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

June 25, 2026

Present Attendees:
Commissioners David Town, Larry Bartel, Ken Ayers, and Jade Bourke.
Chief John Nohr, AC Ryan, AC Mike Jackson. Finance Manager Brian Salsig, Finance Manager Kathy Streissguth. Recording Secretary Kaitlin Tester.

Virtual Attendees:
Commissioner Stanley Chunn

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

Flag Salute.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS
None

CONSENT AGENDA
Motion by Commissioner Bourke, second by Commissioner Ayers to approve the consent agenda. Passed Unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS
Received letter commending CCFRs participation in St. Vincent De Paul fundraiser to auction a seat on a truck in the parade.

Received letter from a community member whose wife received emergency care from crews and then a follow up visit from CARES. Very grateful for the impressive care provided by the responding crew, and the follow-up provided by Hailey. Commends Chief Nohr and CCFR for the CARES program and responding crews.

Thank you to CRR from a business owner in Ridgefield who worked in collaboration with the Deputy Fire Marshall team to meet code and ensure community safety.

COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORT
Ridgefield Councilmember Katie Favela reports that a presentation of the Ridgefield Water System was completed at the council meeting; the presentation can be reviewed on the city website. Upcoming 4th of July Parade.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Fire Risk Management Group
None

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board
None

Finance Committee – Town/Bourke
Met June 25th and reviewed the financial management and debt policy. Recommend the debt policy is reviewed at the July 9th meeting.

Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers
None

WFCA Region VIII – Bartel
None

Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke
None

EMS District 2 – Bourke
Next meeting July 13th

Port of Ridgefield - Bartel
None

Commissioner Updates
Commissioner Bourke reports that Planters Day was a wonderful success, reports the Sprinkler Demonstration was a success and the FF BBQ sold out in around 2 hours. Commissioner Bourke seconds Commissioner Bartels comments.

CHIEF REPORT
Chief Nohr reports that crews responded to a 2-alarm house fire with assistance from VFD, CFD6, CFD3, CFD10 and appreciates the help from our neighboring districts. Highlights large warehouse fires across the U.S and wants to ensure compliance and preparedness for our communities. AC Jackson discusses collaborations between CCFR and warehouse companies within our jurisdiction to ensure gaps in the systems are being addressed. Chief Nohr extends a thank you to Aaron Massie for coordinating the events and appreciates everyone who assisted throughout the weekend to make Planters Day a success. Thank you to Mike Lackey for assisting with the Station 23 engine tour for a young marine's group to complete a Safety Certification within their program. July 4th Parade upcoming in Ridgefield. Captain Fagan has completed the IAP, a Brush unit will be staffed 24-hours, and a 2nd Brush unit will be staffed 10-hours. Last weekend in July is La Center Our Days. Chief Nohr reports that around 150 people have been invited to complete one-way video interviews, with a 2nd wave to increase our candidate pool. The next step is for panelists to review the videos and make recommendations to move 7 successful candidates forward for a September 1st academy. Firefighter Galster has completed a Trench Preparedness training and a Trench Watch-out class, Chief Nohr appreciates the hard work put into conducting and completing those trainings. Next month a United Rentals is sponsoring a trench simulation to be completed in the 2 acres behind St. 21, partner agencies have been invited to attend. Chief Nohr reports that a Bond Rating meeting was conducted and a due diligence meeting to review all the material being published was completed, funding is set to be allotted in August. Ready to start late in 2026 for Station 29 and start early 2027 for Station 24. Chief Nohr highlights that this is Kathy Streissguth last meeting after nearly 27 years, CCFR is hosting an open house at St. 21 on Tuesday, 6/30/26 from 2:30-4:30 to celebrate her career.

AC Ryan provides an update to the Board regarding a county wide standardized e-vehicle fire response; due to the heavy hazmat component, VFD Hazmat is leading the committee with a planned implementation date of Fall 2026.

AC Jackson reports that the Burn Ban is on track for July 15th implementation.

PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES
Cowlitz 1 Board members have arranged to attend the July 9th Board Meeting.

Chief Nohr is attending meetings with VFD, CFD6, and CFD3 to investigate regionalization opportunities.

STRATEGIC PLANNING
Organizing steering committee to review material, remains on track for September timeline.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY UPDATE
Updates include correction of verbiage to update name, update best practices and to document practices we are currently conducting. Chief Nohr highlights CCFR financial success is due to strong community growth, voter support, and the financial management conducted by CCFR.

Debt policy is going to be updated to reflect recommended changes by DA Davidson and will be resent to the Commissioners.

RESOLUTION NO. 260625-1
Motion by Commissioner Bourke, seconded by Commissioner Bartel. Passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 260625-2
Motion by Commissioner Bartel, seconded by Commissioner Ayers. Passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 260625-3
Motion by Commissioner Ayers, seconded by Commissioner Bartel. Passed unanimously.

LATE ADDITIONS
None

CITIZEN COMMENTS
None

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary