

Cowlitz 911 Public Authority Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday February 18th, 2026 @ 10:00 AM

Hybrid – Cowlitz 911 & ZOOM

Attendance

Board Members: Rich Fletcher (alternate, voting); Alan Headley; Brad Thurman; Charlie Worley; Bill LeMonds; Robert Huhta; Rick Dahl; Jen Wills

Staff: Briana Graham; Darr Kirk; Jerry Jensen; Michelle Arrowsmith; Jessica Weygandt; Jennifer Johnson (general counsel); Tim Hanigan (general counsel)

Guests: Brad Hannig; Troy Brightbill; Jason Kester; Ralph Herrera; Spencer Salley; Vic Leatzow

Board Members Absent and No Alternate: Wayne Nichols

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Huhta called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Recommended Action: A motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Headley made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Wills seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. January 21, 2026, Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: A motion to approve the meeting minutes from 01/21/25, meeting minutes.

Thurman made a motion to approve the 01/21/2026 meeting minutes as presented. Worley seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

4. Public Comment

The public comment period allows any member of the public to speak to any item that is not on the regular agenda.

5. Payables:

ACCOUNT	TRANS NUMBER	AMOUNT
Payroll 01/26/26	83 – 84	\$39,613.78
Payroll 01/29/26	110 – 115	\$17,352.24
Payroll 02/05/26	116 – 156	\$169,904.34
Claims 01/26/26	85 – 106	\$226,016.11
Claims 01/29/26	107 – 109	\$3,529.43
Claims 02/12/26	161 – 176	\$133,458.92
TOTAL		\$589,874.82

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the payables as presented.

Fletcher made a motion to approve payables as presented. Headley seconded; all in favor, motion carried.

6. Finance Report – Will be adding dates to the finance report moving forward.

7. Board Comments/Board Committee Reports – Wills notified the Board of the Board member changes taking effect for the City Council Representatives, Wayne Nichols as primary and Chris Bryant as alternate.

- A. **LAW TAC Update:** Troy Brightbill will be stepping away from the Law Tac group and there will be a new chair and vice chair selection at the next meeting.
- B. **FIRE TAC Update:** Mostly went over old business. We have asked fire to help us with training new dispatchers by taking them out on apparatus to help them get a better understanding of what they are dispatching.
- C. **Budget Committee Update:** Consists of Huhta, Thurman, Worley and Headley. The first meeting will be scheduled during March, prior to the next meeting.

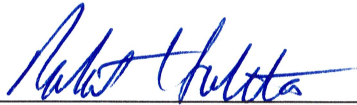
8. Director's Report

- A. **Staffing Update:** One dispatcher resigned last week so we are down to 23 dispatchers. We have about 25 applicants we are processing now to do the next 2 hire ahead, shooting for a May or June start date. Should have half our trainees signed off by then. We had our annual employee banquet dinner at the end of January.
- B. **Radio Update:** We have slowly been switching over frequencies to the new network. We have expanded LTAC, Longview and Ops 3 to all sites. They are up and running on the new system and the feedback has been positive. This change did not expand coverage; it improved it in the areas. Kelso is up next, then County, Fire and Fire Page will follow, and the last one will be County Public Works. Jerry has been working diligently on our federal grant. Planning on getting our packets in the first week of March. Some Board members may receive calls and may be asked for letters.

9. Old Business: N/A

10. Executive Session: N/A

11. Adjournment: 10:17 AM



Robert Huhta, Board Chair

Attest:



Briana Graham, Clerk of the Board