



MINUTES
Chelan Fire and Rescue
Special Meeting
Thursday, February 22, 2018, 3:00 p.m.
232 East Wapato, Chelan, WA



Commissioners in attendance: Phil Moller, Tom Peters and Russ Jones

Staff in attendance: Fire Chief Timothy Lemon, Deputy Chief Mark Donnell, Assistant Chief Brandon Asher, Administrative Assistant Faye Barker, Lieutenants Evan Woods, Shawn Sherman and Dale Rodman; Firefighter/EMT Jake Hepper, Steve Saugen, Austin Murdock, Troy Keene, Joe Cox, Tyee Zacher and Taylor Rains

Others in attendance: See sign in sheet.

Call to order: Chairman Jones called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and announced the flag salute.

New Business:

Discuss a Fire Levy Lid Lift: Commissioner Jones explained that the Board is here at the request of the firefighters to have a discussion of a Fire Levy Lid Lift for the District. The timing of this meeting is because the deadline to file a resolution to put a Fire Levy Lid Lift on the April ballot is Friday, 2/23/18.

Lt. Sherman started the Union presentation by commenting that the union is in support of the tax payers having a voice to decide whether or not to vote for a tax levy. There are two items that this should cover, maintaining the six safer grant firefighters and the apparatus fund.

Discussion was held with the Board of Commissioners, and the firefighters.

Commissioner Jones asked what effect it would have on other taxing districts if the fire district decided to have the levy go to the maximum of \$1.50/\$1000. Chief Lemon reported that he had checked on that and there would be no effect on other taxing districts. Going to \$1.50/\$1000 would mean a house valued at \$400,000 would see about a \$232.00 annual increase in taxes.

Apparatus age and cost was discussed. The ability to purchase apparatus as needed and identifying which would be replaced is a decision the Board and administration reviews on an annual basis.

After much discussion, Commissioner Jones proposed raising the tax rate to \$1.32/\$1000. This would be a \$0.40 increase and provide annual funding to retain the six Safer Grant Firefighters, provide revenue to add to the current apparatus fund and provide funding for our volunteer firefighters services. A home valued at \$400,000 would see a \$160.00 annual increase. The district is currently at \$.92/\$1000.

By approving the motion, the community will be able to choose to retain the firefighters and funding for apparatus and volunteer activities.



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Commissioner Jones asked for a MOTION to move forward with a vote in April, asking for a 40 cent increase, Commissioner Peters agreed that the citizens need the opportunity to vote for the \$1.32 lid lift. The MOTION to approve Resolution 2018-01 was made and unanimously PASSED.

Adjournment: There was no more business before the Board of Commissioner the special meeting closed at 4:45 p.m.

Chelan County Fire District 7 Commissioners:



Russ Jones, Chairman



Phil Moller, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Carol A. Kibler, District Secretary