

SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 8

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting



MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2025; 6:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held at Station 82 and accessible on Zoom. Commissioner Andy Rorie called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. In Attendance: Commissioner Andy Rorie, Commissioner Jeff Larsen (via Zoom), Commissioner Lee C Boling, Chief Lonnie Rash, Assistant Chief Chris WYROBEK, District Secretary Michelle Rodgers, members of the District, and members of the public.

INTRODUCTIONS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Commissioner Rorie stated no comments were received via online or on the website.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Boling and seconded by Commissioner Larsen: 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 116331 through 116389 totaling \$384,537.19
- Electronic Payments 04/01/2024 – 04/30/2024 totaling \$643,691.20

A motion was made by Commissioner Larsen and seconded by Commissioner Boling: move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Wellness Coordinator: Chief Rash opened the discussion regarding the wellness coordinator position to oversee the district's funded health and wellness program and whether there was further conversation or to defer it to a later meeting. Commissioner Rorie requested this item be tabled until next meeting to bring concerns, comments, and questions. Commissioner Boling agreed and requested information regarding member review. Chief Rash stated the standard practice is when there are job descriptions, they are sent to the members to review and comment back prior to moving forward.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Job Description - Captain: Chief Rash provided the current and potential job description for Captain. He discussed changing from 3 Captains and 9 Lieutenants, to 4 Captains and 8 Lieutenants. The Captain's role would manage their assigned station, which includes but not limited to the maintenance and upkeep of facilities, apparatus, and equipment. Commissioner Boling asked if the new captain is a paramedic, would he

receive additional salary. Chief Rash explained they would receive the base salary and then the 10% premium pay for the paramedic certification. Local 3711 has seen the new job description and we will be addressing any issues relative to wages, hours and working conditions prior to posting. Chief Rash will send the description out for members to review.

B. Surplus Vehicle(s): Chief Rash stated the 2009 Ford Escape has been identified by staff as no longer necessary for the District's use. If there are no bidders to purchase, the vehicle would then go to auction. He is asking for the adoption of Resolution 25-03 Authorizing the Sale of Public Property under Chapter 39.33 RCW.

A motion was made by Commissioner Larsen and seconded by Commissioner Boling for the adoption of Resolution 25-03. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Campbell Road Annexation: Chief Rash brought forth the signed annexation petition for the two, twenty acres lots at the end of Campbell Rd. Chief Rash is asking for the adoption of Resolution 25-04 Accepting Annexation Petition and Scheduling a Hearing as required. The SEPA environmental checklist has been completed and determination of non-significance has been issued. Commissioner Rorie asked if the two lots were adjoining. Chief Rash verified the lots were adjoining as well as contiguous with fire district boundaries.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boling and seconded by Commissioner Larsen for the adoption of Resolution 25-04. The motion carried unanimously.

The scheduled public hearing is set for June 10, 2025.

EXECUTIVE REPORT: Chief Rash

A. Facilities Update: Maintenance 81 has been framed and roofed, with electrical and plumbing work scheduled for next week. At Station 85, Bay 4 is currently empty. A temporary structure will be set up on May 19, with the move-in planned for May 20. By May 21, the station will be fully vacated. Chief Rash presented the commissioners with the proposed construction schedule for Station 85.

B. Legislative Update: Chief Rash reported HB1258 has passed both legislative chambers and is now on the governor's desk. Mediation between SREC and City of Spokane will continue.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Chief Wyrobek

A. Brush Truck Order: Chief Wyrobek presented updated renderings of Brush 82 and Brush 85. The chassis are expected to arrive in June, with the builds scheduled in August. He expressed his appreciation to the apparatus committee and thanked the commissioners for their continued support. The trucks are expected to be ready in time for the 2026 fire season. Commissioner Larsen inquired about the type of engine and water capacity of the new brush trucks. Chief Wyrobek responded saying they are Type 5 engines, each equipped with 500 gallons of water and 20 gallons of foam.

B. Out of Class 820: Chief Wyrobek provided an update, noting both Lt. Smock and

Lt. Hawley are currently serving as OOC 820. He outlined the various components of the OOC 820 Task Book, including the associated responsibilities and scope of work. Upon completing the task book, they will progress to tactical simulations, followed by tactical evaluations. After successfully completing these phases, they will participate in ride-alongs with Division Chiefs from different shifts. Once all three stages are completed, they will be eligible for sign-off as OOC 820. Chief Rash expressed his appreciation to the Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support and also acknowledged the members who are committed to participating in the program. Commissioner Boling asked whether Chief Rash would no longer be responding to 820 calls once two additional individuals complete the program in June. Chief Wyrobek confirmed this is the intended plan. Commissioner Rorie inquired about the ideal number of OOC 820 Officers, to which Chief Wyrobek responded 4 to 6 officers would be optimal for the current schedule. Commissioner Boling also confirmed with Chief Wyrobek that district members do receive out-of-class pay.

C. Alarm Statistics: Chief Wyrobek presented the first quarter alarm statistics, noting that from January to March 2024, there were 1,073 total calls, compared to 1,097 during the same period in 2025. EMS calls have increased by over 9% this year, contributing to an overall 2.2% rise in first quarter call volume.

DISTRICT SECRETARY: Michelle Rodgers

A. None

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A.** Spokane Valley Chamber of Commerce Public Safety Awards: Chief Rash reminded everyone the Public Safety Awards will take place this Thursday, June 15th, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., and will honor Lt. Derrick Kern. A video presentation is being prepared for the event, and both Chief Rash and Lt. Kern have participated in filming segments for it.
- B.** Citizen Posting: Chief Rash shared details about an incident on Thursday, May 8th, when District 8 responded to a fully involved house fire at Havana and 39th. The citizen affected by the fire expressed a desire to publicly thank the brave men and women who responded with professionalism and dedication.
- C.** Training Burn: Chief Rash reminded everyone of the live fire training exercise taking place tomorrow off Valley Chapel, in coordination with the recruit academy. The community has been notified in advance of the training.
- D.** Open House: Chief Rash expressed his gratitude to everyone who attended the Station 81 Open House, especially thanking the commissioners for their support and presence.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:45 pm Chief Rash requested an Executive Session for fifteen minutes per **RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)** To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence

to the agency.

Chief Rash, Assistant Chief WYROBEK, and Finance Manager Michelle Rodgers joined the commissioners in the Executive Session.

At 7:00 Commissioner Rorie called the meeting back in session. No decisions were made during Executive Session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Boling and seconded by Commissioner Larsen: move to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:03 pm Commissioner Rorie adjourned the regular meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. V. Rorie', written over a horizontal line.

Andrew V. Rorie, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michelle Rodgers', written over a horizontal line.

Michelle Rodgers, District Secretary