



KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT # 7
MINUTES OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
February 8, 2023 18:00

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 18:00 hours at station 72, on February 8, 2023. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Chair Bill Dickinson.

PRESENT: Commissioner Chair Bill Dickinson, Commissioner Vice Chair Robert Cernick, Commissioner Justin Zipperer, Chief Sinclair, Finance Admin/District Secretary Micallef. Seven members of KCFD7 and volunteers were present and seven members of the public.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick moved to approve the agenda, Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion and the Board voted 3-0 to approve the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Volunteer Tony Cebe who lives in the Liberty area read a letter from his insurance company stated he was being cancelled due to high wildfire risk. He asked what is being done at legislative level to control insurance companies and not let them cancel people. Volunteer Brian Ditsworth who lives on Westside Road stated he has the same insurance company and his rates have doubled in the last year. Chief Sinclair talked that they are working on getting WSRB to do away with the 5 mile rule that seems to be hurting a lot of people. And also states he is willing to talk to insurance companies that have cancelled people and see if anything can be done.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Meeting minutes were from the January Regular Meeting. Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick motioned to approve and sign meeting minutes, Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion, the Board Voted 3-0 and signed the meeting minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurers Report was delayed due to a early in the month meeting. Balance in accounts at the end of January was \$1,244,651.84. In 2023 so far \$4,353.80 has been collected in taxes.

Check registers were presented and were signed.

CHIEFS REPORT:

Elk Meadows Bridge—letter was read. Meeting was attended. Could have an impact on Station 73 as the water supply for the station comes across the bridge. This is also a life safety issue for the people who reside on the other side of the bridge. If they don't allow residents to have the bridge we won't be able to respond to Fire/EMS calls for residents who reside on the other side of the bridge.

April 20, 2023, is the Fire Service Appreciation and Awards banquet. Please mark your calendar. Bristol Flats development—There is a development going into that area on both sides of the river. One the southwest side of the river they have a 3-acre lot that they will reserve for a future fire station, if we want. A picture of proposed development is passed around. Will keep the idea



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for a future station just not sure if we would have many volunteers out there.

Hidden Valley—unchanged, we continue our efforts to have the homeowners sign the petition. Still don't have enough signatures to start process.

Fire District 6—Chief Jackson is requesting an automatic 1st alarm agreement with KCFD-7. This would benefit the citizens that live in both agencies. Once they have draft document, we will bring it to both boards.

Chris Martin has requested to meet to discuss joint efforts regarding the two upper county chipper crews. He received grant money, and they purchased an industrial chipper. If both crews worked together, they could take on bigger projects. We will have a meeting with the Conservation District, Chris Martin, and District 7. Please let me know if you have guidance. Kittitas County Fire Marshal- Deputy fire marshal stated that he will be unable to make development decisions until sometime in March due to his backlog of work.

2023 Legislative--the joint WFC/WFCA Legislative Day is February 17th.

Fleet/Station Issues: Furnace at Station 73 was successfully fixed. Work on the septic has been finished by Roto Rooter. Will be putting straw down as it is very muddy out there. Fixes to the crews first out engine almost done. Last tender is nearing completion and hoping to be finished by the end of February. There is a DNR grant that will allow us to possibly get funds for the remote nozzle on the front of the tender.

City of Cle Elum/County Commissioner meeting was attended by Chief Sinclair. Lots of conversation about growth and what is in the plans to handle traffic. The need for another grocery store was discussed.

Deputy Chief Hutsell is now a Type 1 IC for incidents.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Legislative meetings, WFCA Leg committee is looking to push for grants, and election changes. Looking to expand BVFF benefits, and push to do away with the 1% rule.

DEPUTY CHIEF REPORT: Deputy Chief Hutsell had another meeting to attend.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **ESCI/KVFR Joint Meeting:** March 1st works for everyone. A member of the public asked why District 1 isn't part of this consolidation. It was explained that they have stated they are not interested. Another member of the public asked if Upper County would lose its representation if the consolidation happened. Commissioner Chair Dickinson explained that the Board would still exist. Questions about who would technically own the apparatus and such were asked. They explained that would all be covered in a contract for service if that is the route the Boards choose to go.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Resolution 2023-5 Surplus Brush Truck:** Old Station 71 brush truck, Commissioner Chair Dickinson moved to approve and sign the resolution. Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0 to approve and sign the resolution.



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Good of the order: FF Kristin Hellenen our newest hire stood up and introduced himself and thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Article in the Tribune about our other new hires who are at the academy, Daniel Hinkle and Grant Victor.

Former Chief Hobbs stated he liked the idea of doing eminent domain for Tennyway.

Executive Session: Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (g) to review the performance of a public employee the Board will go into executive session at 19:21 and should be in executive session for 24 minutes to 19:45.

The Board came out of Executive session at 19:44 and no action was taken.

Meeting was adjourned at 19:45.

APPROVED

Kittitas County Fire District No. 7,
Kittitas County Washington

By: Bill Dickinson
Bill Dickinson, Commissioner Chair

By: Robert Cernick
Robert Cernick, Commissioner Vice Chair

By: Justin Zipperer
Justin Zipperer, Commissioner

ATTEST: Eryn A Micallef
Eryn A Micallef, District Secretary