Clark-Cowlitz Fire Rescue
Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes
911 N 65th Avenue, Ridgefield

April 23, 2026

Present Attendees:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Larry Bartel, Ken Ayers, and Jade Bourke. Chief John Nohr. AC Jackson at FDIC in Indianapolis, AC Peeler and AC Ryan are on Vacation. Brian Salsig. Recording Secretary Kaitlin Tester.

Virtual Attendees:
Kathy Streissguth

Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS
None.

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Commissioner Bartle, second by Commissioner Ayers to approve the consent agenda. Passed Unanimously. Check register distributed to the Board did not include invoices; these will be included in next communications to the Board.

COMMUNICATIONS
Chief Drake of Vancouver Fire Department sends gratitude to CCFR for the support and assistance provided to the department on the day of Jeremiah Frenz's memorial services.
Katie Favela of Ridgefield City Council reported that a meeting in DC with Senators Murray and Cantwell including Representative Gluesenkamp Perez focused on highlighting and advancing funds needed for several key projects. Katie communicated that while they were in DC they had positive encounters with some of CCFR firefighters and cadets, including a fun electric scooter ride around DC.
Chief Nohr highlights a $25.00 check received from the Schafer family memoed "Coffee on Us" and extends his appreciation and gratitude to the Schafer family.

COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORT
No Report

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group
Report 5 open claims; 4 related to CCFR. WHA has reported that CCFR was underinsured on the Boathouse, recommendation to review policy to ensure correct insurance allotments are assigned. WHA provides a program to provide an L&I

liaison to assist in the prioritization of CCFR personnel. HR Manager Kristen Olson is reviewing for CCFR benefit.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board
No Report; next meeting is May 13th

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
No Report; next meeting is May 14th

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers
No Report

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
Invite to Spring Meeting was distributed. Attended Region 9 meeting to present information regarding TIF. Verbal request for topics to present at the Spring Meeting.

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke
Meeting with Chairman Iyall on Friday, May 1st at 11 am at Station 21.

EMS District 2 – Bourke
Board met on April 13th. Changing of the board composition requires transition of cost and budgeting to board responsibility for 2026, county will remain processing cost and budgeting for 2025. New inter-local agreements will be required, and the bi-laws committee will need to be updated. All Mayors within CCFR boundaries have received the notice of required updates/changes. Discussion regarding rebranding is moving forward with AMR due to adjusted service areas.

Port of Ridgefield
No Report

Commissioner Updates
Truck 21 responded to call at home, commended service provided and expressed sincere gratitude to responding personnel. Chief Nohr has passed this along to the Captain of the responding personnel.
Region 8 meeting idea to participate in a bi-annual class for the region, covering different subjects. Region 9 participates and had great attendance. Question presented to Chief Nohr and Commissioners if there was a desire to move forward for implementing this for Region 8.
Reminder for upcoming Strategic Planning meeting on May 6th from 1:30-3:30 PM.

CHIEF'S REPORT
Introduced Kaitlin Tester, new Administrative Assistant at CCFR. Kaitlin will be overseeing all board communications and notes. There are no reports today; reports will be presented at the May 14th meeting.
Chief Nohr will be forwarding an email regarding the update to EMS TIF law; suggestion is to contact the County Assessor to ensure appropriate distribution of the funds.
CRESA has begun utilizing an AI system to respond to 311 calls, Cowlitz 911 utilizes the same AI system. Relieving call times for refocus on 911 calls received at CRESA, reports are showing improvements.
Preliminary offering statement has been submitted to distribute to potential investors.
Meeting with DA Davidson, Pacifica Law and CCFR to review schedule, including a bond resolution with delegating authority on May 28th-that will be presented to Commissioners

May 14th-for the completion of the Woodland Station, and building of the Ridgefield Station. Chief Nohr hopes to include a 10-year portion, and 20-year portion to allow for future planning of apparatus replacement.
Station Updates:
Station 29 – City of Woodland will review initial plans May 6th; after city review, plans will be submitted for full review to Cowlitz County building official. Discussion was held regarding cost vs. benefit of space allocation for antique apparatuses at Station 29. Motion was made to keep the antique display bay in fire station plan by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Ayers. Motion passed 4:1. Plan is to temporarily relocate to 100 Davidson to ensure continued response during construction.
Station 24 – Pre-meeting April 29th, Chief Nohr will provide the pre-design on May 14th meeting for Commissioner review. Chief Nohr wants to hold on the board decision of an architect until cost is identified.
Chief Jackson has created a culture class for new personnel joining CCFR; Chief Nohr extends his appreciation to Chief Jackson for developing this.
Chief Nohr acknowledges the opportunity to bring ideas forward on process improvements and adjustments with the addition of new staff. HR Manager Kristen is reviewing alternative programs that will centralize administrative programs.
Appreciate working with Local 3674 to resolve issues brought forward.

BOATHOUSE FIRE REPAIRS
Towed to St. Helens to begin repairs.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES
Chief Nohr requests that Commissioners report at the Region 8 meeting to discuss how the Chiefs within SW Washington can improve working partnerships.

LATE ADDITIONS
None

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary