

Chelan County Fire District No. 5
250 West Manson Blvd.
Manson, WA 98831
August 8, 2017
Regular Meeting of Commissioners

Commissioners Present: John Spencer, Brian Harris and Dan Baker

Others Present: Chief Arnold Baker, Assistant Chief Kermit McClellan, Patty McClellan, Fire Marshal Bob Plumb, Judi Day, Todd Lee, Chris Willoughby

Call to Order: Commissioner John Spencer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and the Flag salute commenced.

Pension Board: Opened at 4:30. With nothing to report, the Pension Board adjourned. Regular meeting resumed at 4:31.

Public Comment

Judi & Tom, representing the Manson Chamber of Commerce & Business Association expressed their concern that Wish Lanterns are no longer allowed to continue for the Winterfest. Manson merchants need this attraction that brings in people or they're businesses may fail due to the slow winter months. Lanterns are biggest profit maker for the Manson Chamber to make money. If Manson doesn't make money, Chelan will remove winter fest from Manson. It was explained to them that there is no permit available for lighting wish lanterns. The fire code is a state law, and we don't have the authority to give out such a permit. Only the State Fire Marshal could do that. The code was adopted on July 1, 2016. We didn't know last year until too late. This is a new law. County Fire Marshall Bob Plumb suggested that they contact the State Fire Marshall directly.

Minutes: July 11th Meeting Minutes were presented and reviewed. Commissioner Baker motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Commissioner Harris seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Workshop Minutes: July 5th Commissioners' Workshop minutes were presented and reviewed. Commissioner Baker motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Commissioner Harris seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: There were no questions about the July Financial report. It was reported that the FEMA grant money was in our account as of 8/3.

Approval of Invoices: Commissioner Harris motioned to approve and pay the August Vouchers FD51 in the amount of \$37,126.26 and FD52 in the amount of \$ 207,684.84. Commissioner Baker seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

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Chiefs Report:

Chief and Commissioner Bakers gave a demonstration of the new SCBA, and showed the comparisons between the new equipment and the old. The new packs are currently equipped with “loaner” tanks. Our new tanks are scheduled to be shipped this coming Friday. The new air compressor has some cosmetic damage due to the fact that the shipping crate fell over. The important parts on the inside are in good shape. MES promises to replace the damaged outside shell. When the equipment is installed it will be good as new.

Incidents

60 Calls for service in July; 46 within District 5 and 14 out of the District. Fire responded to 14 calls with fire related issues, 1 EMS call handled by Fire personnel and 8 EMS assist calls. The 14 fire issue calls are broke down as; 2 Carbon Monoxide calls – systems issues no CO, 1 brush fire, 1 MVA with injuries, 1 fuel spill, 1 recreational vehicle fire – minor damage being repaired, 1 illegal burn of orchard stumps – citation given by CCSO, 2 smoke thought to be an emergency calls, a rubbish fire where burning material was discarded, 2 alarm systems with false alarms, a Haz-Mat investigation at the Casino – no Haz-Mat – dry floor drains, and what was thought to be an illegal burn as turned out to be a legal fire. EMS responded to 46 calls for service; 14 out of District 5, 31 in District 5 – 8 calls with Fire personnel assisting and 1 for a stand-by till law enforcement could complete a welfare check.

Fire Call Processing was at 3:32, Arrival on scene at 12:47.

EMS Call Processing was at 1:39, Arrival on scene at 12:40.

Of the 46 calls in District 5, 33 calls were compliant to NFPA 1221, for call processing.

Personnel and Training

Training in July consisted of CAFS for wildland structure protection, medical OTEP, 24/7 Online modules for pitched roofs and customer relations, driving, an officer meeting and Scott SCBA orientation.

The other issue in training was have people finish wildland refresher modules. We had the Monday drill sessions in April & May, I made self-study YouTube lists for people that were not able to attend one or both sessions to catch up. We are lacking in getting those modules completed so we can issue wildland red cards.

Recruitment & Retention

We have completed paperwork packet for a new volunteer, Wayne Worzella, who is building a house here.

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We have a several inquiries about volunteering with the sign board in front of the station. More volunteers will come after summer season winds down.

Facilities and Equipment

We have received the long awaited air packs and compressor. The compressor received minor damage during shipment; the fill station received more substantial damage, all exterior and cosmetic. A factory rep will be doing the compressor and fill station setup, so they are sending replacement parts so the rep can replace damage while doing the installation.

We had Mobile Fleet come up and do the annual maintenance on the fleet. Even with as much information as we could send them about the trucks and filters we knew that would be needed, they came with many wrong filters. The crew is lesser experience than what I would have preferred. We will be cleaning oil spots for a while from the messes they made. I gave the service supervisor a list of things I would like different to use them next year.

We still have one issue to fix on E-52, the compressor for the CAFS doesn't always stay engaged. We changed one filter and found out there was a second filter. We cannot get the same oil that is in the compressor, I had Greens Petroleum research to find compatible oil and now have received it. Arranging getting the crew back up here with the 2nd filter to finish that job.

RiverCom

RiverCom is preparing to replace one of the mountaintop repeater buildings on Blag Mtn above Cashmere. The challenge is they have to put the new building exactly where the old building is. This will affect the simulcast repeaters like our on Butte very little. But for all fire, EMS and law in the Wenatchee River, this will be a substantial impact. RiverCom staff has a workaround planned by using a cargo trailer set up with radio racks for temp use. Alternative channels will be used during the cutover time.

Prevention

The Fire Advisory Board has recommended to the County Commissioners to move to an Extreme designation. This designation will close all burning including campfires. The County Commissioners met early in the week and we could not get a resolution prepared in time for action. Expecting this to be on the docket for Monday the 7th.

The challenge will be informing the public

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Assistant Chief's Report:

Assistant Chief McClellan worked a lot in command duty this month. Not a lot of time left for driving and training, and a lot of people are busy during the summer, hard to get time commitments. There was a good turnout for SCBA training.

Old Business:

Company Calendar

Chief Baker will be on vacation from this Thursday through Tuesday. Kermit, Adam, Nick and Beau will be covering Command.

Station 52 Generator

Chief Baker has put a call in to Pacific. He is hoping to get together when he gets back in town. Commissioner Harris motioned to move forward with the generator project and proceed as discussed on Saturday. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Project Manager (Brian Z from Pacific. should be on site a lot during the project. Agreement details will be worked out after Chief returns from vacation.

Surplus Compressor

A letter of request was received from the Sherriff's office to take the surplus compressor. (Attached). Commissioner Baker motioned to allow the Sherrif to take possession of old compressor at no cost, as soon as the new one is functional. Commissioner Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Manson Chamber Waiver Request: Was discussed right after voucher approval. This Code adopted 7/1/16. The District is not in a position to change the law or allow the lanterns. It's law. Bob suggested the Manson Chamber approach the State Fire Marshal and ask for waiver for the block of time. The County is only allowed to make changes to make a law stronger, not weaker. Lanterns could negate the Chelan Chambers insurance. Check with insurance co, and get it in writing. But talking to the State would be the first step.

Chief Baker explained his idea for an alternative attraction - make a water curtain for a laser show. Something like this would still bring people out to Manson for Winterfest.

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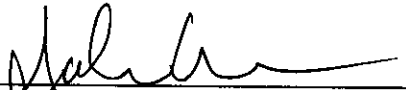
The Fire designation is now "Extreme". But roads are a "high" designation. Extreme bans all open burning. No campfires, even in pit. Until end of Sept unless it rains commissioners lower it.

Public Comment:

Some people in the public have expressed concern that when calling 911 to report the recent fire they could not get through. Chief Baker had just attended a RiverCom meeting earlier today. There are only 6 phones at RiverCom, and when a lot of people call on the same event, the phones just jammed up. It's not typical.

Adjournment: Having no additional business before the board the meeting adjourned at 5:38.m.

Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:




John Spencer, Chairman



Dan Baker, Commissioner



Brian Harris, Commissioner



Attest: Patty McClellan
District Secretary