

Chelan County Fire District No. 5
250 West Manson Blvd.
Manson, WA 98831
June 14, 2022
Regular Meeting of Commissioners

Commissioners Present: Fred Weiss, Dan Baker, and Dana Starkweather.

Others Present: Chief Arnold Baker, District Secretary Reggie Trusel, Firefighter Association President Chris Willoughby and Assistant Chief Kermit McClellan.

Call to Order: Commissioner Chairman Starkweather called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. The Flag salute commenced.

Pension Board: Opened: 4:30 pm. Pension Board Closed 4:31 pm.

Public Comment: Chris Willoughby shared a few of his favorite firefighter pictures with the Board. WFCFA is having a “Photo Contest” and the top 12 submissions will make it into their first Fire Service Calendar.

Minutes: Chairman Starkweather presented the Regular meeting Minutes from May 10th. Commissioner Weiss Motioned to approve Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Baker, seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Chief Baker commented there is no real influx in tax revenue currently showing. Revenue will pick back up when the second half of taxes are due in October.

Approval of Invoices: Commissioner Baker, Motioned to affirm June Voucher FD51 in the amount of \$32,619.22, Commissioner, Weiss seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

- **HazMat Certification Compensation:** Volunteers Aaron Richmond and Dan Weakly. Commissioner Starkweather acknowledged Aaron Richmond for completing the HazMat (Ops and Awareness). On behalf of the Board, he congratulated him for his accomplishment. Volunteer Dan Weakly was also acknowledged for his certification accomplishment, he was unable to attend the meeting.
- **Investment Account:**
Commissioner Weiss created a list of investment account “expense-projections” and passed around to the Board and Chief Baker. Commissioner Weiss discussed each projected expense and asked the Chief how the department has prepared for these goals, inquiring what level our investment account should be at. Chief Baker confirmed the departments plan was to keep 25% of our investment in reserve, explaining this was an established policy (voted resolution) from eight or nine years ago.

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Chief Baker displayed the excel model: “Summary of Revenues, Expenses, and fund Balance” for the Commissioners to review. He went through the current year to the next 10-12 years ahead. The Chief broke down each expense earmarked and how that looks with the upcoming 2024-Levy and grants we have applied for. Expenses encompass; Station 52 living quarters-building addition, new station bays, and future live fire training facility. Discussion from the Board emphasized the need to keep the designated funds for aerial resources, wildland fire potential.

Chief Baker described how important it is to have (CAFS) Compress Air Foam System apparatus in our fleet. He shared with the Board a power point that will be a part of this week’s drill training. The Chief explained how using (Foam) for wildland and structure fires, can extinguished much more rapidly compared to using only water.

Chairman Starkweather asked how we are doing with inflation / fuel prices. Chief Baker expressed there have been no significant impacts as of yet. He advised the department has been more effected by supply chain delays with regard to tool orders. Assistant Chief McClellan stressed the need to expand the quality of our “extrication tools.” Investing in battery operated, cutter and spreader. He confirmed the need to have light weight tools that work more efficiently. Chief Baker agreed and said he will put together a proposal for upgrading those specific tools.

Old Business:

- **Company Calendar:**

Chief Baker briefed the Board on the scheduled meetings for month of June.

RiverCom Meeting 6/13/22: Staffing Needs

Chelan Wildfire Ready 6/29/22: Chief Baker explained how Wayne Worzella is making real progress in working the outer areas of Manson. The data he is collecting will be greatly beneficial to mapping the key risk areas. The mobile mapping system shows GPS locations, Egress information available to all fire responders.

Chairman Starkweather asked about someone from our Board attending future Manson-Chamber of Commerce meetings. Chief Baker thought it was a good idea to stay connected, as we are still waiting to hear back from local commercial businesses regarding their Pre-Fire plans.

- **Station 52 Irrigation:**

Chief Baker updated the Commissioners on how the sprinkler project is progressing. Dan Baker, Dan Weakly and Chief Baker glued the lines a few weeks ago, now ready to call another work party together to finish.

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- **Pre-Fire Plans:** Chief Baker informed the Commissioners, RiverCom will be adding geographic information system (GIS) into their computer systems. He explained how this will help responders find locations more efficiently. The Chief advised the department purchasing approximately three iPads for our responders.

- **Policy Updates:** None

- **Assistant Chief/Training Officer Position:**
Chief Baker updated the Board on the two letters of interest the department has received from our volunteer core. Chief Baker suggested focusing on just the Training Officer position. The Board Chairman suggested giving an extension of two more weeks to collect further submissions, giving a deadline of June 28th. Discussion was made among the Board to hold a special meeting after collecting final letters if needed.
Commissioner Baker reiterated connecting with the local Training Council. He noted how they could help with our needs until we can fill the position. Chief Baker was opposed as this has not been effective in the past. Chairman Starkweather agreed with Commissioner Baker to inquire and see what they might be able to offer. The Board agreed finding the right fit for this position will be a process. After receiving the letters of intent, they will establish their next steps in collecting; resumes, certification information, then moving on to the one-on-one interviews.

EMS Report: None

Assistant Chief's Report: Kermit McClellan

Assistant Chief McClellan informed the Board he will be unavailable for one-two weeks. He will be taking some time off for personal reasons. He reported the latest training drills have received positive responses from the volunteers.

Chiefs Report:

***Additional Discussion for Chiefs Report**

Incidents: Per Chief Baker, EMS calls are ramping up. As the number of people visiting in town, the call numbers typically pick up.

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Personnel and Training:

Chief Baker informed the Board attendance has been great for drills. The Chief noted how well the Wildland training operation went on 5/24/22 up in Chelan Trails. The agencies participating; Washington DNR, Chelan-District 7 and Entiat-District 8. He felt the training went “pretty well” and everyone seemed committed and enjoyed the process. The Chief commended Wayne Worzella for doing a good job getting the word out to surrounding neighborhood, nice to train and work a non-emergency event.

Chief Baker mentioned how the Forest Service and DNR are finding it challenging to find recruits to work this fire season. He mentioned the State MOBE is still enforcing the Covid-19 vaccine mandate.

Recruitment & Retention: One of our volunteers, Cody Amsden has recently graduated college and planning to return back to the Manson area. Chief Baker is looking forward to his participation. Also, the department will be posting on the Website: Bilingual recruiters needed.

Facilities and Equipment: Brush 51, is awaiting an ABS brake part. Chief Baker informed he will be bringing Tower-51 to Yakima for servicing within the next week. The UL inspection advised a couple of repairs needing attention.

Chief Baker gave an update on current Grants the department is waiting to hear back from. He indicated some rejection letters have been received by nearby agencies, he informed, we have not received anything as of yet. The new grant he is currently working on would be used for the new Live Fire Training Facility. Commissioner Baker asked how the facility layout would look (burn box/containers). How many containers would be used and which size (20’- 40’) would be stacked or used separately. Chief Baker shared his ideas and reiterated adding a full exterior staircase for extra training. Assistant Chief McClellan suggested building props that could be changed out and also using partitions inside the containers. Chief Baker summarized, we have a lot of space to accommodate spreading out containers, and able to anchor each appropriately. Chief Baker suggested he would draft up the ideas discussed, displaying layout possibilities.

Prevention: None

Public Comment: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Starkweather closed the meeting with no additional business before the Commissioners; the meeting adjourned 6:18 pm.

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Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:

Commissioner Chairman Dana Starkweather

Commissioner Fred Weiss

Commissioner Dan Baker

**Attest: Regenia Trusel
District Secretary**



Manson Fire Department

Chelan County Fire District 5

P.O. Box D Manson WA 98831-0438

mansonfire.org

Chiefs Report

June 14, 2022

Incidents

46 Calls for service in the month of May; 34 within Fire District 5 and 12 out of District. Fire responded to 21 calls within District 5.

In District 5; 2 Vehicle Fire, 2 CO Alarm activation, 1 Pull station alarm activation-unintentional, 2 Good intent calls, 2 Illegal burning, 1 Smoke detector activation-unintentional, 1 Unintentional alarm, 1 Dispatched and cancelled and 9 Assist EMS.

Out of District 5; 1 Dispatched & cancelled call and 1 Assist EMS (Antilon).

EMS responded to 22 medical calls in District 5. 11 Calls EMS handled without Fire, 9 with assistance of Fire, 1 Unintentional medical alarm, and 1 Dispatched & cancelled.

Out of District 5; 7 EMS Calls, and 5 Dispatched & cancelled calls.

May Call Times;

Fire Call Processing was at 1:57, Arrival on scene at 8:52.

EMS Call Processing was at 1:24, Arrival on scene at 8:18.

Of the 34 dispatches in District 5, 28 calls were compliant to NFPA 1221, for call processing for 82.4%.

Of the 31 responses in District 5, 30 calls were compliant to Fire District 5 benchmark of 12:00 minutes for 96.8%.

Personnel and Training

Training in May consisted of;

5/2 Officer meeting, review & plan May & June training, command duty, equipment – 5 officers attended

5/3 Classroom discussion for large wildland incidents – 14 attended

5/10 Electric & Hybrid Vehicle class – 12 attended

5/16 OTEP (Hyperthermia & Anaphylaxis module) – 8 EMTs attended

5/17 Ground Ladders, short classroom and remainder hands on with ladders

5/24 Wildland Multi-company Operations with Chelan, Entiat & WA DNR – 17 Manson attended

5/31 (Awards & Assoc meeting) Drill, SCBA Proficiency & CPR skills – 16 attended

Recruitment & Retention

Cody Amsden graduated WSU and is now working for Douglas PUD, looking for a place to rent in Manson so he can continue with the Fire District. 2 summers with US Forest hand crew is great experience.

Facilities and Equipment

Chelan County CIPF Grant – Building the framework of the proposal now. It will go together quickly now.

DNR Equipment Grant – The WA DNR 1168 grant, no word yet. A friend in another department received a turn down letter a couple weeks back.

S-52 Irrigation – The pipe is all laid out and ready to plow in. Will have a work party Thursday the 16th or Friday the 17th to get it installed.

RiverCom

The 2nd RFQ closed on June 3rd, no submissions again. Staff is communicating out to local companies to verify interest. We believe we have a solution (Plan C) and should get the site assessment going very soon.

RiverCom is doing an extensive upgrade to their GIS system. The benefit of that system is a place to hold our pre-fire plan data. The really nice thing about RiverCom GIS being the collector of the data is that it will port out to iSpyFire, already in every responder's phone.

Prevention

No new information came in on the DNR's Wildfire Read Neighbors program.

Will send new requests to businesses for pre-fire information.