

SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 8

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting



MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2026; 5:00 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 5:00 pm. In Attendance: Commissioner Andy Rorie, Commissioner Jeff Larsen, Commissioner Lee C Boling, Fire Chief Kenneth Erben, District Secretary Michelle Rodgers, HR Manager Renee Scacco, Blaine Holman, members of the district, and members of the public.

INTRODUCTIONS & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

L3711 President Blaine Holman thanked the district and Commissioners for allowing Jack Collins and himself to attend NWLS in Portland.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Boling: move to approve the agenda as Amended, with the addition of 7A Resolution 26-02, change of meeting location. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA & MINUTES:

The following warrants and electronic transfers were approved for payment:

- Warrant Numbers 119653 through 117014 totaling \$282,224.00
- Electronic Payments 02/1/2026 – 02/28/2026 totaling \$675,014.10

The following Minutes were approved as presented:

- February 10, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution 26-02 – Meeting Location Change: Next meeting, April 14, 2026 moving to Station 85.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Boling: move to approve changing April meeting location to Station 85. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE REPORT: Chief Erben

A. Northwest Leadership Conference: Chief Erben reported there were good conversations with labor and management outside of a few good speakers as well as great networking. Chief Erben noted the district staff and leadership will be conducting a leadership workshop on April 15, 2026, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm at Station 82. Key topics will be reviewing the district's mission, vision and values, as well as a swat analysis exercise and problem solving. Chief Erben invited the commissioners to attend as well.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Chief Erben

A. RTF Training: Chief Erben noted our members, along with members from District 4, District 9, Spokane Valley Fire, and law enforcement agencies had scenario-based training at the Valleyford Community Church. Chief Erben stated this training will ensure all agencies are operating under the same guidelines and procedures.

B. New Brush Truck: Chief Erben stated the new brush trucks now have winch recovery capability and the necessary training has been done. Chief Erben will reach out to Chief Wilkins regarding inter-agency training.

C. National Weather Service Fire Season Forecast: Chief Erben stated Chief Long had a meeting with the National Weather Service regarding the upcoming fire season. Projections are that there will be above average temperatures and below average precipitation. Fire crews have been informed to check their gear and to be prepared. Chief Erben stated he had a meeting with the National Weather Service this morning regarding the upcoming high-wind warning. Chief Erben will meet with Chief Long and Chief Wilkins regarding possible staffing changes for wind storm preparation.

DISTRICT SECRETARY: Michelle Rodgers

A. WFA Spring Seminar: District Secretary Michelle Rodgers reminded everyone of the class on Saturday, March 14, 2026 starting at 9:00 am. Chief Erben, Commissioner Boling, and Michelle Rodgers will be attending.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Firefighters Association Donation: Michelle Rodgers stated the district received a \$500 donation on behalf of a patient who was saved. We also received a thank you note from Northwest Middle School for our presence at a recent event.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:16 pm Commissioner Larsen requested an Executive Session for 20 minutes per **RCW 42.30.140(4)(b)** that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposal made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

Chief Erben, Finance Manager Michelle Rodgers and HR Manager Renee Scacco joined the commissioners in the Executive session.

At 5:36 pm, Commissioner Larsen called the meeting back in session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. District Open House:** Chief Erben stated that the District Open House will be on May 9, 2026, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Station 81.
- B. Yard Debris Disposal Event:** Chief Erben noted the debris collection day will be on April 4, 2026, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Station 82.
- C. Coffee with the Chief:** Chief Erben stated he will be holding an event called "Coffee with the Chief" on March 31, 2026, from 7:30 am to 9:30 am at the Porchlight in Valleyford.

ADJOURNMENT

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

At 5:41 pm Commissioner Larsen adjourned the regular meeting.



Jeffery A. Larsen, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:



Michelle Rodgers, District Secretary