

Chelan County Fire Protection District No. 5
250 West Manson Blvd.
Manson, WA 98831
Workshop Meeting of Commissioners
Wednesday March 20, 2024 @ 2:00 pm

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

Others Present: Chief Arnold Baker, District Secretary Reggie Trusel, Lieutenant-Training Officer Raynor Baker, Lieutenant Aaron Richmond and Terry LaBrue via Zoom.

Call to Order: Chairman Weiss called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. The Flag salute commenced.

Levy Lid Lift 2024:

Terry LaBrue:
Communications Plan

1. Letter to prospective volunteers, March 2024

- Terry will organize a new contract to work between new Levy Committee
- Forming Committee of six-eight members: Terry would like a list of current Volunteers and other Community members, Groups we would like to include and set a date & location for April to meet.

2. News release announcing tax measure approval by Manson Fire Commissioners...also has data from your attorney + charts

- Chief Baker is waiting to hear from Attorney Snure's office re: Board approval- Ballot Announcement.
- He indicated rebuilding charts with updated-simplified data.
- Commissioner Willoughby reiterated using clear data when referring to Fire Department "Fire Calls" and calls when Fire assist EMS.
- Chief Baker suggested building a slide-chart that breaks down the Fire/EMS data.

3. Prepare spring newsletter...also has information from attorney.

- A. Water rescue story with photos
- B. Father/Son volunteers — new photos
- C. New photos of new facility site (we will need to be creative here)
- D. Short message from the chief with photo
- E. Notice of citizens' committee formation and April meeting
- F. Burn ban information

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- Terry and Chief Baker will work together in creating content for the next Newsletter using similar/same template.
- Commissioner Weiss would like to use some family imagery, along with Father/Son volunteers that are currently with the department.

4. Campaign theme

5. Campaign yard sign design

6. Create non-political information for website-Attorney approval first.

- Terry will work on content, all information for the MFD website will be preapproved by Attorney.

7. Create non-political information for Facebook

- Keep consistent messages for all social media platforms-preapproved by Attorney.

8. Create new “pro” content for other social media: Lake Chelan Now, Manson Chamber of Commerce, Lake Chelan Mirror, Wenatchee World, etc.

9. Create simple citizen committee letterhead

10. Prepare summer newsletter

- A. Further copy describing tax measure, date, ballot, drop off locations
- B. Letter from three commissioners (non political)
- C. Summer wildfire information
- D. Why you need to be fire-smart
- E. Volunteer Firefighter Accident update
- F. Training program update
- G. Election Day reminder

11. Organize yard sign and voter rally

12. Organize retail store reader-board effort

13. Organize letters to the editor effort

Chief Baker gave the Board an updated Gantt chart and suggested adding Terry’s data. Lieutenant Richmond suggested working with Chief Baker in creating a chart with comparisons going back five years. Simple breakdown of then and now (2019-2024)

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Added Discussion:

Commissioner Baker suggested inviting one of the MFD past Fire Chiefs, Jim Koenig to discuss our Levy needs/goals. Chief Baker agreed it would be great to have his input and go over our budget. Commissioner Weiss recommended inviting Representative Mike Steele for a meeting to hear any recommendations he could share with the Board as well.

Chief Baker informed the Board Denise from Nicholson Associates Insurance is coming to the area in April and will be sharing the benefit of adding more agencies to group policies. He indicated Denise brought to his attention the group insurance we currently have does not have an “out claws”. She recommended we amend the current mutual agreement we have with Chelan Fire & Rescue.

Adjournment: Board Chairman Weiss closed the workshop meeting with no additional business before the Commissioners, the meeting adjourned at 3:08 pm.

Chelan County Fire District 5 Board of Commissioners:

Commissioner Chairman Fred Weiss

Chris Willoughby

Commissioner Dan Baker

Attest: Regenia Trusel
District Secretary