



Board of Commissioners Meeting

April 23, 2025

Commissioner Hutcheson opened a regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:30pm. This meeting was also available to the public via Zoom. The following attended:

Commissioner Cameron
Commissioner Headley
Chief Goldstein
DC Stich

Commissioner Olson
Commissioner Hallanger
DC Huff
Finance Director Ballinger

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Commissioner Hallanger made a motion to approve the March 26, 2025 board meeting minutes as is. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

Awards & Recognition:

None

Verbal Reports:

None

Written Reports:

None

Action Items:

Purchase New Engine & Equipment (Staff Report 4-2-001): Staff is requesting the Board to approve all costs for the new fire engine, including equipment, for \$1,184,000 (this total cost would replace the initial purchase approval from April 2023, staff report 4-1-002). We found the initial request/approval from 2023 did not include all of the costs necessary for the engine and equipment. Therefore, this action would replace that initial authorization, not be in addition to it. We anticipate having the new engine in service by early fall of this year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron to approve \$1,184,000 for the total cost of the new fire engine, taxes and all necessary equipment as outlined in Staff Report 4-2-001. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Purchase New Chassis & Remount Ambulance (Staff Report 4-2-002): As identified in the apparatus replacement plan, the remount of a medic unit was slated for 2026. Due to economic conditions and rising, unstable costs, staff recommends moving forward with the project now to lock in the current pricing. Staff recommends purchasing a new chassis and remounting the box from AC06. The total cost is expected not to exceed \$228,513, including sales tax and all portable equipment. Some costs will be absorbed in 2025, with the remaining costs in 2026. RCW 39.04.280 provides for the waiver of competitive bidding requirements under enumerated conditions, including (1)(a) Purchases that are clearly and legitimately limited to a single source of supply and (1)(b) Purchases involving special facilities or market conditions.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron to purchase a new chassis and box remount from Braun NW, waive competitive bidding requirements pursuant to RCW 39.04.280(1)(a) and authorize Chief Goldstein to execute the necessary documents for the purchase with Braun NW to not exceed \$228,513, including sales tax and portable equipment, as identified in Staff Report 4-2-002. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Surplus Carpet Cleaner (Staff Report 4-2-003): All carpet has been removed from our fire stations, so there is no longer a need for the Rug Doctor, Might Pro Blue MP-C2D (serial# 10F16543) carpet cleaner.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron to surplus to Rug Doctor carpet cleaner (serial# 10F16543) at the fire chief's discretion, and as identified in Staff Report 4-2-003. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

WFC Position #7 Nomination/Appointment: Chief Goldstein is seeking support for his nomination to the WA Fire Chiefs Board for Position #7. If the Board supports this request, he will need a letter of support from the Board chair.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cameron to support the nomination of Chief Goldstein to the WA Fire Chiefs (WFC) Board for Position #7. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Chief's Report:

- A new firefighter/paramedic has been hired and will start on May 11, 2025. There are still four open line positions. There is one employee still on light duty.
- The Battalion Chief (BC) promotional exam is scheduled for next week; we currently do not have a valid BC list.
- We received a \$300,000 grant from Cowlitz County Rural Public Facilities to support our expansion project at St 24 in Rose Valley. We should have the grant agreement for the Board to authorize at the next meeting.
- DC Huff is still working through the process to get quotes for site work and a mobile home at St 24 in Rose Valley.
- Meeting today with Longview Fire Dept about mutual aid. Still a work in progress.

- Mutual aid with CCFD#6 (Castle Rock) is not balanced at all. Chief Goldstein sent them a letter outlining the issues and requested a meeting.
- Chief Goldstein will be out of town for the next couple of weeks on vacation.

Payroll:

Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve payroll totaling \$417,405.60 for warrant numbers 66703-66713 and EFTs dated April 4, 2025, and \$334,054.10 for warrant numbers 66754-66763 and EFTs dated April 18, 2025. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

Commissioner Headley made a motion to approve vouchers totaling \$267,122.16 for warrant numbers 66714-66750 dated April 10, 2025; \$91,043.94 for warrant numbers 66751-66753 dated April 14, 2025; \$43,011.66 for warrant numbers 66764-66807 dated April 24, 2025; and VOID vouchers totaling \$282.32 for warrant number 66253 due to lost check by vendor. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

Commissioner Hutcheson requested comments/feedback to change the normal board meeting schedule from twice per month to once per month (on the fourth Wednesday). After some discussion, the board asked staff to bring back a resolution to the next meeting to officially change the normal board meeting schedule to once per month.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hutcheson at 5:15pm.

Commissioner

District Secretary