McBride moved to award the bid for furnishing (one) Pierce Velocity 100' Tower to Hughes Fire Equipment. No objection to having the apparatus delivered outside state lines to comply with WA State DOT regulations due to weight restrictions. Current Board and Administration did not purchase.
 4. Consolidation of Services / RFA: Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS


1. After discussion by the Board, **Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the Mandatory Overtime Hiring Policy, vetted by Labor Management, seconded by Commissioner Castellente with all in favor.**

GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joy Castellente relayed her appreciation of Chief Brett's time and attention to answer questions and speak with local community groups concerning the upcoming ballot measure.

Chief Brett reported on a new effort by WSRRI- the 2021 legislative session provided funding to restore and protect shrubsteppe habitat in Eastern WA amid the threat of wildfires - The Washington State Conservation Commission (SCC) is facilitating working lands support resources, which include removal of burned fence, fence retrofit or replacement with wildlife friendly versions (including virtual fence opportunities) and facilitating deferred grazing to allow habitat time to recover. Initial projects have been selected and implementation is underway.

Chairman Fennell moved to adjourn at 4:24p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed.

ATTEST: 
Terri Woods, District Secretary

APPROVED: 
Dave Fennell, Chairman