



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 December 14, 2021. 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 16:00 by Board Chair Scott Nesbit.

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Commissioners present: Scott Nesbit, Debra Crain, and Richard Kummer. A quorum was established. District Secretary Davis stated that Commissioner Russell Brixey called in to say he had to be out of town and Commissioner Paul Parker was out on medical. A motion was made to excuse the absence of Commissioners Brixey and Parker. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.**

Others present: Chief Joe Noonchester and District Secretary Barbara Davis.

There were several members of the public as well as volunteer members present who 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: Kummer. 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. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented without the minutes. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.** The documents were signed by the Board.

Chief's Report: Noonchester reviewed his written report.

Calls for service in November: EMS 39, Fire 12 YTD 560

Chief discussed resident firefighter interviews yesterday and asked about offering positions to all three internal candidates. There was discussion about budget impacts and Davis stated the impact of the third resident would be minimal. The Board supported Chief's decision to offer positions to all three candidates. Chief reviewed meetings with District 10 and the City of Mattawa in regards to contracts. Chief explained that the City plans to impose impact fees, which will help the District as the City grows. Chief informed the Board that the career staff are petitioning and organizing to join the IAFF. There was discussion on how the process works and the impact to the District. Chief stated he had nothing further unless there were questions. Commissioner Kummer asked about plans for the ladder truck. Chief stated that a demo model was brought to the station last week and that he is putting a team together after the holidays to put together specifications. There were no questions.

Business Manager/District Secretary's Report: Secretary Davis reviewed her written report.

Financial reports were reviewed. Davis reported that the September payroll adjustments missed some overtime for the career staff. She requested a motion for the Board to approve an out-of-cycle payroll to pay the career staff before the end of the year. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.** She reported that she would not have the volunteer stipend payment ready until Friday and it would be about \$13,000 plus applicable taxes. She requested a motion to approve paying the volunteer stipend when it was ready. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Nesbit. Motion approved unanimously.** Davis reported she had attended a Critical Incident Stress Management course at the beginning of the month and there was discussion on the details. Davis stated she had nothing further and there were no questions.

Unfinished Business:

1. Facilities –

- a. Chief stated he found replacement siding for Station 82, replaced the water heater at Station 83, and was working with the contractors on the punch list for Station 81. There was discussion on the details

2. Grants –

- a. SCBA Grant – FEMA directed us to purchase 2 more packs to meet the specifications of the grant. They have been ordered. Commissioner Nesbit asked about the SCBA compressor and Chief replied that he's been working with the vendor to track it down and get a firm delivery date.
- b. FEMA Training Grant – Chief reported that the grant would be submitted later this week for FF1, EMT, Wildland, and Officer training,

3. Policy Reviews and Updates – Davis presented POL 5.5.2 Volunteer Compensation for Activities Policy as well as the old policy. She discussed the differences based on Board direction earlier this year and during budget planning. A motion was made to approve POL 5.5.2 Volunteer Compensation for Activities Policy as presented. **Motion: Kummer. Second: Nesbit. Motion approved unanimously.**

4. Strategic Planning Workshop –Tabled until first quarter 2022.

There were no additional unfinished business items.

New Business: None

Additional Business: None

Commissioner Nesbit requested a 30-minute executive session to discuss personnel issues. He explained the rules of executive session with career and volunteer staff who were invited to participate. Commissioner Nesbit announced that the Board would go into Executive Session for 30 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(f) to discuss personnel. Executive Session from 17:00 to 17:30. Commissioner Nesbit announced an additional 30 minutes was needed and the public was informed. Executive Session from 17:32 to 18:02. No decisions were made. The regular meeting resumed at 18:02.

Commissioner Nesbit thanked the volunteers for coming to the meeting and invited them to attend at any time.

Commissioner Nesbit requested a 15-minute executive session to discuss volunteer feedback on personnel issues. Commissioner Nesbit announced that the Board would go into Executive Session for


15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(f) to discuss personnel. Executive Session from 18:07 to 18:22. No decisions were made. The regular meeting resumed at 18:22. The public and volunteers were invited back in the meeting.

Announcements & Upcoming Events


1. Next meeting: January 11, 2022 at 16:00 via Zoom and in person
 - a. Agenda items: Election of Chair and Vice Chair, Oath of Office for Commissioner Kummer

Doug Anderson asked the Board if he could make some comments. Commissioner Nesbit invited him to comment. Anderson reviewed recent events regarding interactions with Chief and others and stated he regretted quitting the District. Several members of the public commented on Anderson's contributions to the District. Chief stated that he appreciated Anderson and his comments and invited him to discuss the situation after the meeting. Anderson agreed.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 18:46 hours.



Board Chair



District Secretary



Date



Date

