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

September 24th, 2026

Present Attendees:
Commissioners Stanley Chunn, David Town, Ken Ayers, Jade Bourke, Larry Bartel.
Chief John Nohr, AC Ben Peeler, AC Eamonn Ryan, AC Mike Jackson. HR Manager Kristen Olson.

Recording Secretary Kaitlin Tester.

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

Flag Salute.

- **CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS**
  - Surplus apparatus-AC Peeler
- **CITIZEN COMMENTS**
  - None
- **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - Commissioner Bartel motions to approve, Commissioner Ayers seconds. All in favor
- **COMMUNICATIONS**
  - No outside communications
- **COMMUNITY PARTNER REPORT**
  - Councilwoman Katie Favela, City of Ridgefield
    - Chief of Police has been sworn in
    - Presentation from Ridgefield Police Department for annual pink patch
    - 2027 budget planning is underway
- **STANDING COMMITTEES**
  - **Clark County Fire Risk Management Group**
    - Met 9/24/26
    - Unable to provide quote due to missing information from some parties. Zoom meeting planned for the third week of October.
      - Discussing the impact on the quote due to call volume, loss ratio, property, cyber security
    - Approved Risk Management budget of $503,537.06
    - Health insurance is expected to increase ~18% nationwide
    - CCFR has had 5 auto liabilities since 2021 per loss report.
    - Separate policies are held for the boat, boathouse, and CARES team due to uniqueness of CCFR programs.
  - **Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board**
    - None
  - **Finance Committee – Town/Bourke**
    - None
  - **Local BVFF – Chunn/Ayers**
    - None
  - **WFCA Region VIII – Bartel**

        - Meeting October 6th in Napavine, WA
            - Invitation has been distributed.
        - Please send topics to Commissioner Bartel
    - **Cowlitz Indian Tribe – Contract Liaison Bartel/Bourke**
        - Met with Timi Russin
            - Tribe is busy with many items on the planning board.
            - Chief Nohr requested meeting in the first two weeks of November regarding contract review.
    - **EMS District 2 – Bourke**
        - None
    - **Port of Ridgefield – Bartel**
        - None
    - **Commissioner Updates**
        - Commissioner Town attended Clark County Council meeting and commended Chief Russel and Chief Nohrs presentation to the council.
        - Commissioner Town attended assessor meeting on September 18th to discuss EMS funding.
- **CHIEF REPORT**
    - Impact Fees Meeting
        - County Council to adopt Capital Plan into their facilities plan.
            - Passed 3 to 2.
            - 5 School Districts and 4 Fire Districts presented
    - Meeting with the County Assessor and Deputy County Assessor
        - CCFR has requested not to withhold EMS monies with TIF
        - Assessor says they have to withhold per DOR guidance
        - Chief Nohr has requested lawyers' opinion regarding council feedback regarding the meeting.
    - Ambulance rates will be presented to Commissioners for adoption at the October 8th Board Meeting.
    - Hidden Meadows AAR at St. 26 hosted by CFD10
        - AAR went well, feedback received was that everyone worked together very well.
        - Emergency management is looking to be more involved.
            - Pleased that CARES team was available.
    - CCFR is signing up for a WSRB assessment in June
    - Audit is in processes
    - Interviewed and selected Capital Projects Manager.
        - Limited term position, anticipate 2-3 years or until completion of two fire stations.
    - Point North Year End Review
        - Contract ended in August 2026.
            - Reviewed delivered, and non-delivered items pulled from Scope of Work and the impact on media outreach.
    - Significant emergency response September 23rd due to chicken truck roll-over at exit 16, I5 NB on ramp.
- **PARTNER AGENCY UPDATES**
    - Commissioners request October 28th to meet at 6 PM in Hockinson with District 3.
    - Met with CFD6 and VFD to discuss conducting a study for collaborative opportunities and what the scope would look like.
- **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- Continue to progress
  - Completed identification of 5 focus areas
  - Next step is to identify major goals in each of the 5 focus areas.

➢ **CONSTRUCTION UPDATES**

- St. 29
  - To bid being held until Capital Project Manager is in position.
- St. 24
  - Geotech's have completed soil analysis
- St. 21 Remodel
  - To bid is being held until Capital Project Manager is in position.
- Capital Project Manager position is anticipated to start October 1st.

➢ **LATE ADDITIONS**

- Surplus Apparatus-AC Peeler
  - Recommendation to declare surplus of the 2000 Peirce Fire Engine
    - Commissioner Bartel moves, Commissioner Bourke seconds. All in favor
- Chiefs Review
  - Policy remains in process
  - AC Peeler will discuss timeline with Commissioner Chunn

➢ **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- None

Meeting Adjourned 4:59

Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief / District Secretary