

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

**Commissioners Present:** John Spencer, Dan Baker and Dana Starkweather

**Others Present:** Chief Arnold Baker, Kermit McClellan, Jeff Stoelk.

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

**Pension Board:** Pension Board opened at 4:32. No business to conduct. Pension Board Closed at 4:33.

**Public Comment:** None

**Minutes:** The Meeting Minutes for the Regular meeting on October 8th were presented. Commissioner Baker motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Commissioner Starkweather seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Presented and reviewed.

**Approval of Invoices:** Commissioner Spencer motioned to affirm the Voucher FD51 in the amount of \$12,368.61, Commissioner Starkweather seconded; passed unanimously.

**New Business:**

Commissioner Spencer asked to move up the Executive Session in the meeting's agenda.

**Executive Session:** (g) to review the performance of a public employee

It was agreed that Commissioner's Baker, Starkweather and Spencer would convene to the main office for an estimated time of 30 minutes. Chief Baker was called into the session at 5:04 pm, an additional 15 minutes was requested. The Executive Session was finished at 5:17 pm.

**New Business Resumed:**

Commissioners Baker, Spencer and Starkweather approved unanimously a 3% pay increase starting 2020 for Chief Baker.

**2020 Balanced Budget** of \$794,177.00 was presented. Commissioner Spencer made a motion to approve, Commissioner Baker seconded, Budget was approved unanimously

**Budget Approval-Levy Certificate:** Resolution for County Taxing Ordinance-2020  
Commissioner Spencer made a motion to approve the Ordinance / Resolution No. 2019-07 and Commissioner Baker seconded the motion. Commissioner Spencer made a motion to also approve the Budget and Levy Certification for \$684,494.71 with refund amount of \$505.29, Commissioner Starkweather seconded, and Motion was passed unanimously.

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

**Fire Station 51-EMS Vehicle A-3151:** Discussion was made; the best plan moving forward would be to repair vehicle “safety lighting and electrical issues”. Commissioner Spencer made the suggestion to set a budget of not more than \$14,500.00 to make the necessary repairs. Repairs would be done by Cascade Fire and Safety. Commissioner Starkweather made the motion to approve the repairs with specified budget and Commissioner Spencer seconded; Motion and was passed unanimously.

**Commissioners Meeting (date change) Request:** Commissioner Starkweather asked to move January's meeting from the 14<sup>th</sup> up to the January 10<sup>th</sup>, commissioners Baker and Spencer were in agreement.

**Old Business:**

- Company Calendar Update-None
- ZBA Architecture:  
Commissioner Baker and Chief Baker came up with a few additional items to add to the “plans” for Fire Station 52 new addition project. They will be finalizing permitting with Randy Vanhoff of ZBA. Everyone was in agreement to start obtaining bids with local contractors starting in January 2020.
- Electric Sign Update – None
- Pre Fire Plans- Plan Update in Chiefs Report
- Engine-53 Status:  
Discussion was made on how Engine-53 is needing a major transmission repair. Previous quotes found to be very costly and being the engine is over 48 years old, suggestions were made to possibly donate to the Firefighters Association for events. Fire Station 52, Engine-54 would be moved to Station 51 as a replacement. It was agreed by Chief and Commissioners, to set a plan for January`2020 to diligently start researching the markets for a replacement engine.

**EMS Report:** Ray Eickmeyer (Director of EMS and Paratransit, Safety & Preparedness)

Ray Eickmeyer gave his report over speaker phone. This past year, Lake Chelan Community Hospital-“Community Paramedicine Program” saw approximately 200 patients, unclear to how many are from Manson versus Chelan. For current year, 60 calls behind for 911 calls. Patient transfers are up higher, showing an 18% increase. “Acute” sick patients seemed extremely high so far this year, which is very concerning to EMS staff. Mr. Eickmeyer would like to work on how to avoid this in the future by way of prevention.

Several hours have been spent working with the Architect on new hospital plans. “A lot” of laws to consider when planning the layout of each department room (s). Director Eickmeyer explained

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

there are many hours of work involved in finalizing plans. Gave example, there are “21 laws” just for a Decon room.

Nothing approved for their levy as of yet. He is looking forward to the new CEO, George Rohrich starting on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

Respirator Fit Tester: N95 and SCBA masks are required to have annual testing to make sure there is a good fit. Current machine was purchased over 20 yrs. ago and cannot be calibrated. The hospital is in need of finding a replacement soon. New machine costs are running around \$17,000 and would be able to receive a \$1,000 credit for trade in. Per past conversation with Chief Baker, he mentioned the possibility of Chelan County District 5 being able to contribute \$5000 toward that cost. An agreement for co-ownership would need to be made. Hospital is currently on hold for the other \$12,000. Another decision after the new CEO is on board.

EMS Scheduling has been a big problem lately; he expressed his appreciation to the Manson Fire District 51 & 52 in stepping up to help fill extra shifts.

EMS Engine-3151: Mr. Eickmeyer suggested relocating to a different location once repaired, perhaps using for “remote rescue”.

Mr. Eickmeyer closed with his appreciation to Chief Baker and local community support.

**Training Officer Report:** Karen Sargeant - None

**Assistant Chief's Report:** Kermit McClellan

Kermit reported, he has been receiving a lot of driving time from firefighters. Aaron Richmond has moved to driving the Tender from Station 52. With few others having outside commitments, Kermit might decide to hold off more training until after winter weather. He suggested working on a better plan to help track and log training hours as well. Commissioner Spencer asked how our department is standing on overall drivers. Kermit explained we are at around 40%-50%. Discussion was made of the local fire on Boetzkes Avenue, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Kermit was one of the first responders and acknowledged how helpful it was to have Fire District 7 on hand, especially after fire-rekindled hours later.

**Chiefs Report:**

**Incidents**

30 Calls for service in the month of October; 27 within Fire District 5 and 3 out of the District. Fire responded to 7 calls within District 5.

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

In District 5; 1 Authorized burning, 1 CO detector malfunction, 5 calls to Assist EMS crew.

EMS responded to 25 medical calls in District 5. 20 Calls EMS handled without Fire, 5 with assistance of Fire.

Out of District; 1 Medical call, and 2 Dispatch & cancelled enroute.

October Call Times;

Fire Call Processing was at 1:13, Arrival on scene at 10:25.

EMS Call Processing was at 1:53, Arrival on scene at 11:35.

Of the 27 dispatches in District 5, 20 calls were compliant to NFPA 1221, for call processing for 74.1%.

Of the 27 responses in District 5, 23 calls were compliant to Fire District 5 benchmark of 12:00 minutes for 85.2%

### **Personnel and Training**

Training in October consisted of; Rapid Intervention Team, Pump Operator, Fire Behavior, Transitional Attack and Live Fire Training on a donated house on Klate Rd. Medical OTEP (Infectious Disease module), Truck checks, 24/7 Online (Hazardous Materials module) and Hazmat Awareness for First Responders, and an Officer meeting.

District 5 has been invited to District 7 for a live fire event on November 16<sup>th</sup>. Opened the invitation to all our personnel to attend.

I attended the Regional Training Council meeting in Leavenworth on Nov 14<sup>th</sup>. My purpose was to solidify hosting a regional sponsored Haz-Mat Operations class in January. We have 7 personnel that can benefit from this class to work towards firefighter certification.

### **Recruitment & Retention**

Working through some issues and residency for a former volunteer to return to Manson. Difficulty finding a rental.

### **Facilities and Equipment**

Apparatus Maintenance – Spoke with an individual that has formed a new company doing apparatus maintenance. The individual has 30 years' experience working for General Fire in Spokane. He has all the certifications that are beneficial to us. A mobile fleet service truck. I told him that I am very very interested. I needed to know what kind of schedule he is creating to work in our area, so we wouldn't be paying for excessive travel to and from Spokane. So we are close to a good maintenance plan. Cost being the decision point.

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

I have referenced last summer in the Commissioners Workshop that E-53 is tired. It has served Manson well for 48 years. In Commissioner notebooks are a couple options, and dozens more out there to be found if needed, replacement options with an aerial stream apparatus. In discussion with the officers we have refined the replacement that it should be a single operator truck. Ladder trucks are 2 operator trucks. Stepping that back to an aerial stream makes it a single operator apparatus. It is fully an engine just like the one being replaced. The only addition is the skill to set outriggers and raise the aerial stream. Going to a ladder apparatus would be a large step and require much more training. This option provides a baby step in training. Prioritizing apparatus that we can afford and then taking a team to go look at the truck till one is found that meets our need.

**RiverCom**

A very good meeting at RiverCom this month. The staffing shortage has been an ongoing problem. The Board authorized the Director to over hire to ahead of the curve. They are in a recruit class now and there are 3 positions; 1 current and 2 resignations Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. They will process 5 in the next recruit class on hopes to have all positions filled.

We have had a lot of problem with the North repeater on Chelan Butte with interference making the channel unusable. Well we learned that we are not the only ones with interference issues. AT&T, Verizon, PUD and DOT have all experienced interference issues. All the parties met on Nov 14<sup>th</sup> to resolve, later that day the channel was back online. Time will see if it stays reliable.

RiverCom adopted a budget, and within the budget was a reduction in agency assessments. In the July 2017 to June 2018 timeframe District 5 had 188 calls assessed at \$46.13 for \$8672.32 for the 2019 year. In the July 2018 to June 2019 timeframe District 5 had 146 calls assessed at \$43.68 for \$6376.92 for our 2020 budget year.

**Prevention**

In the week of October 21<sup>st</sup> thru 25<sup>th</sup> was WA Fire Marshal's Association Fire Prevention Institute held at Campbell's in Chelan. I attended as much of the week long training as I could. Again a very good conference.

Beginning on Jan 20<sup>th</sup>, Martin Luther King Day, thru Jan 26<sup>th</sup> is Community Risk Reduction Week. CRR Week is focused at the line firefighters that think fire suppression is their only job. Changing the thinking of the fire service is a huge task to get the nation's 1 million firefighters to recognize Community Risk Reduction is a higher priority. Getting ahead of the call far outweighs the injuries and losses due to fire and preventable incidents. I am working with a national team to promote CRR Week.

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

Early this year I bought a set of SmartBurners, they are replacements for stovetop elements with temperature limiting devices. A standard stovetop coil reaches about 1700 degrees. These SmartBurners have more area of contact with the pan and only reach 662 degrees. Cooking fires is one of the leading causes of home fires. With a SmartBurner it doesn't get hot enough to ignite oil or paper products that accidentally come in contact with the burner. Aluminum pans are common, not hot enough to melt the pan if it boils dry.

List price for a set of burners is \$199. The west coast marketing agent for the product doesn't have a sales distributor in our area. Now I am a distributor, we can buy these for \$140 a set. If we buy a pallet (96 sets of SmartBurners) free shipping. That's roughly \$14,000 per pallet. I spoke with Chief Donnell in Chelan about jointly doing this project, he's all in.

My first plan is to solicit partners from the public to get some funding to get the project off the ground. Ideally but 2 pallets, one for Chelan and one for Manson. Going to have to settle for whatever funding we would be given. Secondly we can use some of our untapped prevention line item to fill in if needed. Thirdly then apply for FEMA Prevention Grant to take it to the next level. (That option will be many months out)

I would like to target low income multi-family units as the highest risk. Secondly offer them to the public with the request of make a donation if you can afford to do so. Help perpetuate the program as much as possible. Installation will be paired with education. Residents need to be educated on the changes they can expect with these new cooktop devices. I would like to use my radio studio time to talk this up and see if some partners step forward.

**Budget Projects for 2020:** Chief Baker went over projections for the year ahead, Commissioners approved budget for 2020. January workshop will have more discussions regarding the purchase of a used aerial apparatus.

**Additional Discussion @ Chiefs Report:**

\* Chief Baker suggested ordering the "Simulaid Rescue Manikin", extremely beneficial to fire rescue training. Commissioner Spencer made a motion to approve the purchase of \$1,285.00, and Commissioner Starkweather seconded, Motion approved unanimously.

\* SmartBurner: Chief Baker displayed a burner-sample for the commissioners to view. He reiterated how he would like to find a community partner to help fund the purchase(s). Chief Baker understands the safety need in offering "SmartBurner" to, at risk multifamily dwellings, retirement communities and others. Commissioner Starkweather offered to bring a sample to a board member he is acquainted with at "Heritage Heights". Chief Baker's real goal for this project is to work with Chelan Fire District 7, helping to provide a safer cooking alternative to both communities of Manson and Chelan. Along with

**Chelan County Fire District No. 5**  
**250 West Manson Blvd.**  
**Manson, WA 98831**  
**November 18th, 2019**  
**Regular Meeting of Commissioners**

SmartBurner, there are several other kitchen devices to prevent the danger of fires from happening. Commissioner Baker asked if our volunteer firefighters would be a part of the installation / education process. Suggestions were made to work on setting up a program of few firefighter volunteers as well as outside community help in carrying out this service.

\* Pre Fire Planning: while attending the Regional Training Council meeting in Leavenworth Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>, discussion was made regarding the majority of calls for Fire District 3 are wildfire versus structural fires. Chief Baker suggested utilizing Hillary Heard assistance, who is ahead of the Community Wildlife program for Chelan County Fire District 1, with the GIS mapping program. Ideas will be brought forward to the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** Commissioner Spencer closed meeting, no additional business before the Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 6:24 pm.

**Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**John Spencer, Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dan Baker, Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dana Starkweather, Commissioner**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Attest: Regenia Trusel**  
**District Secretary**