



Grant County Fire District No. 8

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Board of Commissioner Regular Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Grant County Fire Protection District No. 8 was held on February 8, 2022. Gubernatorial Proclamation 20-28 regarding open public meetings act and public records act prohibited 100% in person meetings. This meeting was virtual, telephonic, and in person in compliance with the proclamation. The meeting was held via Zoom and information for the public to participate was posted on our website and on the door of the main station on November 4, 2020. The meeting was recorded by Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 16:11 by Board Chair Scott Nesbit.

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Commissioners present: Scott Nesbit, Debra Crain, Paul Parker, Russell Brixey via Zoom, and Richard Kummer (via Zoom at 16:23). A quorum was established.

Others present: Chief Joe Noonchester, District Secretary Barbara Davis, Firefighters Zach Feist and Grant Parfitt.

The members of the public were welcomed and invited to comment. There were no comments.

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion: Parker. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.**

The Consent Agenda with Vouchers, Payroll, and Transactions was reviewed. Review and Approve Vouchers, Payroll, and Transactions: Vouchers were audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expenses reimbursed claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, having been recorded on a listing that had been made available to the Board. Davis explained the new payroll report for the volunteer stipends. She also stated the AP voucher list had a new addition and she stated the new AP amounts. There was discussion on the final payment to MH Construction. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Motion: Crain. Second: Parker. Motion approved unanimously.** The documents were signed by the Board.

Chief's Report: Noonchester reviewed his written report.

Calls for service in January: EMS 45, Fire 6 YTD 51

Chief discussed resident firefighter program. He reported that the 5-inch hose had been replaced on E811 and he ordered new gas monitors. Commissioner Crain asked about environments NOT to go into even with SCBAs and Chief replied that the CA storages had anhydrous chemicals. There was discussion on the SCBAs. Commissioner Parker asked how many buildings with CA and Chief replied there were six and farmers use anhydrous as well. Chief reported that the ladder truck committee met and discussed the basic design, which he shared with the Board. He stated that the old siren tower had been removed from the old station. He also reported that the FF union had requested some financial data. He stated he had nothing further and there were no questions.

Business Manager/District Secretary's Report: Secretary Davis stated she did not have a written report because she had not received the ambulance reports or bank statements by meeting time and she didn't have anything else to report. There were no questions.

Unfinished Business:

1. Facilities –

- a. Chief spoke about Station 81 and the final payment to MH Construction. He reported that several volunteer fire stations had been burglarized and vandalized recently and station security was discussed. There was discussion about adding an internet connection to Station 82. Commissioner Parker asked about routine equipment checks at the other stations. Chief stated that these are being done monthly.

2. Grants –

- a. Ambulance Grant – Davis discussed the details of the grant and stated that, if awarded, it would pay for part of the ambulance, power-load, power stretcher, and another LifePak 15. She stated she and Chief had a meeting with the grant writer on Thursday to find out more.

3. Policy Reviews and Updates –

- a. POL 4.1.6 Shift Captain Job Description – Davis presented the new policy as well as the old policy for Paid Captain and explained the history behind them. Chief explained the need for a Captain on each shift and that this position is a future position that will be included in union negotiations. Commissioner Nesbit stated he wanted more time to review the policy and it was tabled until next month.
- b. POL. 4.4.2 Dress Code, Uniforms, and Personal Appearance Policy – Chief stated the policy needed to be updated for safety and to create more uniformity of appearance. He said the boots were changed to a sturdier boot that is NFPA rated for wildland, EMS, and can be worn with uniforms. They would be issued to all responders. He stated the pants were updated as well and EMT pants would be issued to all responders. There was discussion on a scene safety officer and ensuring the policy was followed. Commissioner Nesbit asked FFs Feist and Parfitt about their uniforms. There was more discussion and Davis was directed to add District hats in the appropriate areas then the policy would be reviewed again next month.

4. Strategic Planning Workshop – There was discussion on when to hold the workshop. It was decided to hold it on Saturday, March 12, 2022 beginning at 10:00 in the Training Room. Davis was directed to send out the last strategic plan.

There were no additional unfinished business items.

New Business:

1. Yakima County Department of Emergency Medical Services Interlocal Agreement – Davis stated this was renewing the annual agreement for EMS training and MPD services. A motion was made to approve the EMS Agencies Administrative Interlocal Agreement from Yakima County Department of Emergency Medical Services as presented. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Brixey. Motion approved unanimously.** The document was signed by the Board.
2. Resolution 2022-001 General Levy Lid Lift – Davis stated this resolution was modified from the 2019 resolution for the last lid lift and reviewed by legal counsel. She stated Brian Snure suggested the Board consider a multi-year lid lift, which needed to be presented to the voters at the primary or general election and needed a simple majority to pass. There was discussion and Davis was directed to have Snure revised the resolution for a multi-year lid lift to be reviewed next month.

3. City of Mattawa Annexation of Property – Commissioner Nesbit stated he and Chief had gone to a recent City Council meeting and learned more about the history of the City annexing property from the county into the city. There was discussion on the details. There was discussion on updating the interlocal agreement with the City. Chief suggested getting advice from Brian Snure. Commissioner Nesbit stated the City would respond with a request that the District annex the City into the District. He commented that they are far behind in updating ordinances and policies to accommodate growth. There was discussion on details. Davis was directed to contact Brian Snure to see if he could attend the Strategic Planning Workshop to address this issue. Chief commented that the District should be included in the City’s decision-making process.

Additional Business: None

Commissioner Nesbit asked if there was a need for an executive session. There was none.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

1. Next meeting: April 12, 2022 at 16:00 via Zoom and in person
2. Strategic Planning Workshop: March 12, 2022 at 10:00 in the Training Room.


There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 17:46 hours.



Board Chair



Date



District Secretary



Date