

**WENATCHEE VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT,  
CHELAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1 & DOUGLAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 2  
MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 8, 2023**

Commissioners: Commissioner Castellente, Commissioner de Mestre, Commissioner Dormaier, Commissioner Fennell, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Zimmerman

Staff: Fire Chief Brian Brett, Deputy Chief Rick McBride, Battalion Chief Clint Webley, Terri Woods

- I. Called to Order: 2:00 pm
- II. Additions and Deletions to Agenda: N/A
- III. Public Comments: No public comments. N/A
- IV. Consent Agenda: Commissioner Castellente made a motion to approve the consent agenda items. There was a second from Commissioner de Mestre. The consent agenda items were approved.
- V. Correspondence: Chief Brett shared thank you cards received for incident response. A retirement plaque for Chief Mosher is ready; another is being ordered for Hap Richmond to honor his years of service.

VI. Staff Reports:

Administration:

Chief McBride: The Volunteer Academy kicked off Tuesday night with nine from WVFD and nine from neighboring departments. The Resident Academy is complete with firefighters assigned to shift. The new Residents will begin testing for their National EMT Certification and will participate in the Wildland and EVIP training as well. Volunteer training during spring will include wildland, EVIP, and basic first aid.

IAFF:

Battalion Chief Clint Webley: On February 3 the Wenatchee Valley Firefighter Benevolent Fund received its first donation from the sales of Backdraft Blonde; the artwork was designed by Firefighter JP Sokolowski. The funds are used to aid community members, organizations, firefighters and their families as needs arise. To date, the Benevolent Fund has donated roughly \$2,300 to families or individuals displaced by fire or other events, as well as organizations like the local Make-A-Wish Foundation. The Guns and Hoses hockey game is scheduled for March 4 at the Town Toyota Center. Local members attended an IAFF Conference in Nevada and legislative meetings in Olympia. The WSCFF Convention is scheduled for June 20-22 in Wenatchee this year.

Volunteers: The Volunteer Association is sponsoring participation in the Leukemia-Lymphoma Stairclimb this year. The event takes place at the Columbia Center in Seattle March 12. The department sent flowers to Kay McKellar after a recent injury. The banquet is scheduled for April 14. Chelan and Douglas volunteers are working to combine finances.

VII. Unfinished Business

1. Facilities: The attorney is working on the land transfer with the Wenatchee Heights Reclamation District.

The department received the appraisal for the Stemilt parcel.

The former Rock Island Fire Station suffered water damage from frozen pipes. Testing for mold and asbestos will be needed because of the flooding and the building's age. Chief Lindemann is working to determine the necessary repairs. The Board requested Chief Brett move forward with quotes for the repair work.

The new Fire Station 3 in Rock Island is close to completion with a tentative soft opening of May 1. Most of the Board has toured the station and there are concerns on the craftsmanship. There was discussion on solutions for the backup generator which is delayed by supply chain issues. Commissioner Johnson would like a ribbon cutting ceremony upon completion.

Work is complete on the water damage repairs to the Pangborn Modular Housing Unit covered by insurance.

Commissioners Johnson and Commissioner Zimmerman will schedule a meeting with a member of the Board from the Port District to discuss future plans pertaining to ARFF. In the meantime, the Board authorized Chief Brett to work with Realtor Steve Bishop to explore options for suitable land near the airport.

2. Apparatus: New fleet maintenance software is in use by the Shops. Brush 12 is complete and Brush 13 is 50 percent complete. The updated Apparatus Replacement Plan is nearing completion.
3. Aviation: The lawsuit filed with the Helicopter Institute has been dismissed in Chelan County. The contract with DNR is being amended this year. Chief Brett will report back when it is complete.

The Board affirmed their decision to proceed with the budgeted \$550,000 for the 1PR project after discussing the project status.

4. Personnel: Commissioners were reminded to complete and return the Fire Chief Performance Evaluations to Cindy Blaufuss. A Special Meeting with an Executive Session will be scheduled for later this month to review the results.
5. Financial Reporting: Commissioner Dormaier said he no longer wishes to pursue a GAAP-based compilation after feedback from the Board.
6. Policy Review: Commissioner de Mestre moved to approve the policy updates as presented. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. The policy revisions were approved.
7. Douglas County Fire Marshal Contract: After review of the draft Fire Marshal Agreement by the attorney, the Board directed Chief Brett to deliver the draft to the Board of Douglas County Commissioners. The Board stressed the importance of following the approved Fire Code for safety.

#### VIII. New Business

1. BLM Facilities Use Agreement: Commissioner Castellente moved to approve the BLM Facilities Use Agreement. Commissioner de Mestre seconded the motion. The agreement was approved.
2. Updated Fire Investigation Contract: The Board authorized Chief Brett to revise and present an updated Fire Investigation Contract to Chelan and Douglas Counties for their review and approval. There is a desire for consistent contracts in both Counties.
3. Draft Performance Standards Report: The Performance Standards Reports for both fire districts will be available at the March meeting.

IX. Other Business and Good of the Order:

Congratulations to Chief Brett for receiving the North Central Washington Community Impact Award. The ceremony will be at 5:30 pm, Thursday, February 23, 2023, at the Hilton Garden Inn.

X. Adjourn – 4:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Terri Woods