



Grant County Fire District No. 8

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Board of Commissioner Special Meeting Minutes

The special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Grant County Fire Protection District No. 8 was held on April 7, 2022 for the purpose of reviewing the performance of a public employee. 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 April 4, 2022. The meeting was recorded by Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chair Scott Nesbit at 16:00 hours.

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Commissioners present: Scott Nesbitt, Debra Crain, Paul Parker, Richard Kummer, and Russell Brixey. A quorum was established.

Others present: Chief Joe Noonchester, District Secretary Barbara Davis, Battalion Chief Doug Anderson, FF/EMT Zach Feist, and FF/EMT Nate Aamold

The public was 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.**

Commissioner Nesbit stated the Board would go into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of the Fire Chief. He stated the session would be 30 minutes long. Executive session began at 16:02 and ended at 16:32. The Board asked for 30 more minutes. This began at 16:32 and ended at 17:02. The Board asked for 15 more minutes. This began at 17:02 and ended at 17:17. No decisions were made.


Commissioner Nesbit asked the Board if they had any business to discuss. Commissioner Parker said yes, he had a motion to make. A motion was made per section 5.2 and section 6 of Chief Noonchester's employment agreement, to terminate him effective immediately. **Motion: Parker. Second: Kummer. 4 Ayes, 1 Opposed. Motion carried.**

At this time, another motion was made. Per section 6 of Chief Noonchester's employment agreement, the Board Chair was directed to work with Chief on a severance package. **Motion: Crain. Second: Kummer. 4 Ayes, 1 Abstained. Motion carried.**

Commissioner Nesbit provided Noonchester with a letter notifying him of his termination pursuant to sections 5.2 and 6 of his employment agreement. He also provided a Severance and Release Agreement as well as a preliminary severance pay attachment. Nesbit explained that Noonchester had 21 days to sign the Severance and Release Agreement, then seven (7) days to rescind it. If he signed it and did not rescind it, the severance pay would be issued. Noonchester stated that he would have his attorney look at the documents. Commissioner Nesbit went on to say the he and his wife could rent at the Edgewater house as long as they needed.


Noonchester asked to make a statement and was granted permission. He said thank you for the time with the District and that he understood it wasn't a good fit. He said it was a difficult position to fill and he wished the best to all. He stated he had no hard feelings.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 17:30 hours.



Chairman

Date 4/12/2022



District Secretary

Date 4/12/2022