

**Whatcom County Fire District #4
via Zoom Meeting
4142 Britton Loop, Bellingham, WA 98226
12:00 p.m.
June 17, 2024
Regular Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Cooley called the regular Whatcom County Fire District #4 Board of Fire Commissioners meeting for June 17, 2024, to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Attendees: Chairman Steve Cooley; Vice-Chairman Tim Johnson; Fire Commissioner Mark Lann; Fire Chief Jason Van der Veen.

With the rescission of Proclamation 20-28, the district continues to do its best to provide accommodations to the public. A direct link allowing the public to participate in the meeting during the public comment section was included on the meeting agenda and posted on the District's website.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Meeting Minutes
 - a) May 13, 2024 – regular
2. Staff Reports – Chief / Operations / Training / Technical Support
3. Financial Report
 - a) Total Revenue – May \$337,413.53
 - b) Total Expenditures – June \$8,657.10
4. Voucher / Payroll / Benefits
 - a) Direct Deposit Payroll: \$483.00
 - b) Monthly Expenditure Voucher: \$8,174.10

MOTION: Commissioner Lann moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Johnson and approved 3-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-02 Utilizing a Consulting Service Roster and Withdrawing from Administering the Small Works Roster: Chief Van der Veen noted that District 4's Attorney drafted the combined resolution. The resolution allows the district to join a consulting service roster and dissolve their current small works roster.

Chairman Cooley read the pertinent portions of the resolution.

MOTION: Vice Chairman Johnson moved to approve Resolution 2024-02, Joining Consulting Service and Withdrawing from Administering the Small Works Roster. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lann and approved 3-0.

Department of Ecology Water Adjudication Update: Commissioner Lann provided additional background information. The process includes forcing entities, including homeowners, that do not utilize water from a city or other public service, to defend their water rights. It is expected to take a minimum of one year to complete.

District 4 has no wells on its properties; however, the East Smith Rd. Station does belong to a water association.

Chief Van der Veen noted that he forwarded the information to the District Attorney.

Commissioner Lann, who also serves on a Water District Board, will update the board with pertinent information.

Britton Rd/Northern Heights Annexation Update: Chief Van der Veen and Chairman Cooley noted that there has been no forward movement regarding the proposed annexation.

Britton Loop Station 12 Projects

Upgrading of the Britton Loop Station 12 exterior: Chief Van der Veen recommended that a project manager not be utilized to oversee the small-scale project.

The district will enroll in the Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) and utilize their small works roster, following all applicable laws and regulations.

Chairman Cooley and Chief Van der Veen will meet to discuss the next steps.

In addition, Chief Van der Veen provided information regarding a method District 21 is considering to design and build a replacement station for Birch Bay Station 63.

Replacement of Fire Engine – Chief Van der Veen noted that he will submit an engine replacement recommendation for approval during the July meeting. He noted that District 21 has recently completed their new engine post-inspection and is pleased with the process and product quality.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2024-03 Surplus Vehicles: Chief Van der Veen noted that the vehicles mentioned in the resolution are no longer needed.

2007 Ford Escape
VIN #1FMCU931X8KA26904
NWFRS Asset number AP310
License Number 42316C

2006 Ford Expedition VIN
#1FMPU16586LA67539 NWFRS
Asset number AP013
License Number 75626C

MOTION: Chairman Cooley moved to approve Resolution 2024-03 Surplus Vehicles as amended to include the correct year. The motion was seconded by Vice Chairman Johnson and approved 3-0.

Squalicum Mountain Community Association Meeting: Commissioner Lann provided information regarding a meeting he and Chief Van der Veen attended on June 2.

The group is comprised of local area homeowners, fire service, and water district representatives.

Topics included concerns regarding wildland and forested land fire risks, rural fire service response, and what can be done to prevent and mitigate future dangers. The group has some good equipment and resources, all of which will be forwarded to the crews.

The group brainstormed and shared ideas and agreed to continue meeting. Chief Van der Veen will keep the board updated on any pertinent matters.

Vice-Chairman Johnson noted that similar discussions have taken place in his neighborhood (Academy Rd). Commissioner Lann will forward the Squalicum group's contact information to Vice-Chairman Johnson for potential joint meetings in the future.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **July Board Meeting Attendance Query:** All Commissioners present are expected to attend the July 15 meeting via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

- Department of Ecology Water Adjudication Update
- Britton Rd/Northern Heights Annexation Update
- Britton Loop Station 12 Exterior Project Update
- Join MSRC Contract
- Engine Bid Quote

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business, Chairman Cooley moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:33 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lann and approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Jennie Sand, Board Secretary

ATTEST:

Steve Cooley, Chairman

Tim Johnson, Vice-Chairman

Mark Lann, Commissioner

Jason Van der Veen, Fire Chief