

**Whatcom County Fire District #4  
via Zoom Meeting  
4142 Britton Loop, Bellingham, WA 98226  
12:00 p.m.  
July 15, 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 July 15, 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) June 17, 2024 – regular
2. Staff Reports – Chief / Operations / Training / Technical Support
3. Financial Report
  - a) Total Revenue – June \$19,917.08
  - b) Total Expenditures – July \$702,363.00
4. Voucher / Payroll / Benefits
  - a) Direct Deposit Payroll: \$644.00
  - b) Monthly Expenditure Voucher: ~~\$761,719.00~~ \$701,719.00 (*corrected*)

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Department of Ecology Water Adjudication Update:** The process includes forcing entities, including homeowners, that do not utilize water from a city or other public service to fight for their water rights. It is expected to take a minimum of one year to complete. Commissioner Lann did not have any updates at this time.

A Lynden Tribune article regarding the Whatcom water adjudication process was included in the Board Packet.

**Britton Rd/Northern Heights Annexation Update:** Chief Van der Veen noted that there is no additional information at this time.

**Britton Loop Station 12 Exterior Projects**

Upgrading the Britton Loop Station 12 exterior: Chairman Cooley and Chief Van der Veen plan to meet soon to review the next steps.

Fire Engine: Chief Van der Veen noted that once the October taxes are deposited, the district will move forward with replacing a fire engine.

Chief Van der Veen noted that the funds taken out of the reserve funds at the end of 2023 to make the quarterly payment to District 21 will be replaced next month. The reallocation will allow the District to accrue more investment interest. Those funds will be utilized for station upgrades and apparatus replacement.

Both projects will need updated bids.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Lynden Tribune article re: Whatcom water adjudication
- Washington State Auditor Data Sharing Agreement

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **August Board Meeting Attendance Query:** All Commissioners present are expected to attend the August 12 meeting via Zoom.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- Reserve Fund Reimbursement
- Department of Ecology Water Adjudication Update
- Britton Rd/Northern Heights Annexation Update
- Britton Loop Station 12 Exterior Project Update
- Fire Engine Bid Quote

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** There being no further business, Chairman Cooley moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:13 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lann and approved 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Jennie Sand, Board Secretary

**ATTEST:**

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Steve Cooley, Chairman

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Tim Johnson, Vice-Chairman

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Mark Lann, Commissioner

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Jason Van der Veen, Fire Chief