



MINUTES
Chelan Fire and Rescue
Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.
232 East Wapato, Chelan, WA



The CFR Board of Commissioners will conduct the meeting in person at the fire station, you are welcome to join via Zoom. The public is welcome to join by following this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87284665516> Meeting ID: 872 8466 5516 or dial +1 253 215 8782

Proposed Chelan Fire and Rescue agenda pending Board approval.

Flag Salute

Roll Call: Commissioners Phil Moller, Russ Jones, Karyl Oules, Fire Chief Brandon Asher, Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Sherman, District Secretary Carol Kibler, and Karla Mendoza.

Regular Meeting Call to Order: Chairman Moller called the meeting to order at 1500.

Approve Agenda: MOTION made to APPROVE the agenda as submitted. The MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment: None

Consent Agenda: MOTION made to APPROVE the consent agenda as submitted. The MOTION CARRIED

- Revenue and Expenditure Report: April 2023
- Payroll: March 28, 2023, to April 25, 2023 / Paid 05-05-2023; Benefits \$78,660.59, Wages \$86,882.40 for a total of \$165,542.99
- General Account Vouchers: 04-07-2023 Transaction #403 to 410 for \$21,940.61; 04-21-2023 Transactions #437 to 451 for \$8,177.15; 04-28-2023 Transactions #453 to 475 for \$12,604.41.
- Capital Account Vouchers: 04-29-2023 Transaction #476 to 479 for \$11,056.62.
- Minutes: April 19, 2023

Fire Chief Report: (Chief Asher)

2023 Budget & Financials:

- April financials are looking very good. We are well within the appropriate numbers.

Emergency Response Reports:

- April Incident Response Report shows 93 calls for emergency service, with our 10-year average call volume for April at 68 calls. 12% increase over last March.
- In 2023, our call volume is up 23%. In the long-range plan, I estimated a 6% increase for 2023.
- Rescue/EMS responses accounted for 74% of total calls for service, with 30% of that non-transport (including patients who died at the scene) or patient-transported POV.
- Major incidents for April: See PPT
- April turnout and response times (primary apparatus at Station 71) are within established service delivery goals in SOG 010.
- Effective Work Force: Effective workforce was acceptable for call types. We've had more staff stations lately due to multiple calls at once.
- The total fire loss for April is 0

Administration:

- Chief Asher recognizes that it's Volunteer Appreciation Week! I can't say enough how much our Volunteer force means to us and how critical they are in helping protect our Fire District. It's a huge time commitment that they each take out of their personal lives every day, and the community truly appreciates all they do!
- The newsletter is completed and has been mailed out. Again, we have been getting good responses.



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- Meet and greet with the candidates for director for Rivercom, Assistant Fire Chief Sherman, and Chief Asher. The selection process should be completed soon.
- Our Records Management System is going to be upgraded from ERS to ESO. We currently pay \$3,343 per year. We have to do this to meet the new NEMSIS 3.5 standards for medical reporting. They also are no longer putting any effort or support into ERS and will be fully transitioning in the next three years to the ESO platform. If we use all the modules that we use now at the end of three years, it will cost \$8,196. They recognize the budget hit, and we'll be under a three-year teared price increase.

Operations:

- Now that we have improved staffing and a commitment from the City to follow up on our inspections, we'll be phasing in Fire & Life Safety Inspections. First, however, our crews need to get back into business.
- Chairman Moller asked for an FLSI monthly report. Assistant Fire Chief Sherman met with City to ensure the progress.
- Chairman Moller would like to see FLSI infractions are being corrected.
- Assistant Fire Chief Sherman stated the City would follow up and enforce necessary action. s the beginning and end of the report and that something is happening.
- Assistant Fire Chief Sherman stated the target for FLSI is six per month. This is a vast improvement from prior years. This also will be helpful to our crews to see inside the buildings for fire planning.
- One career staff will be on light duty until mid-July due to injury. As a result, we will have to cover four shifts of overtime.
- Assistant Fire Chief Sherman is assigned to arrange for water delivery to Washington Creek area water tanks for the wildfire season.
- Crews are gearing up on Wildland, and Karla is entering the data to print the red cards for the members.

Community Risk Reduction:

- We continue to post public information on our led sign and FB.

Apparatus Status:

- We received the Marine 71 torrent.
- We ordered the tank and turrent for R71, and it is funded through the DNR Phase 2 grant. Machinic Goyne started to repair T74 put in a new starter and battery, its in service.
- Mechanic Goyne is rebuilding the pump for E75.
- Chief Asher reported we know we can use red diesel fuel. The diesel price is \$4.52, and red diesel is \$4:13, a savings of \$0.40 a gallon.
- We have a delay in the delivery of one of the Spartan Engines. We can expect it by early October 2023. The front axel production is the holdup.
- We are receiving the ordered equipment for the spartan apparatus.
- The mounted exhaust systems are getting installed. The representative will be back next week to continue the installation.
- We are on the list to purchase a Type 3 chassis. The expected delivery is in 2025 before the fire season arrives.



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- Chief Asher showed photos of an MK30 truck that we can turn into an attack tender and hold 3,500 gallons of water. DNR surplus and DNR Grant will give us \$25,000 to build the truck. It's a smaller tender and mobile. Chief Asher stated the \$25,000 is enough to complete the build of a tank and pump for the tender. The Commissioner's liked the idea.

Stations:

- Chief Asher reported the Station 71 flooring has been completed, and we have lots of leftover flooring and product. The company will take it back, or we could do the upper landing area of station 71. We don't have to use the same vendor to install it.
- Chief Asher will get estimates to install the flooring.
- Chief Asher reported we received two portable DNR surplus generators to replace the non-operable generator. If we keep the generators for one year, they are ours; if we don't use one, we can sell. We paid \$3,450 to have them shipped from California. DNR will refund us \$3,000. Our original cost to replace the generator was \$130,000. Assistant fire Chief Sherman is in contact with an electrical contractor to install the transfer box to run the generator. We can surplus the old generator and receive around \$5,000.

Assistant Fire Chief Report (Asst. Chief Sherman)

- **Volunteer Recruitment / Training**
- New recruitment: Konnar Stevens, Mikko Gordon, and Ben Barns completed the recruit class in Wenatchee. Peter Brody, a retired Firefighter, is going through our application process and wants to participate in the Marine program.
- Retention: 4 members are in inactive status from drill attendance. The fire district policy requires 50% participation in good standing. The requirement is a minimum expectation. We have 30 Volunteer firefighters; 19 members meet the 50% drill requirement. Six members have yet to complete an arduous fitness evaluation. We are working around schedules to get them back on track.
- Assistant Fire Chief Sherman has dedicated overtime hours to the training budget to ensure continuity of training on drill night. The members wanted more hands-on training and didn't want the career staff to leave the drill.
- We are providing subject matter expert program paths to encourage participation. And have substantially focused on all hands-on training for drill night so everyone participates.
- Implementing the volunteer coordinator position
Seeking feedback through surveys and conversations.
- Commissioner Moller asked; can we change the level to keep our people?
- Chief Sherman, we are trying to answer that question – we can't change the law.
- Chief Sherman explained what goes into keeping people safe and qualified. And he wants to be flexible; it's a tricky balance. So we have a culture of concession. And we do try to make concessions for those that don't want to do all risk. It's a balance of a traditional volunteer firefighter in the culture of concession.
- Events – we had a live fire training exercise that was a success. We burned two homes and met the mission. We invited Chelan Fire Districts 5, 8, and Douglas County 4.
- Stipend coverage – No one is signed up for shifts (we hired those members into the seasonal position)
- National Fire Academy class – Safety Officer course in Wenatchee; John Steiner and Johnny Synder attended.
- We participated in trench training with the City of Chelan employees.



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- Probe FF Bryne – helped to organize the PXT Extraction training, job well done! And great training for all that attended.
- FF/EMT Belsky – organized the swift water rescue training. Job well done and excellent training.

Firefighters Association Report (Ron Simmons)

President Ron Simmons reported that the members have been planning for the pancake breakfast on June 3, 2023. We have many volunteers to help. In addition, we plan to participate in the Memorial Day parade on Thursday, May 25, 2023.

Unfinished Business:

- Generator: Reported under Fire Chief's report.

New Business:

- **TIF – City of Chelan:** A meeting is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. tomorrow at City Council Chambers.
- Commissioner Jones – reported that the City officials' data information is incorrect. The City came back with more information, and it's still not correct. Unfortunately, the document illustrates that we will make more revenue with the TIF. Commissioner Jones has confirmed from the WA State Dept of Revenue that the information from the city is incorrect. Commissioner Jones strongly suggested City Council wait a year and research the TIF to understand the impacts better. The idea of a 25-year TIF would drastically impact the fire department and junior taxing district. This is unfortunate the way this has happened. Commissioner Jones will pass the Dept. of Revenue information to the council.
- The impact of more homes and multiple apartment buildings and the apple blossom area, will impact the fire department and responses. Our long-term planning is going to change for the fire district.
- Chief Asher stated that a influx of capacity will generate more calls. The rest of the fire district will be paying for the services that will impact the fire district. The call volume is already rising. The overall outcome is that we have developments that will be built in Chelan. This will all happen, and we need to find out how to find a way to serve the community by receiving the property tax for the TIF area.
- The City of Chelan projection is 16 million Junior taxing districts will be impacted. The project's total cost is 24 million the City is taking a considerable risk. Commissioner Jones has reviewed numerous building projects over the years and doesn't think the City has calculated the cost risks. The City could fail economically in the future.
- Through the TIF and mitigation, the fire district can negotiate call volume cost.
- **Budget Appropriation – MOTION to APPROVE the Budget Appropriations the MOTION CARRIED.**
- **HVAC – Station 71** – catastrophic failure; we have received two quotes we are waiting for one more quote. The quotes came in at \$12,500 and \$17,500.

Special Events:

- KOZI – Community Connection Thursday, May 18, 2023, @ 8:10 a.m. – Fire Chief Asher and Commissioner Moller.
- May 18-21 Wine and Jazz Festival
- May 18 – TIF Workshop for JR taxing districts
- May 24 – TIF City Council Special Meeting



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- Thursday, May 25 – Annual Memorial Day Parade, 17:30 to 19:30
- Friday, June 2-3 Cruizan Chelan Car Show
- Saturday, June 3 Annual Pancake Feed
- Saturday, June 24 Annual Deputy Saul Gallegos Memorial Run

Board for Volunteer Firefighters: nothing

Public Comment:

Chris Baker Council position 3 of City of Chelan – The city will have five years to accept the bond. Baker has many questions about the economy and growth of the City of Chelan. Some day we will need more water. Baker has not made his mind up about the TIF.

Commissioner Comments: None

Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) To Evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

Chairman Moller announced that the Board of Commissioners would close the regular meeting at 4:05 p.m. to go into Executive Session RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) for 20 minutes.

The board of Commissioners asked for five more minutes at 4:25 p.m.

Chairman Moller closed the executive session at 4:27 p.m. and Opened the regular meeting at 4:27 p.m.

No action was taken by the Board of Commissioners.

Adjournment: There being no more business before the Board of Commissioners the meeting closed at 4:27 p.m.

Chelan County Fire Protection District 7
Board of Commissioners:

Chairman, Phil Moller

Commissioner Russ Jones

Commissioner Karyl Oules

Attest: Carol Kibler, District Secretary