



## Grant County Fire District No. 8

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 October 8, 2024. The meeting was held in person and via Zoom. Information for the public to participate was posted on our website and on the door of the main station. The meeting was recorded by Zoom.

The meeting was called to order at 16:00 by Commissioner Russell Brixey.

The Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Commissioners present: Russell Brixey, Scott Nesbit, Paul Parker, and Debra Crain. A quorum was established. Davis stated that Commissioner Richard Kummer had called to say he had a doctor's appointment today and asked to be excused. A motion was made to excuse Commissioner Richard Kummer due to a doctor's appointment. **Motion: Nesbit. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.**

Others present: Chief Matt Hyndman, District Secretary Barbara Davis, FF/EMTs Blake Fuller, Cesar Sanchez, Chris Dodds, FF Jim Eckenberg.

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

The agenda was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion: Nesbit. Second: Parker. 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. Commissioner Crain asked about the sandblasting bill and Chief stated it was for the lowboy trailer and would be reimbursed by one of the DNR grants. There was no discussion and no further questions. A motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. **Motion: Crain. Second: Nesbit. Motion approved unanimously.** The documents were signed by the Board.

**Chief's Report:** Chief reviewed this written report. Call volume in September: 69 calls - EMS 56, Fire 10. He said there were 491 calls at the end of September last year and this year we were at 458 calls. Chief reported on apparatus repairs for BR829 and Dozer 81. He reported that the interested party who made an offer on the used ambulance would be flying out to inspect it towards the end of the month and if he liked it, the sale would be completed. Chief stated that the D6T dozer (Dozer 83) was still at the CAT dealership in Delaware for repair. Chief reported that he was able to get a disc for the back of Dozer 81 and a side-by-side so that system would be complete once it was put together. Chief shared that pump testing went well with only a few minor repairs to be done. Chief reported we still need more residents. Chief reviewed the training schedule and reminded the commissioners of the WFCA conference at the end of October. Chief reported that he has the shop plans and plans to advertise for bids soon. Chief stated that items ordered under the hose grant were starting to come in and he stated we were not awarded the SAFER grant. Chief reported that there would be an open house tomorrow afternoon and that negotiations with the union would start soon. Chief said he had

nothing further. Commissioner Parker mentioned that there was an open house at the Wanapum Heritage Center tomorrow as well.

**Business Manager/District Secretary's Report:** Secretary Davis reviewed her written report and discussed the available financial reports. Davis reported that a Balance Billing Protection Act was recently approved and it would require commercial insurance companies to consider all ambulance services with publicly established fees to be considered "in-network" and pay claims accordingly. Potentially, this would increase the amount of ambulance billing revenue. Davis stated that she might be using sick leave to help care for her mother again post hip surgery. She had nothing further and there were no questions.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:**

1. Resolution 2024-005 Establish Service Charges and Fees –Davis stated this resolution was essentially the same as the 2021 version with updated fee schedules for ambulance transportation service fees and first aid and training fees to be effective January 1, 2025. She stated that a requirement of the Balance Billing Protection Act was to publish these fees by October 16, 2024. There were no questions. A motion was made to approve and adopt Resolution 2024-005 Establish Service Charges and Fees as presented. **Motion: Nesbit. Second: Crain. Motion approved unanimously.** The document was signed by the Board.
2. Draft 2025 Operating Budget – Davis presented the draft budget to the Board and stated that some line items needed to be adjusted, but the major expenditures were accounted for. She asked the Board to schedule a special meeting later in the month to go over the draft budget in detail. After discussion, it was decided to hold the special meeting on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at 16:00.

**Additional Business:**

1. Commissioner Polos – Davis stated that Chief had ordered new polo shirts and she asked each commissioner to verify their size before they are embroidered.
2. Resident Quarters – There was discussion on resident recruitment and the lack of quarters. There was discussion on how other Districts run their programs as well as how to get more space by developing Station 83.
3. Union Members – Chief reported that the union members got hats made and were going to get sweatshirts as well. They requested being able to wear them on shift. Chief stated he told them the dress code policy was very clear, but that he promised to ask the Board if they could wear their union gear on shift. The Board members were all very adamant that all employees adhere to the dress code policy and not wear uniforms or clothing that did not fit the dress code.

Commissioner Brixey requested ten (10) minutes to discuss commissioner meeting attendance. Commissioner Brixey announced that the Board would go into Executive Session for 10 minutes per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to discuss commissioner meeting attendance. Executive Session from 16:33 to 16:43. No decisions were made. The regular meeting resumed at 16:44.

Commissioner Brixey requested that Davis draft a letter from the Board to Commissioner Kummer addressing their concerns about his ongoing health issues and asking him to consider resigning his position.



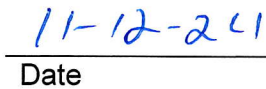
### ***Announcements & Upcoming Events***

1. Next regular meeting: November 12, 2024 at 16:00 via Zoom and in person.
2. Hazardous Waste Disposal: October 25, 2024 from 13:00 to 15:00 at the County Shop in Mattawa.
3. Budget Workshop: October 29, 2024 at 16:00.
4. Trunk or Treat at Mattawa and in Desert Aire: October 31, 2024 from 17:00 to 19:00.

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 17:04 hours.

  
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Board Chair

  
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District Secretary

  
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Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date