



MINUTES  
Chelan Fire and Rescue  
Special Meeting  
Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 4:00 P.M.  
232 East Wapato, Chelan, WA



**Commissioners in attendance:** Russ Jones, Phil Moller and Jay Witherbee

**Staff in attendance:** Fire Chief Timothy Lemon, Deputy Chief Mark Donnell, Administrative Assistant Faye Barker

**Others:** See sign in sheet.

**Chairman Jones announced the Flag Salute and called the special meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.**

**Unfinished Business:**

**Commissioner Moller MOTIONED to approve the agenda as submitted, MOTION PASSED.**

**Ladder 71 Options:**

Chief Lemon explained the failure of Ladder 71. The UL drift test failed, meaning when the ladder is extended, it slowly retracts when it should not, it should hold the position it was last placed in. It was tested twice and failed both times. It is back in service as a water way only; no one is to climb the ladder or work off of the ladder.

Fleet Manager John Goyne reported that he has researched the cost of repairing the ladder. General Fire said it would cost about \$10,000 just to take it apart to see what is wrong and whether or not it could be repaired. Additional costs will include finding the parts and doing the repair. The cost is projected as high as \$90,000 to \$100,000.

Commissioner Jones asked if we needed a ladder truck. What choices are there if we don't have one in Chelan? Chief Lemon explained that not having a ladder truck in Chelan would affect the WSRB insurance rating, which in turn would affect our Fire Protection Class within the city of Chelan. This results in higher insurance costs to our commercial buildings and resorts. But the biggest risk is not having the capability to rescue anyone from the exterior of a building on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor if there was a fire. The ladder truck has been used to rescue people off of cliffs, but has not been needed/used to rescue anyone from a building. The ladder has been used a number of times to access rooflines and provide an aerial water fire attack and exposure coverage.

The options are to do nothing, and not have a ladder truck any longer. Buy a preowned apparatus that will just replace the ladder. Research and purchase a dual purpose engine/ladder that can be used, or purchase a new ladder which would take 1½ years to place in to service, plus we do not have the funds for a new ladder.



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Commissioner Moller commented that the ladder not only serves our community, but others in the area. All three Fire Commissioners agreed the district should continue to own and operate a ladder truck.

Commissioner Witherbee commented that he asked Chief to be able to present all the options with the associated costs. Discussion took place on whether or not a dual purpose apparatus should be researched as opposed to a replacement ladder truck. If a dual purpose vehicle (engine/ladder) is purchased it can be used as a front line engine allowing us to bump all the engines down one position and retire the oldest engine. This would reduce the fleet by one apparatus and we would see an indirect cost savings.


Chief Lemon presented a number of options for the Board of Fire Commissioners to consider which included a demo ladder truck and several used ladders that are currently on the market. Each apparatus spec were reviewed to include cost service life left and the annual cost per year of the used apparatus(s). Additional cost of an apparatus will include sales tax (8.8%) and shipping (estimated \$5,000). Equipment for the new/used ladder would be available from Ladder 71 and the oldest engine in the fleet that would be retired.

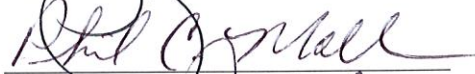
Commissioner Moller made a **MOTION** to allow staff to research and purchase the 2005 Pierce 75' aerial for \$185,000. If the Chief is unable to secure this apparatus, the Board of Fire Commissioners will meet again to further discuss the issue. Commissioner Witherbee seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED**. Commissioner Moller revised the original **MOTION** to \$220,000 and would like that to include tax and shipping of the apparatus. Commissioner Witherbee seconded, **MOTION PASSED**.

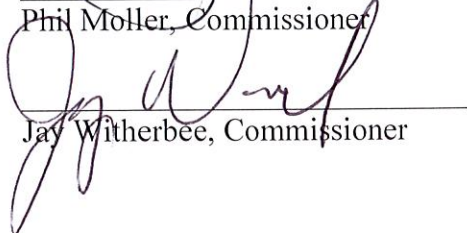
Commissioner Jones **MOTIONED** to approve Resolution 2018-008, emergency resolution to replace ladder truck. **MOTION PASSED**.

**Adjournment:** There was no more business before the board the meeting closed at 4:50 p.m.

**Chelan County Fire District 7  
Board of Commissioners:**

  
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Russ Jones, Chairman

  
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Phil Moller, Commissioner

  
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Jay Witherbee, Commissioner

  
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Attest: Carol A Kibler, District Secretary