

# Klickitat County Fire District 3

200 Husum Street Husum, WA 98623

Commissioner's Regular Meeting

July 11, 2024, at 15:00 (3 pm)

This meeting was available using remote online video and telephone technology. The district posted notice of how to access the meeting (Website).

**Call to order:** 15:10

**Attendance:** Commissioner Montag (Chair), Commissioner Connor (Vice Chair), Commissioner Virts – (Quorum) Staff/Volunteers: Wes Long (Fire Chief), Eric Bosler (Fire Prevention), Rozalind Plumb (District Secretary), Debbie Olson, Lloyd Olson.

**Approval of agenda.**

***"Move to approve the agenda as published." Made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.***

**Minutes of the last meeting:**

- June 13th, 2024, Regular Board Meeting
- June 13th, 2024, Annexation Hearing

***"Move to approve the minutes of [June] 13th Annexation Hearing and also the regular Board meeting Regular Meeting minutes of the same date". Made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.***

**Finance Report** See attached.

General Expenditure Scripts

Date	Amount
6/13/24	1,092.65
6/20/24	545.50
6/25/24	456,757.45
6/26/24	363.14
7/01/24	1,118.23

***Motion to pay the general expense scripts, the first being dated the 13<sup>th</sup> of June in the amount of \$1,092.65, next item is on 20<sup>th</sup> of June in the amount of \$545.50, item 3 on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024 in the amount of \$456,757.45, and the 26<sup>th</sup> of June in amount of \$363.14, 1<sup>st</sup> of July in the amount of \$1,118.23." Made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.***

6/25/24 script for \$456,757.45 is for the new Engine. The payment of the engine was preauthorized via the contract. This payment is also reflected in the reduction in invested funds. Investment interest rate is at 5.4042% and has earned \$37,816 so far this year.

**Bond Fund:**

Discussion on the bond and the option to invest the funds (\$627,578.56) currently sitting in the Bond fund account. When the bond was initiated, the board was advised by Counsel to request more than the

annual payment in the event that the levy was not paid by everyone. We now have enough in the account to cover shortages. The board should levy less in the future and still be able to cover the bond payment.

Bond consultant (Jim Nelson at DA Davidson) advised asking for the exact payment.

Discussion on being able to pay off the bond early. This will require further discussion with bond counsel as it is not straight forward.

The current balance can be invested, and the interest can help pay down the debt. Investment officers will talk after the meeting to discuss the topic further.

**Chief's / Training Report** See attached.

The update included the bridge closure and the effect it has on public safety and mutual aid to and from Hood River County. There was a call for mutual aid and the fire engines had to unload their water before crossing the bridge, and refill once they were across. This added to response time.

The DNR project to reduce fuels around the City of White Salmon with a "Shaded fuel break" is moving forward. The contractors are up against hot weather and Industrial Fire Precaution Levels (IFPL).

Strike Teams – Chief has requested prepositioned teams to be available in Klickitat County during the current heat wave.

Training is going well, we have new recruits interested in joining.

#### **On Going Business**

1. **Personnel:** none
2. **Policies:** Policy reviews are underway for the RFA.
3. **Capital Projects**
  - **Station 31**
    - a) **ADA Walkway** – Waiting for another quote.
    - b) **Fence** – station 31 fence will start on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Some vegetation removal will be required before the contractor starts.
    - c) **Emergency Power** – Electrician will stop by next week to look at the project.
  - **Station 32**
    - a) **Fence** – complete.
4. **New Engine Replacement:**

New engine is currently at station 31 waiting for radios and equipment to be installed.
5. **Reserve Engine**

The Chief has inspected the proposed replacement engine. It is not new. He ran it and pumped it. He has requested estimates from our mechanic on potential cost if certain items on the engine need to be replaced. The estimate for a worst-case scenario of a failed pump is \$15,000. Chief hopes to sell the 2003 ALF for \$80,000 which will cover the cost of the replacement engine and potential additional costs for repairs and tires. The ALF cannot be put up for sale unless it has been declared surplus.

Surplus 2003 Freight liner / American LaFrance

**Resolution 2024- 09** a resolution declaring certain property surplus to the needs of the district. Chief noted that there is no price stated in the resolution. The Board is aware that the intent is

to cover the cost of the replacement engine. If that is not possible then the project will be reevaluated.

**Motion to approve the resolution 2024-09 made by Commissioner Virts seconded by Commissioner Connor, (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.**

**6. West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority**

General Update. The sub committees have met and discussed the hiring process for full time personnel. The Governance Subcommittee is still waiting for feedback on the draft governance policy. The agenda for the first RFA meeting is being built and legal counsel will need to be involved to make sure we cover required items and that resolutions are correct. Once the RFA is established on September 30<sup>th</sup> there will be 3 months to plan the budget, certify the levy and to transition operations. The draft lease agreement is in circulation and needs to be addressed. Next planning committee meeting is July 18<sup>th</sup>.


- **New Business:** None
- **Public Discussion:** None.
  
- **Good of the order:**  
Commissioner Connor commented that he had DNR inspect his property for fire wise program and said he would be happy to help others get involved and make use of the grant program. Chief Long noted that White Salmon Fire Department has reached 100 years this year. He also noted that Chief Hunsaker will be retiring at the end of 2024.
  
- **Next meeting:**
  - a) Regular meeting: Thursday August 8<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm.
  - b) WKRFA Planning Committee will be Thursday July 18, at 18:30 in White Salmon.

***"Motion to adjourn." Made by Commissioner Connor, seconded by Commissioner Virts. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.***

- **Adjourned: 15:55 (3:55 pm)**  
[Note to file; there is no recording for this meeting due to technical error]


**APPROVED BY:**

  
Chairman – Commissioner Thomas Montag (date)

  
Commissioner Robert Connor (date)

  
Commissioner Charles Virts (date)

**Attest:**

  
District Secretary Rozalind Plumb