

**SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 8
Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting**



MEETING MINUTES

September 13, 2022, 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held at Station 82 and accessible on Zoom. Chair Lee Boling called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. In Attendance: Commissioner Andy Rorie, Commissioner Greg Hesse, Commissioner Lee Boling, Fire Chief Lonnie Rash, Assistant Chief Chris Wyrobek, District Secretary Carol Trescott, members of the District and members of the community.

INTRODUCTIONS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Add: Executive Report, F., Commissioner Workshop

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Hesse:

Move to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

The following warrants and electronic transfers were approved for payment:

- Warrant Numbers 114206 through 114279 totaling \$255,339.61
- Electronic Transfers 08/01/2022 – 08/31/2022 totaling \$606,915.20

A motion was made by Commissioner Hesse and seconded by Commissioner Rorie:

Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Recruit Firefighter Swearing-in Ceremony: Chief Rash said the District's four new full-time members were recognized for their accomplishments and pinned by family members during a recent recruit academy graduation ceremony in Bellevue. The Chief shared the tradition and symbolism of the Maltese Cross and firefighter badge and then administered the Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic Oath of Office to Ethan Dreves, Brian Jamieson, Bob Kaiser, and Alek Holmstrom.

B. Pierce Badge Pinning: Chief Rash spoke of Chaplain Aaron McNally's desire to establish a therapy dog program in the District and his journey in achieving that goal. Chaplain McNally and Pierce completed a year-long training program, and Pierce is

now a certified therapy dog. Chief Wyrobek presented Pierce's badge to Chaplain McNally, and Chaplain McNally then pinned the badge on Pierce's vest.

At 6:18 pm Commissioner Boling called for a ten minute recess.

At 6:31 pm Commissioner Boling called the regular meeting back in session.

EXECUTIVE REPORT: Chief Rash

A. Emergency Repairs: In the past year the District has paid approximately \$50,000 for unanticipated emergency repairs. These expenses include the hot water heater, drain pipes, and server room AC unit at Station 82; and, a roof leak, HVAC system, and fire alarm panel at Station 81.

B. Extrication Equipment Purchase: After recommendation from the Research and Development committee, the District completed the purchase of Holmatro battery-powered extrication equipment. This equipment is a direct result of funds received from the levy lid-lift. The equipment was budgeted at \$40,000 in both years 2022 and 2023. The District was able to purchase a full set of extrication equipment for E82 and a combo tool for E84 at a total cost of approximately \$50,000 this year. Crews will train on the new equipment in October.

C. Engine 81 Repairs: E81 is en route to the Pierce service center in Caldwell, ID to repair a broken weld on the upper bulk head of the hose bed. The repair will take six weeks. District staff has been in contact with Hughes Fire Equipment to determine warranty coverage.

D. Station 85 Facility Update: Pricing for the light remodel of Station 85 came in substantially higher than was budgeted for this year. An architect drafted two plans for the Board's consideration: one plan includes exterior and interior upgrades; and the other plan provides an opportunity to use current space in a more efficient way and allow for future expansion. Discussion will take place at the upcoming workshop, and the project will likely be deferred to 2023. Chief Rash encouraged the commissioners to visit Station 85 in preparation for further discussion.

E. New Engine Purchase Strategies: The District budgeted \$625,000 in 2022 to purchase one new engine. The apparatus committee reviewed the 2018 engine specifications and recommended a few minor modifications for the new model. Current cost for the same apparatus is \$726,000 if the District commits to the purchase by October 21st. After October 21st the price increases \$44,000, and to \$770,000 after November 1st. Chief Rash said the capital replacement plan calls for another engine replacement in 2025. If the District were to purchase two engines by October 21st it would save approximately \$80,000. If two engines are purchased after October 21st the savings would be \$34,000 in addition to savings from any January 1 price increases. Delivery of an engine is typically 14 – 20 months from the time an order is placed; it takes approximately two years for a new engine to be placed in service.

Spokane County has a Local Direct Investment (LDI) program which offers eligible agencies short-term loans of five years or less at a low interest rate. With an LDI there are no closing costs or banking fees.

Discussion will take place at the upcoming workshop.

F. Commissioner Workshop: A workshop is scheduled for the purpose of discussing capital replacement, the 2023 budget, and the M&O levy. The Board elected to move the workshop to Tuesday, September 27th, 6:00 pm at Station 82.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Chief WYROBEK

A. Chief WYROBEK provided an update on this year's wildland season. August showed several lightning strikes and prime conditions for burn. District 8 assisted with several multi-alarm fires on the west plains, and District members assisted at the local, regional, and state level to help our neighbors on wildfires this year. Based on current conditions, projections show wildfire into October.

CORRESPONDENCE

A. Attached

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Station 84 Open House is Wednesday, September 14th, from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- B. A Budget/Capital Replacement Workshop will be Tuesday, September 27th, at Station 82, beginning at 6:00 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 6:50 pm, Commissioner Boling recessed the regular meeting to Executive Session for 15 minutes per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(c) To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price; and, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. Commissioner Boling stated the regular meeting will resume at 7:10 pm.

At 7:13 pm, Commissioner Boling called the regular meeting back in session. No decision were made in Executive Session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

A. Engine Purchase

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:14 pm Commissioner Boling adjourned the regular meeting.

Lee C. Boling, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

Carol L. Trescott, District Secretary