

SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 8

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting



MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2026; 5:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held at Station 82. Commissioner Jeff Larsen 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, Deputy Chief Kristopher Maynard, District Secretary Michelle Rodgers, HR Manager Renee Scacco, and members of the district, and members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA:

The following warrants and electronic transfers were approved for payment:

- Warrant Numbers 117178 through 117231 totaling \$293,165.05
- Electronic Payments 06/01/2026 – 06/30/2026 totaling \$705,194.30

The following Minutes were approved as presented:

- June 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Erben

A. Probationary Members Swearing In – Chief Erben reported there were four new recently-graduated recruits to be sworn in as members in a pinning ceremony during the meeting.

B. Promotion Ceremony – Chief Erben also reported there were four members being promoted in a promotion ceremony during the meeting. Chief Erben indicated the meeting would resume after the promotion and pinning of the members in the bay area of Station 82.

MEETING ADJORNED FOR PINNING CEREMONY

5:06 pm

MEETING RESUMED

5:44 PM

C. MOU – Lateral FF Hiring (Paramedic) – Chief Erben

Chief Erben presented the MOU packet for approval. He indicated there were some minor changes. One change was adjusting the years of experience requirement. He indicated this would adjust the pay depending on the years of experience. Chief Erben said the timeline for hiring this position would be August with a start date of November 2, 2026. The new firefighter/paramedic would enter an abbreviated fire academy of six weeks because this person would have prior experience.

A motion was made by Commissioner Boling and seconded by Commissioner Rorie: move to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE REPORT: Chief Erben

A. Glenrose HOA Meeting: Chief Erben reported he and Commissioner Boling were able to speak to the Glenrose HOA. He said there were many questions from the HOA members that he was able to answer. He reported it went well and Commissioner Boling reported the feedback from community had been positive.

B. Renewal of Aid Service License: Chief Erben reported the district has renewed their aid license.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Chief Maynard

A. Wildfire Season Update: Chief Maynard reported the area has had as many red flag days already in 2026 as all of the previous year. He also reported our members did an amazing job assisting with the Upriver Fire, aiding in saving many homes utilizing equipment as well as personnel. He also reported Chief Wilkins and Chief Hawley assisted in a brush fire the previous day in the Spokane Valley. That fire was believed to be firework related.

Chief Maynard reported Chief Wilkins had been sent to Chelan to lead a strike team and Chief Wilkins and his crew were able to get back safely even after difficult fire situations.

Chief Wilkins reported that during the Upriver Fire, the crew was able to assist in direct saves of ten houses. He also reported they were able to ultimately save a home that had sustained fire damage. Chief Wilkins reported it was impressive to see first-hand the houses that had been saved because of their assistance. Chief Erben reported that he was also able to visit the site of the Upriver Fire and see the positive impact Fire District 8 had.

DISTRICT SECRETARY: Michelle Rodgers

A. WFCB Annual Conference – Michelle Rodgers reported this year's WFCB Conference was coming up in Spokane on October 21-24, 2026. Registration would open in August. Michelle stated she would register anyone who was planning to attend. Commissioner Boling indicated he had a room reserved because of his position as Regional Director for WFCB. He reported the other three nights would be paid by the district. Commissioner Boling requested an action of the Board of Fire Commissioners to approve the district paying for his stay during this event. Commissioner Boling suggested both Chief Erben and Chief Maynard attend the event. He also said the WFCB Board would have a meeting on August 1, 2026.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Larsen: move to approve the district paying for Commissioner Boling's WFCB Annual Conference attendance. The motion carried unanimously.

B. 1st Annual Risk Management Seminar – Michelle Rodgers reported the Annual Risk Management Seminar will be in Leavenworth November 4-6, 2026. She indicated registration would close on October 5, 2026. The event was to be attended by Commissioner Boling, Commissioner Rorie, Chief Erben, Chief Maynard and Michelle Rodgers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE: Chief Erben

A. Thank you from April Diffenbacher: Chief Erben reported former Deputy Chief, John Diffenbacher's name was put on Engine 82 as an inscription. John's daughter, April, sent a card thanking the district for putting John Diffenbacher's name on Engine 82.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Resolution 26-03 Surplus Equipment/Property/Vehicle – Chief Erben reported the district had some equipment, etc., that would need to be auctioned in the future. Chief Erben indicated that Gabe Gerhart would be helping him in deciding what to send to auction.

ADJOURNMENT

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

At 6:09 pm Commissioner Larsen adjourned the meeting.



Jeffery A. Larsen, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

Michelle Rodgers, District Secretary