

Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 5
250 West Manson Blvd.
Manson, WA 98831
Workshop Meeting of Commissioners
Wednesday, January 18 @ 6:00 pm

Commissioners Present: Fred Weiss and Dan Baker.

Others Present: Chief Arnold Baker, District Secretary Reggie Trusel, Assistant Chief Kermit McClellan, Captain's: Nick Glenn, and Adam Rasmussen, Lieutenant's: Beau Alanis and Raynor Baker.

Call to Order: Vice Chair Weiss called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m. The Flag salute commenced.

Station 52 Training Center:

Chief Baker displayed his layout of Station 52 plans for a live fire Training Center (TC). He explained how the department received \$100,000.00 (CPIF) Cascade Public Infrastructure Fund-Grant, and our match will be \$101,454 (Project budget \$201,000). The Chief briefed the members on how the training center will work using the steel container boxes. Some container-boxes will be stacked. Each floor/layer will be used for diverse types of fire structure training. Two boxes will be used for "live fire" training and others will be used for firefighter rescue, hose handling, ropes, staircase drills. We currently have five containers; Chief Baker would like to incorporate 4 more to his plan.

The Chief advised if we had the TC in 2022, 19 of those practical drills would have been completed at our facility. He also pointed out how the firefighters will be able to do more extensive training using the aerial ladder (TW-51) as well. He concluded how Chief Deputy State Fire Marshal Howard Scartozzi recently consulted with him on the process of container modification. Single and stacked boxes with open deck balconies will give a multitude of training options for firefighter's - interior and exterior.

Vice Chairman Weiss asked the Officers if they had any questions or concerns.

Assistant Chief McClellan stressed his concern, if the TC would add another level of employment to the department. Would there be compensation paid to someone who would be overseeing the facility and doing TC maintenance? He also expressed the need to have a Training Center "Safety-Policy" in place for liability concerns.

Captain Glenn asked about permits needed, bordering neighbors, future live-fire house burns, using TC during Dept. of Ecology burn ban periods, required certifications to oversee training at the Training Center and more training for the use of our current (LPG) Liquid Petroleum Gas tank for igniting live fires.

Captain Rasmussen had a couple of concerns regarding weight stability for the containers/boxes. The peer blocks would have to be quite substantial in his opinion to stabilize once container/boxes are stacked and cost might be more than the Chief is projecting. He also had liability concerns, advised to have all agreements in writing and suggested also having a backup plan as things progress with project.

Lt. Alanis had the same questions as the other officers.

Lt. Baker interjected his thoughts as the Training Coordinator, sharing different scenarios as to how the TC will be utilized for the different fire structure drills.

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Commissioner Baker also made valid points pertaining to the foundation planning and will be consulting with Engineer with his questions. He also suggested capping the project.

Chief Baker reiterated the department must be compliant with the (NFPA) National Fire Protection Association 1403 guidelines; supervisors will need Instructor 2 certification and informed the members Lt. Baker will be trying for his Instructor 2 certification in February-March. The only stipulations for permits; are Engineer drawings with stamp approval and obtaining a foundation permit through Chelan County. The discussion wrapped up with Chief Baker responding to the Officers questions and advised we have an Engineer on standby and meeting with him as soon as next week. The Chief displayed the tentative TC budget going down the list of perspective expenses. He asked the members, if they were all in agreement to move forward with plans, realizing some budget items will need to be modified as the projects evolves. He determined the department will build as much with the current \$201,454 budget, “planning the best we can.” He recommended “we could always build more down the road” if need. Consensus from the present members is to proceed with building plans.

Adjournment: Commissioner Weiss closed meeting with no additional business before the Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.

Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:

Commissioner Chairman Dana Starkweather

Commissioner Fred Weiss

Commissioner Dan Baker

Attest: Regenia Trusel
District Secretary