Chelan County Fire District No. 5
250 West Manson Blvd.
Manson, WA 98831
April 9, 2025
Regular Meeting of Commissioners

Commissioners Present: Fred Weiss, Chris Willoughby, and Dan Baker.

Call to Order: Chairman Willoughby called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. The Flag solute commenced.

Others Present: Chief Arnold Baker, District Secretary Reggie Trusel, Lieutenant-Training Officer Raynor Baker, Volunteer Firefighters; Dan Weakly, Doug Pinski, and Ronan Walsh, Sr. Firefighter Kermit McClellan, and Lake Chelan Health EMS Director; Ray Eickmeyer.

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

Public Comment: Doug Pinski advised the Board and Chief Baker, Brooks Pinski will be available to apply for the Seasonal Summer program.

Minutes: The Regular Meeting Minutes for March 12th were presented; Commissioner Baker, Motioned to approve the Regular Meeting from March 12th as amended, Commissioner Weiss seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report: Chief Baker explained to the Board there is no need to make any transfers this month.

Approval of Invoices: Commissioner Weiss, Motioned to affirm; April Voucher FD51 for $40,887.83, FD52 for $1,145.78 and FD53 in the amount of $1,272.08. Commissioner Baker seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

The Board discussed a few of the individual vouchers. Chief Baker noted that the VFIS Life Insurance policy rates increased this year. He explained we are exploring a new *cancer* policy, currently waiting for a quote from another company also comparing other insurance rates.

New Business:

- Community Communications
  Commissioner Weiss suggested putting out another department newsletter. The Board discussed preparing to mail by the end of May first of June. The Board discussed some great topics to share with the community; 75th Anniversary, new Deputy Chief position.

  Commissioner Weiss advised the Manson Chamber is holding a town hall first part of June. Cascadia Conservation District and Chelan County Fire Marshall will be participating. He suggested the department Board attend the town hall.

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- ST52 Training Center-General Contractor

    - Chief Baker advised the Board; the General Contractor *legal advertisement* has been edited by attorney Brian Snure and ready for submission. Commissioner Baker, Motioned to proceed with Wenatchee World - advertisement for General Contractor, Commissioner Weiss seconded, Motion passed unanimously.

      The Chief stressed the challenge ahead with the budget; cost add-ons for new engine on order, expected Training Center expense regarding soil clean up and adding new employment position.
      He had a meeting with Mary Monnahan, Dept. of Ecology today and informed the Board they will not be able to help with contaminated soil clean-up at this time. The project will need to get started without their help.

      He reported the estimated expense for the new engine was around $925,000, now it looks like it will be around $995,000. He displayed the budget to better explain. The Chief explained the advantage in financing new engine with a Bond from WA State Treasurer's Office (LOCAL). A five-year term loan at 2.92 % interest.
      Commissioner Weiss asked if we did not do financing-what are our other options. The Chief stipulated we are in a signed agreement to purchase the engine. He reiterated the advantage of financing and explained the department used the same program back in 1995 when purchasing E-51. The first payment would be around $216,681.00 and expected interest would be around $88,800 for the life of the loan. He pointed out, keeping cash available is a safer plan moving forward.
      Ronan Walsh noted the advantage in earning interest dollars on funds in our current investment account. Suggested other avenues in earning high yield interest.

      Commissioner Baker asked about the status of the Training Center budgeted dollars. The Chief displayed the budget, and the Board discussed the projected cost breakdown.
      Commissioner Baker also asked about the Community Project Funding through the House Appropriations. Chief Baker reported Congresswomen Kim Schrier's office announced; funding is available to those who did not receive funding for FY25 projects. He indicated he has been working on the application all week and will make the April 21st deadline.

- Chelan Fire & Rescue-Boat-District 7:

    - The Board discussed objectives in using the Chelan Fire & Rescue boat this summer season. The Chief stipulated our department will be operating the boat and our volunteer responders and will need to go through the training needed for operations, maintenance, and safety procedures.
      The training will be implemented by retired 35-year US Coast Guard veteran, Tim Sullivan.
      Sr. FF Kermit McClellan stressed the need to have a "clear and concise" agreement between the two agencies.
      TO Raynor Baker advised he is in contact with CFR-Asst. Chief Shaun Sherman on how the training might look.
      Commission Weiss suggested organizing a meeting with Chelan Fire & Rescue to establish how our two agencies can work this marine program.
      Chief Baker reiterated, with Tim coming from the Coast Guard, his training will have "higher standards" and the "sign off process will be more extensive."

- WFCA-2025 Conference:
  Date: October 22nd - 25th. The conference location will be at the Tulalip Resort Casino, next year back at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane.
  Commissioners discussed attending.

Old Business:

- **Station 52: Training Center**
  Chief Baker reiterated the goal to start with Phase 1. Establish a general contractor and start with soil work and container-reconstruction.

- **ST51- Fencing:**
  Chief Baker updated the Board, L&M Fencing picked up the contract to review/sign and advised they would be ready to start within the next couple of weeks. They have 30 days to complete the fencing project.

- **Deputy Chief Position:**
  Commissioner Willoughby discussed the two options presented by GMP Consultants. Recruitment Option 1: $14,500 / 6-month guarantee and Option 2: $18,500.00 / 18-month guarantee. Some additional expenses will be applied for

advertising, mailing, travel/hotel.
Commissioner Willoughby explained, two consultants will be meeting with the Commissioners to go over the first steps of the process, setting up the hiring packets and advertising plan. It should take only 90 days to lock in the new position. Commissioner Weiss added when the consultants are here, it would be nice to have them talk to our Volunteers and Officers.
Chief Baker suggested moving quickly filling the new position as the summer seasonal crew will need to be trained.
Commissioner Weiss Motioned to move forward with GMP Consultants (Option 2), Commissioner Baker seconded, Motion passed unanimously.

- Commissioner Five Member Board:
  Commissioner Baker, Motioned to proceed with increasing from a three-member Board to five members, for the August 2025 Primary Election ballot, Commissioner Weiss seconded, Motion passed unanimously. May 2nd is the last day to file resolution for the Primary Election. Chief Baker informed the Board he will work on the resolution for filing.

Company Calendar: Chief Baker reviewed with the Board the scheduled meetings for the upcoming month. Commissioner Baker suggested the Board participate in the upcoming Snure seminars- April 25th and May 9th 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

EMS Report: Lake Chelan Health EMS Director Ray Eickmeyer gave the Board the latest updates for the Chelan EMS Department.

- Former Washington State Secretary of Health Mary Selecky has recently passed away. Mary Selecky was the longest residing secretary, serving 14 years. She led campaigns to reduce cigarette smoking and increase rates of childhood vaccination.
- A1C Testing- 30 Manson School students were tested.
- EMS will be participating in the Earth Day event at River Walk Park.
- Ambulance numbers have all changed #151-#156.
- This year is EMS 50th Anniversary.
- Ambulance 157 will now be stationed in Stehekin at the end of April.
- EMS will be hiring four more paramedics.

- Their EMS Station plans are being finalized this month and should have a permit within six weeks. The Contractor is organizing construction crew and hopes to be breaking ground same time for the 50th Celebration.
- They received more AEDs from the Grants received.
- The International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) works with the World Health Organization (WHO) to improve global resuscitation practices. Helping countries like Cambodia-who had less than 1% resuscitations rate. Their work is influencing the world.
- Scheduling an interview with Andy Precht along with other early EMS founders.

Training Officer Report: Raynor Baker

Informed the Board of his recent visit to the North Bend Fire Training Academy this past month. March was a busy month for training and reported some highlights on how the two training burns went for our volunteers. Chief Baker emphasized how well organized the house burn was for everyone involved. Ronan Walsh reiterated how the volunteers felt safe, and the objectives were well planned. He noted it was a positive experience and felt the officers did an excellent job. TO Baker agreed how the team leaders kept track of their groups and kept up the pace with quick turnaround teams.

In closing TO Baker advised the Board, the department has a few new recruit volunteers. Just finishing the EMS course; Sondra Hazim, Janelle Pinski, Tia Belisle and Joe Mogan. Also joining is Junior Firefighter Austin Pratt.

Chiefs Report:

***Additional Discussion for Chiefs Report**

- Incidents
- Personnel and Training

  Chief Baker informed the Board it has been several years the Boot Reimbursement amount has been set at $350.00 – every three years.

  He concluded Wildland boots are getting to be more expensive and suggest raising the amount.

  Commissioner Baker, Motioned to raise the Wildland Boot reimbursement amount to $500.00 for every five years, and recognize those who have replacements coming up in 2025 & 2026 those reimbursements will be honored in this transition to the new five-year plan, Commissioner Willougby seconded, Motion passed unanimously.

- Recruitment & Retention

- Facilities and Equipment
  Chief Baker stressed the need to wrap up invoicing with The DOH Architecture, so we can submit our final amount for reimbursement with the Department of Commerce. We have collected $173,770.00 so far.
- Prevention
- RiverCom –The Chief explained RiverCom is still dealing with dwindling numbers of dispatchers.

Public Comment: Ronan Walsh asked if there was going to be a formal announcement about Dashiell Hei becoming new Officer Lieutenant. The Chief noted, Lt. Hei was acknowledged at an Officer Meeting and given new officer helmet in January.

Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) to review the performance of a public employee.
Board Chairman Willoughby acknowledge there would be no need for an Executive Session.

Adjournment: Commissioner Willoughby closed the meeting with no additional business before the Commissioners; the meeting adjourned 6:17 pm.

Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:

_____
Commissioner Fred Weiss

_____
Commissioner Chris Willoughby

_____ _____
Commissioner Dan Baker **Attest: Reggie Trusel**
District Secretary

Manson Fire Department

Chelan County Fire District 5
P.O. Box D Manson WA 98831-0438
mansonfire.org

Chiefs Report **April 9, 2025**

Incidents

27 Calls for service in the month of March; 21 within Fire District 5 and 6 out of District. Fire responded to 5 calls within District 5.
In District 5; 1 Grass fire, 1 MVA with injuries and 3 Assist EMS calls.
Out of District 5 for Fire; 2 Dispatched & cancelled enroute.
EMS responded to 16 calls in District 5. 12 EMS Calls handled without Fire, 1 MVA with injuries, 1 EMS Other, and 3 with assistance of Fire.
Out of District 5 for EMS; 3 EMS Calls, and 1 Dispatched & Cancelled.
March Call Times;
Fire Call Processing was at 1:03, Arrival on scene at 11:10.
EMS Call Processing was at 2:22, Arrival on scene at 9:42.
Of the 21 dispatches in District 5, 12 calls were compliant to NFPA 1221, for call processing for 57.1%.
Of the 21 responses in District 5, 17 calls were compliant to Fire District 5 benchmark of 12:00 minutes for 81.0 %.

Personnel and Training

Training for March consisted of;
3/4 Building construction flow path – 17 attended
3/11 SCBA quarterlies – 9 attended
3/15 Live fire training, house burn – 17 attended
3/17 OTEP: opioids & addictions – 10 attended
3/18 Live fire 20-acre wildland burn – 15 attended
3/25 2.5" to 1.75" hose transition (joint drill w/ Chelan) – 13 attended

On April 17th, I will attend a class in Kent. The class is sponsored by the WA DNR. The class title is Social Marketing. The State Fire Marshal's Office reached out to me as part of the Community Risk Reduction team. The goal is to educate the public on what is needed to get back to a health forest. And that involves more fire more often. Pioneer fire cost $117M, a relatively small amount of that was for protecting Stehekin. Large fires are too costly. Our forests need more fire to keep the brush component down while keeping costs down. The big problem to overcome is public opinion about smoke. Social Marketing of smoke as essential to get our forests healthy again.

Facilities and Equipment

Dept of Commerce Design Grant – Our $200,000 grant through Dept of Commerce. Data entered the Secure Access WA (SAW). We should soon have $173,770 reimbursed.
Dept of Ecology funding – No update.
DNR Grant Truck – Still holding that District 5 will get a chassis this year.
Engine-51 Replacement – The estimated finish date is January 2026. I have received a list of change orders. I don't have the final cost of those changes yet.
The Station-51 fence was awarded to L&M Fencing in Wenatchee. They have taken a copy of Snure's agreement. I asked Carlos when he came up about completion time, filled those dates with a little

extra into the agreement. He wanted to start in the 2nd week of April, expected to complete in 30 days. I marked the locate, asked Rod to make the locate request.

Training Center – I worked on an ad for the Wenatchee World. Then did a general condition document and sent it to Kevin for his approval, got it. Sent them both to Snure for his opinion and requested an agreement. I think we are ready to start the Training Center construction. Still trying to get cleanup specs and elevation specs from Paul Coppock to begin sitework.

Station-52 expansion – The State has published the Capital Budget as of 3/31/25, our project is not in the budget. I have contacted Paul about this, trying to have a meeting to decide where to put things on hold with each of his subs. I have not had a call from Rep Steele's office. Very confident Mike is still fighting to find a way to fund it.

RiverCom

Hiring a consultant to analyze the culture. We have lost dispatchers due to a toxic atmosphere. This will help to figure out where the problems lie. It is probably 7 months and $70,000 to get a new dispatcher online. The staffing situation doesn't seem to get any better.

Prevention

Going to discuss spring burning for landowners again on KOZI, the issue got cut due to time last month. I was able to record the article for Z Country.

The Rep Mike Steel sponsored bill, HB 1156, concerning volunteer firefighter participation in state deferred compensation program. Passed out of the Senate floor. I'm thinking if the timing a descent, would like to attend the bill signing. Photo op for my folks on the Recruit & Retention Committee, and possibly an opportunity to discuss our station expansion project funding.

April 2025 CURRENT CERTIFICATION REPORT

(Completed 4/1/2025)

TITLE	IFSAC CERTS	Medical	NWCG	2025 GOAL
Firefighter 1	9			6
Firefighter 2	7			6
Officer 1	4			5
Officer 2	2			2
Instructor 1	8			6
Instructor 2	1			0
Hazmat Operations	12			6
Wildland FFT2			21	6
Wildland FFT1			5	4
Engine Boss			2	2
Tender Driver			5	
EMT		12		2
EMT Instructor/Evaluator		2		2
Fire Inspector 1	1			

Number of Interior Firefighters = 21

Number of Driver Operators = 7

Number Support Personnel = 8

Number of members on Leave = 0

Total Number of Chelan Fire District #5 Personnel = 37 members

Number of Junior Firefighters = 7

CURRENT TRAINING REPORT

Training Review

March was a busy month for training. You know it's a busy month when we had dinner at 3 different drills in March, we had the house burn, a wildland burn, and a combined drill with Chelan. On March 4th for drill, we did a building construction walk-through. Adam has a house he is building and walked firefighters through to see the construction, compartments and how we would fight a fire in a space. We had 16 firefighters attend. March 10th was our required training makeup drill where firefighters

were able to complete the training they had missed in the quarter. If firefighters were current, they got more practice on the forcible entry prop. We had 10 firefighters attend. March 14th, we took possession of the house to burn and prepped it by loading pallets and cardboard, covering windows, and cutting ventilation holes. This was a quick timeframe to work with to prep and burn a house, but we got it done. We had 7 firefighters attend. March 15th, we had the house burn at 1415 Greens Landing Rd. Chelan, Orondo and Waterville joined us in the burn. We had a total of 12 different burn evolutions in the structure. Each evolution consisted of attacking the fire then backing out and switching the nozzle person and re-attacking the fire so the whole group got multiple nozzle evolutions. In the house we started in the basement showing firefighters how to locate a fire in the basement and safely extinguish from the floor above with a cellar nozzle. I think this was a great evolution to add to our burn plan and show the other districts a safe way to fight basement fires. After the basement evolutions we moved upstairs to the 2nd story. Here firefighters did fire attack and fire streams. After the 2nd story we moved to the mail floor for more fire attack and fire streams. Once the house burned down a little way our last evolution was burning the detached garage. For this evolution firefighters got to practice exposer protection as the garage burned. For the burn Manson had a total of 17 firefighters attend. Between the other districts 18 more attended for a total of 35 people at the burn. The landowner was very pleased with the results and was happy to have donated his house for such invaluable training. March 17th was EMS OTEP training where we covered “Opioids & Addiction: The good, bad and ugly” we had 10 EMTs attend. On March 18th, we had a wildland burn at 530 Lower Joe Creek Rd. We burned a large section of land for the landowner who is trying to get rid of the invasive weeds. This drill allowed our firefighters to get some hands on with drip torches and CAFS wet lines. I went back out the day after and things burned better than expected with the field black and green from the greens up. The landowner was very thankful and enjoyed seeing the fire department get great training out of helping him. We had 15 firefighters attend. March 25th, we held a combined drill with Chelan. For the drill we deployed a 2.5 blitz line then transitioned to and 1.75 apartment lay for the transitional attack. This is a good drill for multi-story buildings or large buildings. We rotated crews of combined Manson and Chelan firefighters through deploying off our Engine and a Chelan Engine. We had 12 firefighters attend and Chelan had somewhere around that same number join in.

In March there were no new firefighters completing their First Aid and or CPR training. We are still at 57% and I hope to keep having this number climb as more make up their training.

On March 29th and 30th I went to the North Bend Fire Academy to assist in instructing the Regional Volunteer Academy. We didn’t have any members in the academy this year. On March 29th we did search drills in both a commercial and residential setting. March 30th was live fire with students practicing checking doors, advancing hose, fire streams, fire control and ventilation. In the afternoon of the 30th students received their Firefighter 1 live fire sign offs. I was able to receive my second of three evaluations for my IFSAC Evaluator certification.

Testing:

The EMT course hosted by Lake Chelan Health EMS has finished and our 3 members all passed the course. Sondra Hazim and Janelle Pinski have both passed their National EMT test and are now filling out the paperwork for their state certification. We should have them added to our EMT ranks shortly. Briar Soliday is taking his National Test this week. We also had another student from the EMT course pick up an application packet but has yet to turn it in.

Currently there is no IFSAC testing planned. During my weekend at North Bend, I was able to talk to the State and Wenatchee Valley Fire about testing. WVF is planning hazmat training in May, but the testing day hasn't been set yet. They are also planning FF2 testing this fall. The State doesn't have any testing currently planned but will let me know if something comes available to be able to add our firefighters too.

Outside Training:

No outside training planned for April.

Online Training (Fire Engineering Training):

In Fire Engineering Training I had assigned 2 modules the end of September to get Firefighter acquainted with the platform. This was assigned to 36 firefighters. 6 firefighters have completed these modules which is the same as last month. 4 firefighters are in-progress up 1 from last month.

"New Recruit" training In Fire Engineering is broken down and utilized the same as we did in Vector Solutions. There are two categories. The first is their NFPA required training to be able to enter a structure fire which is usually followed up with some hands on if they haven't already received that on a drill nights. There are 18 modules in the first section. The second, is their Human Resource courses. There are 8 modules in this section. This recruit training is currently assigned to 7 firefighters. 1 firefighter is in progress, and no one has completed the training yet. I am trying to get the new recruits and those that haven't completed their Wildland course to dive back in right now ahead of wildland season.

The 2025 first quarter training made up of 4 modules. This is assigned to 27 firefighters. Currently 7 firefighters have completed this is up 5 from last month. 6 firefighters are in progress, which is down 3 from last month.

A total of 24 online training modules were completed in Fire Engineering Training in March. Some of the completed modules were elective modules not assigned but completed.

Driver Training:

March 7th- Brush 52 and Engine 52 refresher for Doug Pinski – 2 hours

March 19th- Engine 54 initial with Doug Pinski – 1 hour

One-on-ones: In March

March 1st- First Aid and CPR certification makeup training for Brooks and Cooper Pinski – 2 hours

March 7th – Rope Rescue hands on for Doug Pinski, Beau Alanis, Dash Hei – 2 hours

March 12th- Quarterly SCBA and Proficiency makeup for Jesus Estrada

March 14th- Quarterly SCBA and Proficiency makeup for Aaron Richmond

Training Calendar:

April 1st: 2nd quarter online Fire Engineering Online Modules assigned
April 1st: Quarterly SCBA, Proficiency and HP CPR

April 7th: OTEP “The warzone in your body- Immunology & Oncology”

April 8th: Wildland PPE & Truck Shake down

April 15th: Hydrant-Pump- Attack

April 22nd: Wildland Refresher Part 1

April 28th: Officer Meeting

April 29th: MCO Drill with Chelan for Wildland refresher part 2

Recruitment & Retention:

March, we had one firefighter leave, Nathan McDowell. He is going to school and pursuing a career in the fire service on the west side. We also had a new junior firefighter join Austin Pratt. He is 16 years old.