



Grant County Fire District No. 8

PO Box 1728
20643 Rd 22.5 SW
Mattawa, WA 99349
(509) 932-4777
Fax (509) 932-4747

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 November 9, 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 16:20 by Board Chair Scott Nesbit.

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

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

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

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

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion: Parker. Second: Brixey. 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 stated she did not have the previous meeting minutes done. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented without the minutes. **Motion: Brixey. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.** The documents were signed by the Board.

Chief's Report: Noonchester reviewed his written report.

Calls for service in August: EMS 42, Fire 15 YTD 509

Chief commented that our call volume is 12% over last year year-to-date. There was discussion about call volume and staffing, traffic, etc. Chief reported that he is scheduling some demonstrations of quint engines from different manufacturers. He will invite the Board when he has dates and times. Commissioner Parker asked about fire alarms at the schools. There was discussion on it. Chief stated he had nothing further unless there were questions. There were no questions.

Business Manager/District Secretary's Report: Secretary Davis did not provide a written report.

Financial reports were reviewed. Davis reported that the GEMT reimbursement reports were filed. There were comments about the training room chairs and Davis was directed to look into other options. Davis stated she had nothing further and there were no questions.

Unfinished Business:

1. Facilities –
 - a. Chief stated he is working on replacing the blown off siding at Station 82. Commissioner Nesbit asked about the lights at Station 82 and commented that most were burned out. Chief stated he would check it out and fix the lights.
2. Grants –
 - a. Ambulance Grant – Davis reported that the grant writer told her about a possible grant opportunity through the USDA.
 - b. Station Grant – Davis reported there may be some grant dollars for the Station 82 project from the Department of Commerce. She is exploring it.
3. Policy Reviews and Updates –Chief reported the credit card policy was reviewed and newer people educated about ambulance meals. While the policy could use some updating, it can wait a while. Chief stated the Resident Program Manual coming along and interviews will be held soon with the program starting in January 2022. Advertising would be done with flyers and social media.
4. Strategic Planning Workshop –Tabled until first quarter 2022.
5. 2022 Operating Budget – Davis discussed the changes made to the budget during the workshop and a few more made based on direction from the Board. She stated that the day officer salary was funded for half the year (to start in July) rather than all year. She reminded the Board that the Public Hearing would be November 17, 2021 at 16:00 followed by a special meeting to approve the budget and levy resolutions.

There were no additional unfinished business items.

New Business:

1. WFCA Healthcare Program – Davis reported that it was time again to enroll in the WFCA Healthcare Program. She completed the application with the same options as this year. A motion was made to approve the application as presented. **Motion: Parker. Second: Brixey. Motion approved unanimously.**
2. Yakima County Department of Emergency Medical Services (YCDEMS) Agreement – Davis reported that she received an email from YCDEMS asking about the agreement that was emailed during the move to the new station. She stated it was the same as this year. A motion was made to approve the agreement as presented. **Motion: Crain. Second: Brixey. Motion approved unanimously.** The Board signed the agreement.
3. 416 Edgewater Way Appraisal – Davis asked the Board if they had reviewed the document she forwarded from the appraiser. There was discussion on the details of the appraisal. Davis stated she spoke with the Auditor's Office today. Deputy Director Mark Rapozzo stated that RCW 42.23.030 and 42.23.070 paraphrased say that the Fire Chief cannot use his position for personal gain. The Auditor's Office would consider him buying the house from the District for anything other than "fair market value" would be a violation of these RCWs. There was discussion on the housing market. Chief stated he was happy to continue renting why he and his wife continue to look at other properties.
- 4.

Additional Business: None

Commissioner Nesbit requested a ten (10) minute to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Nesbit announced that the Board would go into Executive Session for 10 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(f) to discuss personnel. Executive Session from 17:45 to 17:55. No decisions were made. The regular meeting resumed at 17:55.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

1. Next meeting: December 14, 2021 at 16:00 via Zoom and in person
2. Public Hearing November 17, 2021 at 16:00
3. Holiday event in Mattawa on December 10, 2021 in the evening, includes a parade.

Commissioner Parker asked Chief if he knew anything about a Veteran's Day event at the schools. Chief said he would find out and let him know.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 18:04 hours.



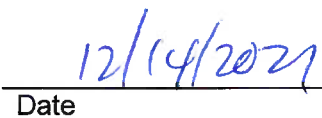
Board Chair



District Secretary



Date



Date

