



MINUTES
Chelan Fire and Rescue

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.



Flag Salute

Roll Call: Russ Jones, Karyl Oules, Chief Asher, Assistant Chief Asher, District Secretary Carol Kibler, and Admin Assistant Karla Mendoza.

Regular Meeting Call to Order: At 15:00

Graduated Recruit Academy Volunteer introductions: Konner Stephens, Mikko Gordon, and Ben Barnes.

Chief Asher gave the oath to Mikko Gordon and pinned the firefighter badge. Congratulations, job well done!

Approve Agenda: MOTION to Approve agenda as submitted the MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comment: None

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

- Revenue and Expenditure Report: May 2023
- Payroll: April 26, 2023, to May 23, 2023 / Paid 06-05-2023; Benefits \$82,891.19, Wages \$92,394.76 for a total of \$175,285.95
- General Account Vouchers: 05-04-2023 Transaction #480 to 481 for \$18,386.40; 05-05-2023 Transaction #482 for \$131,818.85; 05-19-2023 Transactions #577 to 602 for \$20,943.88; 05-26-2023 Transactions #604 to 611 for \$3,600.85.
- Capital Account Vouchers: 05-20-2023 Transaction #603 for \$2,386.94; 05-27-2023 Transactions #612 to 613 for \$22,769.54.
- Minutes: May 17, 2023

Fire Chief Report: (Chief Asher)

2023 Budget & Financials:

- May financials are looking very good. We are well within the appropriate numbers. One thing to note is that halfway through the year, we are at about 9% of the shift OT budget.

Emergency Response Reports:

- The May Incident Response Report shows 113 calls for emergency service, with our 10-year average call volume for May at 85 calls. 33% increase over last June.
- In 2023, our call volume year to date is still up 24%. In the long-range plan, I estimated 6% increase for 2023.
- Rescue/EMS responses accounted for 72% of total calls for service, with 32% of that non-transport (including patients who died at the scene) or patient transported POV.
- Major incidents for May: See PPT
- May 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 such staff stations more lately due to multiple calls at once.
- Total fire loss for May is 0

Administration:

- We had a great meeting with ESO. Many new features should streamline everything from scheduling to training and to payroll.
- Contract negotiations are moving along. Chief Sherman has also started a Duty Officer Task Book that we'll be using for the career development of our Captains.
- Chief Asher attended the Liz Loomis seminar on passing Levy lid lifts successfully. I was very encouraged and feel that we did many things right before the levy and have stayed engaged and



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done many things right since the levy. I'm not saying we're going for a levy soon, but the biggest takeaway we haven't done is go for one every 2-3 years.

- I attended a large fire simulator drill for a fire in the Chumstick last week. The technology presented was very impressive. It was well attended by all people involved on large-scale fires, from firefighters to railroad and DOT cooperators. Again, the big fear regionally is staffing, especially if there are two major incidents regionally.

Operations:

- We hope to have our floater back from injury by mid-July. With our current staffing levels, the OT impact has been minimal and far better than in the past.
- Hose testing was completed last week for 2023. 16,500 feet of hose tested in one day. Thank you to all that helped!
- Yesterday, I updated our alert sense paging through Rivercom, which will send an actual text outside ISPY for major incidents where we need staffing.
- We have had two state mobilizations already. One was only one night. The other was in Benton County, and we sent Capt. Adam Jones as the strike team leader for 3 days.
- FF Belsky successfully wrote a grant for \$4000 worth of IPADS for our first out apparatus. These will be used for home assessments, inspections,
 - Upgrading 7 portable radios to new BKR5000 through Rivercom grant program.

Community Risk Reduction/Events:

- Third Thursdays are starting up at the Riverwalk Farmers Market.
- Nick of Time
- Pancake Breakfast
- Admin. Assistant Karla Mendoza and Chief Asher attended a meeting and thanked Commissioner Hilary Franz for all she did for the fire service, especially what their vehicle and grant programs have done for us.

Apparatus Status:

- Chief Asher reported that we still need the turret mounted on the boat. LT: Simmons and Russ Jones will be working on this.
- E75 is farther along than last reported but still in many pieces put back together on the pump. Many people have stepped forward to help John get the truck to where it is. Chief Sherman spoke with Bob Wentland, who is connecting us with Bellevue's mechanics, to see if we can get one to finish the truck.
- All vehicle-mounted exhaust systems have been installed, which took about two weeks. They had to come back and fix T71.
- It's June, but we still don't have a down payment price for the Type 3 chassis.
- The application has been submitted for the MK30 chassis that was talked about at the last meeting. If rewarded, we can always turn it down if we cannot build it out.
- Talked with Spartan today. We lucked out. Due to upcoming California emissions changes, a company bought 400 L9 Cummins Engines! Spartan was able to keep 20 in stock and guaranteed ours our good. We should start seeing photos in July.
- The Chief stated we need to put down a \$5K payment to secure the chassis to at least receive the truck within 2-3 years.

Note** Ambulance builds are 3 years out. Ladders could be up to 5 years.



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Stations.

- Station 71 extra flooring will be installed at the top of the stairs. The amount budgeted as savings for future floor replacement will cover the installation for this year.
- Chip sealing is completed on the back parking lot at station 71. This has created even safer ground and greatly reduced the endless dust on apparatus and truck bays.
- Station 71 generator update. We are waiting for Schmitt Electric's bid on the station's wiring. The generator ran perfectly once fresh diesel and batteries were put in. We'll be getting the pad poured and hope to have it all finished by mid-summer.

Assistant Fire Chief Report (Asst. Chief Sherman)

- **Recruitment:** we are planning a BBQ with Manson Fire Department for August 8, 2023 at Riverwalk Park @ 17:00. This event reviews large incidents, open recruitment, and interagency team building.
- **Retention:** Nothing to report.
- **Events:** We drilled with Manson on June 13th to review advanced auto-extrication training. Our next training drill with Manson Fire Department is on August 1st & 8th
- **Stipend Coverage:** 0%
- **Training:** 10 students participated in the water rescue class. Hose testing 16,500 feet of hose tested in one day!
Thank you to Karl Polzin, Robert Takagi, Peter Brodie, Dennis Hill & Barry Lahey, and C Shift personnel.
The rescue swimmer class will be completed this Sunday – FF Belsky is lead under Assistant Fire Chief Sherman.

Firefighters Association Report (Ron Simmons)

Simmons reported that the pancake breakfast was successful, and over 400 people were served.

Simmons reported that we would participate in the Farmers market every third Thursday starting in July. Nick of Time – department members participated – they put through more kids than expected and found 2 children with issues.

Unfinished Business:

TIA update Chief Asher received a letter this morning from the City of Chelan requesting a meeting with them to dive deeply into concerns and clarify TIA questions. The city did meet with the Hospital last week to discuss the TIA.

Chief Asher spoke with our attorney and did not support some of the information the city presents. Does the board want to schedule a meeting with our attorney?

Commissioner Jones stated we should ask our attorney: Where does the WA State law discuss the add-on value under the TIA?



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Wage Increase— Asst Chief and Mechanic increases were not formally announced after last month's meeting. The board agreed to increase the Assistant Fire Chief and Mechanic's salary by 10% starting June 1, 2023.

Severity Staffing- Chief Asher recommends using situational awareness countywide on Red Flag days. Even though there are 4 per shift, we drop our minimum staffing to 3 with Kelly and Annual Leave days. When high fire potential exists and depending on other activity statewide, Chief Asher recommends ensuring we have 4 on. Wenatchee is up staffing 2 apparatus and a BC on Red Flag days. Chief Asher discussed the severity of staffing with Commissioner Moller, and he supports the idea. The board supports severity staffing.

New Business:

Mechanic position and tools:

Chief Asher reported that we have a great candidate that we are considering for the full-time mechanic position. We will talk about this person specifically later in the executive session. I envision this person getting as much knowledge from John as possible.

Chief Asher reported consulting with our attorney Eric Quinn a 3rd party appraisal is all that was needed to ensure we could correctly purchase Johns' tools. This has been completed. If bought new, the tools would cost approximately \$122,000. After depreciation, the total for Johns' tools, if the district is to purchase them, is \$41,833. He has countered with \$45,000. I recommend approving the motion to purchase Johns' tools.

Commissioner Jones MOTIONED that the Board adopted resolution 2023-06 authorizing Fire Chief Asher to sign a bill of sale for the purchase by the district of used tools, the purchase of which is not subject to competitive bidding, pursuant to RCW 39.04.280 (1)(b) relating to special facilities or market conditions, with said used tools being sold to the District by John Goynes, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000.00 excluding any applicable sales tax. The MOTION was seconded by Commissioner Oules.

Chief Asher reported he has been in discussion with Manson Fire District 5 in regard to sharing the mechanic position. They have 9 apparatus, with 4 of them being "Engines". They have agreed to fund \$2,000 a month towards the mechanic position, which is roughly 25% of the salary. If the board agrees, I will have Quinn draft an ILA for the Mechanic position. This is a great first step and an example of the efficiencies that can be created by working with Manson Fire District 5. The goal will be to have as much work done in a mobile manner as possible. In the future, if there is capacity, Entiat has expressed some interest in sharing the position.

Chief Asher had a conversation with Spartan today, and they will sponsor our new mechanic to go to the Spartan Academy in Michigan. This is a \$1,000 conference and one of the most sought-after training courses in the mechanical industry. They are sending me more information on it tonight.

The Washington State Fire Mechanics conference is held in Wenatchee in September. The cost of the weeklong conference is \$900. I want approval to send our prospective mechanic to this. It will be great timing with him just coming on board.

Special Events:

- KOZI – Community Connection Thursday, June 22, 2023 @ 8:25 a.m. – Fire Chief Asher and Commissioner Oules.



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- Saturday, June 24 Annual Deputy Saul Gallegos Memorial Run
- Bikeathon is coming soon.

Board for Volunteer Firefighters: None

Public Comment:

Commissioner Comments:

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

The Board went into Executive Session at 3:45 p.m. and will return at 4:00 p.m.

The Board closed Executive Session at 4:03 p.m. and opened the regular meeting.

The Board agreed to fill the machinic position immediately.

Adjournment: There was no more business before the board the meeting closed at 4:05 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