

**Klickitat County Fire District 3 Commissioners Meeting**  
**119 NE Church Street**  
**May 10, 2023, at 1900 (7 pm)**

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**West Klickitat County Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee**

**Call to order.19:00**

**The City of WS and KCFD 3 called their meetings to order.**

**Attendance**

Commissioner Montag (Chair), Commissioner Connor (Vice Chair), Commissioner Virts – (Quorum),  
City Council Members: Jason Hartman, Ben Giant (remote), Jim Ransier, Patty Fink, David Lindley- (Quorum).  
KCFD3 Staff/volunteers: Wes Long (Fire Chief), Rozalind Plumb (Dist. Secretary), Jennifer McLean (Admin.  
Assistant), Bob Merritt (mHc Associates) Chief Hunsaker (WSFD), Stephanie Porter (WS Clerk Treasurer),

**Business items:**

A- WKRFA Plan- final draft review and adoption.

Discussion continued between the RFA Committee regarding finalizing the plan for presentation to the full City Council.

Concern was raised about the condensed timeline this project has been under. The unintended consequence of the short timeframe has meant the public is mostly unaware of the topic. It was reported that there was similar concern from some of the firefighters.

Discussion occurred regarding the option to postpone the vote until November with the RFA going into effect in January 2024. This would allow more time for public education and input. It would also have significant financial consequences for the new RFA as it would not be able to levy funds until 2025. Suggestion was made to move forward with the vote in November but make the effective date later in 2024. The City and KCFD3 would budget for 2024 as normal. The RFA and any new staffing required in the plan would not be effective until later in 2025.

Additional time before the vote will allow for refining some of the questions around the governing board, the budget, and volunteer input for the master and deployment plan.

It was emphasized that the consensus is in favor of the RFA. While there is concern about losing momentum the intent is to make sure it passes at the vote.

**Public Comment. –**

Eric Bosler KCFD3 noted that this has been in process since 2014 from the first Task Force report.

Karl Swanson WSFD noted the members of WSFD are in support of the RFA. However, they would like to have more input and more time to make the product something everyone can get behind.

Chief Long expressed his thanks to the committee, consultant, and the staff for getting us this far.

Consensus is still to move forward with an RFA as it makes sense. The plan is good, the momentum is in the right direction. It just needs a little more time to really hit the target.  
The committee should plan talking points to take to the public.

Ultimately the Committee made the decision to table the plan and reconvene within 14 days.

***Motion to table the plan made by Commissioner Virts Seconded by Councilman Hartman (6 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.***

**B- Joint Resolution 2023-10/2023-05-562 providing for the submission of the WKRFA for the August 1 2023 Election pursuant to RCW 52.26.**

No action was taken to move this ballot measure forward for the August 1, 2023 election.

**ADJOURN.**

**WS City Council meeting adjourned.**

***"Motion to adjourn," made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor***

Meeting adjourned at 20:30 hrs.

**APPROVED BY:**

 6/8/23

Chairman – Commissioner Thomas Montag (date)

**Attest:**



District Secretary Rozalind Plumb

 6/8/23

Commissioner Robert Connor (date)

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Commissioner Charles Virts (date)