



**Minutes**  
**Chelan Fire and Rescue**  
**Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 3:00 P.M.**  
**232 East Wapato Ave, Chelan, WA 98816**



*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**

**Regular Meeting Call to Order:** 3:00

**Appointed Commissioner Swearing-in Ceremony:** Commissioner Jim Edinger took his Oath of Office, presented by Chairman Donnell.

**Roll Call:** Chairman Mark Donnell, Commissioner Russ Jones, Commissioner Edinger, Fire Chief Brandon Asher, Assistant Fire Chief Shawn Sherman, and District Secretary Misty Fifield.

**Approve Agenda: Commissioner Jones MOTION to APPROVE the Agenda**

**Approval of Agenda:** Resolution 2026-04 to establish Small works roster, Commissioner Jones MOTION to approve the agenda as amended

**Public Comment:** None

**Consent Agenda:** Commissioner Edinger MOTION to APPROVE the Consent agenda with the removal of the January Financials, since the county does not have them available.

- Revenue and Expenditure Report: December 2025, & January 2026
- Payroll: 12/22/2025 to 01/25/2026 Paid 02-05-2026 Benefits: \$122,792.30, Salaries/Wages (Net) \$119,302.32 Total \$242,094.62.
- General Account Vouchers 01/16/2026 Transaction #77 to #94 for \$45,163.40; 1/23/2026 Transaction #108 to #120 for \$29,435.53; 01/30/2026 Transaction #134 to #146 for \$37,945.39
- Capital Purchase: None
- Minutes: Regular Meeting of January 14, 2026, and Special Meeting on February 6, 2026

**Commissioners Report and Updates (Board of Commissioners)**

- Chairman Donnell provided an update on the House bills he is actively monitoring. He stated that the funding required to move forward with the home hardening program will likely not be available. However, he indicated that aviation resources appear to be adequately funded and in good standing.
- Commissioner Edinger initiated a discussion regarding the LEOFF 1 funds

**Fire Chief Report:**

- January Incident Response Report shows 71 calls for emergency services.
- Our 10-year average call volume for January is 65 calls.
- Rescue/EMS responses accounted for 58% of total calls for service.
- Effective Work Force: Sufficient for types of calls
- NO fire loss for January in the district.
- Mutual Aid to Entiat 1/28 on 2<sup>nd</sup> alarm fire.
- We're making progress on reporting.
- 2025 Year-Ending Financials Actual budget numbers based off what was budget and not all the unknowns, including mob, put us over budget by 3.3%, which is pretty good.
- The unexpected expenditures such as the water heater, the broken pipes, plumbing, DCP payment, 3 firefighters through the academy, and more.
- 2026 Budget & Financial Report – January 2026 Financials have not been received due to the county.
- Discussion regarding the discrepancy in the 2026 levy as presented by Chelan County. Due to the impact of the TIF and a misunderstanding of its application by the parties involved, the County overstated the district's projected tax revenue for 2026 by more than \$200,000.00. As a result, the CFR7 2026 budget is inaccurate, and now the County has determined that the district is required to remit over \$30,000.00 to the City of Chelan.
- Chairman Donnell would like to get the Chelan County Assessor out here to explain this to the taxpayers, and also have the District Attorney involved due to the major discrepancies provided by Chelan County



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**Administration:**

- We have a ticket created with First Due for a ranking issue on the automated call shift feature. They are working on the fix. Our rankings were not staying in the correct order, which could affect who gets offered OT.
- We're completely switched over to Montview Tech for IT services.
- The Assistant Chief's performance review was completed.
- Worked on creating and finalizing the Recruitment and Retention Coordinator contract.
- Introduction to the Recruit and Retention Coordinator Kari Desser
- Working on Annual Report. Have patience with the challenge of extracting reports from First Due.
- Working on updating all Mobilization agreements that had expired in my Fire Defense Region.
- Misty has had success in getting our mobilization funds moved along.
- Pioneer Fire funds are still outstanding
- I attended the DNR mapping meeting in Wenatchee, where the methodology for their maps was explained. They made it pretty clear that this doesn't affect insurance; insurance companies won't use it. Also, the mapping doesn't account for ember cast or home-ignition effects. However, it appears to be in the future.
- Looking at decreasing our Fire Zones to one per station area. Each subcategory creates about 68 run cards that Rivercom has to change and manage on its end. We are the only agency that has subcategories.
- We submitted our 1<sup>st</sup> Bi-Annual financial report and performance report for the SAFER grant.
- WSRB mapping differences with 5 and 7 miles. Goes into effect March 1. Will work on a social media post.

**Community Risk Reduction/Events**

- Residents have until March 1 to apply for up to \$1,300.00 in mitigation assistance for defensible space around your home- see Facebook post.
- Chief Sherman and I attended the SR150 trail meeting, where the CDTC group discussed the trail from Chelan to Manson. They will be coming back with updated maps of where the trail could potentially narrow and options.
- Chief Asher feels they are still open to the project and will present the project.
- Commissioner Edinger mentioned he was at that meeting also and has expressed his concerns.
- Kari and Chief Asher attended the State of the City held at Campbell's. We had an information booth, and I was able to briefly speak to a large audience about what we did last year and what the community can do to help us out going into 2026.
- I attended Legislative Day with Wenatchee, Manson, and Lake Wenatchee Chiefs. Our focus was encouraging full funding of aviation resources, TIF language clean-up, and asking that they consider funding the last \$2,000,000 for the Rivercom building.

**Assistant Fire Chief Report (Asst. Chief Sherman)**

- Volunteer Recruitment / Training
- We covered our PPE inspections and Respiratory Inspection SOG, Live Fire @ Station 74, Winter Driving & Pump Operations, and 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr. First Aid CPR. Crew's have been very helpful, taking the lead on drill nights as I'm heavily involved with the RDD.
- RDD 26-01 is just over the halfway mark. Excellent participation from CFR recruits.
- We are offering an EMT in-house course beginning March 15<sup>th</sup> through June 14<sup>th</sup>.
- March 10<sup>th</sup> Live Fire @ Station 74 Burn Prop.
- NFPA 402: Discussion of our needs for NFPA 402 took place at the last Region 6 Training Council meeting. I briefed Fire Chief, and we will be taking a close look at this. This will have an impact on training requirements for our personnel, as well as equipment needs to meet the requirements for this standard.
- **Recruitment:**  
We have 4 new applicants who have expressed interest in the Spring Wildland Academy.
- **Retention:**  
No loss of membership to report
- **Prevention:**  
11 FLSI inspections have been completed since the last meeting.



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- **Apparatus:**

- **DCFD4 service contract:**

- Scheduling conflicts have prevented my preliminary meeting with Chief Znoll at DCFD4. This is a high priority, and I will keep the board informed on progress. DCFD4 Service Contract has been agreed to in concept by Chief Znoll.

- The purpose of this meeting will be to survey their fleet and establish expectations.

- This will increase our revenue on Contracted Fleet Services from \$24,000 to \$48,000 per year.

- **Apparatus Committee:**

- We met two weeks ago to discuss the potential use/purpose of the Iturri Type 1 pumper and came to the conclusion as a group that the next piece of equipment for purchase for station 73 will be a true Type III Brush Engine instead of the Iturri. Justification for this decision includes the recent WSRB mapping amendment to include 7 Road miles from Station 71, as well as the anticipated number of combat-qualified firefighters assigned to Station 73.

- Next steps for our apparatus group for this project will be to establish a needs assessment for it.

- Boat 72:** David has removed the FLIR system and is making progress on troubleshooting and repairs. This FLIR unit will be ready for installation on Boat 71 soon. Boat 72 will return to Manson Bay once the annual service is completed next week.

- Engine 71;** currently at True North for electrical maintenance. They are reporting confidence that they have located the failure point and are working on the fix.

- Engine 79** will be repaired next as it had some of the same issues occur.

- Ladder 71:** One small finding upon Annual Inspection of Ladder 71. Faulty flow meter. Jason is working on mitigation.

- Chief 72 truck;** The 2024 Chevy is in the process of lights and siren installation. All installations are being done in-house.

- The canopy on the current CH72 Chevy will be moved to the new one. Pending funds, we will be purchasing and installing a mobile CAFS unit with a bed slide.

- Utility Trailer:** I have tasked Jason Miller with locating a minimum of three utility trailers to be considered for purchase.

- **Facilities:** Station 71 has a new storage building on the West Lawn. This is part of an ongoing plan to maximize usable space inside bays at Station 71. We have also moved the shipping container from Station 74 to Station 71. This container will be used to host surplus hose, hand tools, and other frequently used equipment and supplies. The old "red" shed previously here at Station 71 has been moved to Station 74 for use.

- Station 75:** One of the surplus Military Mobile Generators has been serviced and inspected. We plan to place this generator at Station 75. Next will be the service and repairs to the 2<sup>nd</sup> mobile Generator. We plan to keep this Generator as a mobile unit on an as-needed basis.

- **Safety Committee Meeting:** We are still working on scheduling our next safety committee meeting

**Unfinished Business:**

- **TIF Update (Commissioner Jones & Chief Asher):** An Excel spreadsheet presentation was provided. Commissioner Jones shared information based on the Assessor's assessments and concluded that, in 15 years, CFR7 would lose approximately \$240,000 for that year due to new construction. This reflects the County's interpretation and does not align with the projections presented by the City of Chelan's consultant. If this projection holds true, mitigation discussions with the City of Chelan will be necessary.
- Chairman Donnell mentioned that Clark County or Cowlitz may also be going through this TIF.
- SAFER Grant Update: First quarter progress and financial reports were submitted. Recommend removing it from unfinished business.
- Moving Accounts Payables and Payroll from County System Adopt Resolution 2026-001 Commissioner Jones MOTIONS to APPROVE resolution 2026-001, Commissioner Edinger seconded, motion carried.
- The SOG Payroll Process was presented to the board via email for review
- 2027 – 2031 Strategic Plan; \$18,930 from Ironwood Strategic Solutions. We've also emailed 3 other companies requesting information/proposal.
- 2026 Policy Manual Update Chairman Donnell explained the different sections and who gets what. He has divided them into 4 parts, with a goal to be completed by April 2026.
- Commissioner Edinger MOTION to approve the Administrative polices 001 to 011 as presented, Commissioner Jones seconded, motion carried.
- Move the Marine response to the objectives and outlooks
- ST-75 Parcel Sale: agreed to wait till better selling time if we are going to sell.



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**New Business:**

- Commissioner Jones motion to approve out-of-state travel for FF Sam Belsky and Taylor Rains to Las Vegas at the end of March, with the district covering class tuition. Commissioner Edinger seconded. Motion carried.
- 2026 Seasonal Firefighters discussion. Chairman Donnell expressed concerns. Suggested that we need our new volunteers to continue to stay involved. We recognize that we may have an interesting fire season. Does not feel it will impact the budget this season, but in the future, we could see the impact.
- Commissioner Jones expressed his concerns and shared his thoughts on utilizing seasonals as the revenue they generate on Mobe can pay for themselves, concerns with being self-funded, and the unemployment, but we have yet to see that, and would like the district to reevaluate the budget.
- Chief Asher mentioned the seasonals were budgeted. We've decreased our backfill capabilities by 25% by not including seasonals and Chiefs. This allows for 2 calls at once during tourist season by covering K-days and vacation days. As of this year the Chiefs cannot backfill for career staff; 12 guys will have to staff the station, and that's where the seasonal help to cover.
- Chairman Donnell reiterated that our priority is to serve this fire district.
- Commissioner Edinger asked lots of great questions.
- Commissioner Jones MOTIONED to move forward with the Assistant Fire Chief Contract from 2026-2029, all approved
- 2026 Airport Lease Amendment: Approval is required to update the airport lease. The amendment locks in the District's rate with appropriate language. Chairman Donnell requested that the District's attorney review the document prior to approval.
- Commissioner Jones MOTION to approve Resolution 2026-03 to Surplus 5 old mattresses, all approved.
- Commissioner Edinger MOTION to approve Resolution 2026-04 for Small works Roster and vendor list, all approved

**Special Events:**

- KOZI – Community Connection Thursday, February 19 @ 8:10 Chief Asher and Commissioner Edinger
- March- Taste Chelan Taste Tour
- March 14 Shamrock Shuffle and the Top Dawg parade
- CFR7 100 year April 18, 2026

**Board for Volunteer Firefighters:** None

**Public Comment:**

- Rich Ulhorn has several photos and would be willing to send them in high resolution, and they go back a long way

**Commissioner's Closing Comments:**

- Commissioner Edinger is very excited to be here
- Chairman Donnell is very thankful for Commissioner Jones's hard work in the TIF
- The next scheduled Regular Commissioner meeting is March 18, 2026

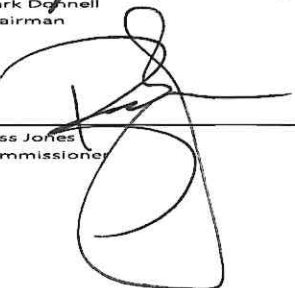
**Executive Session:** None

**Adjournment:**

**There was no more business before the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Jones MOTIONED to ADJOURN the regular meeting at 4:38. The MOTION CARRIED**

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


x   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Donnell  
Chairman

x   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Jones  
Commissioner



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X   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Edinger  
Commissioner

X   
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Misty Fifield  
District Secretary