



KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT # 7
MINUTES OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
April 12, 2023 18:00

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 18:00 hours at Station 72, on April 12, 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, Deputy Chief Hutsell, Finance Admin/District
Secretary Micallef. 14 members of the public and 7 members of KCFD7 in attendance.

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: Ira Astrachan a resident of Suncadia spoke for 3 minutes about having
paid response to Suncadia and a want for us to work with District 6 and staffing of Station 76.
Larry Leach of WA DNR spoke to the commissioners wanting them to move forward with the
Lease agreement on Station 75. He discussed that he needs to get something set in writing for
this very soon, receiving pressure from above him to wrap it up. The lease agreement is around
\$1,300 a year for the property in which our station is located. Commissioners are expressing
they would like to look at all options first.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Meeting minutes
were from the March 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: Letter from Life Support detailing a donation.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Treasurers Report was delayed due to a early in the month meeting.
Balance in accounts at the end of March was \$1,222,861.60. In 2023 so far \$566,870.98 has been
collected in taxes.

Check registers were presented and were signed.

CHIEFS REPORT:

First Chief Sinclair would like to answer some of the public comments. He is working on
Mutual Aid agreements with District 6.

Hidden Valley—We will be having a meeting with the Hidden Valley Community on May 5,
2023. It will be in the afternoon and Dr. Patricia Galloway is hosting. We are intending to com-
municate and educate the community regarding what happens when you have improved property
outside a fire protection district. Additionally, we are seeking to answer many of their questions,
since there seems to be a great deal of misinformation.



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April 20, 2023, is graduation day and the Fire Service Appreciation and Awards banquet.

Upper Kittitas County Chipper Crew—*This year the UKC Fuels crew has expanded inter-agency cooperation with staffing from Roslyn, FD6, FD7 and the WA DNR. The crew will consist of 16 personnel staffed through Roslyn and funded by the WA DNR and the Conservation District through June 30th and then the US Forest Service after June 30th. An additional 6 personnel will be WA DNR employees. Total crew numbers are currently at 22 allowing the county to have a full Type 2 hand crew available to supplement other suppression resources and to work, as a priority, on fuels projects.*

The plan, and we are working on an agreement, is that for day-to-day fuels work the crew will be directed by us to achieve the objectives of our grant funding. For initial attack in the county, prepositioning, extensions, and/or fire assignments the crew will be dispatched by the DNR Duty Officer/Central WA Interagency Dispatch Center (CWICC) using the unit designator Crew 421. (4=DNR SE Region, 2=Kittitas, 1=Crew 1.) On high fuels days and/or low staffing from other agencies they can extend our crew and keep them on the clock till 2000 or pre-position the resources where need is determined. When the crew is ordered by DNR time and equipment will be billed to DNR and not to the grants. All in all, it is a really big enhancement of staffing in the upper county.

Impacts from the I-90 Bridge Repair. Starting in April DOT will begin working on the I-90 Bridge that goes over South Cle Elum Way. This week, Chief Hutsell and I met with Chief Mills regarding the impacts. We are formulating an operational plan and may make some apparatus changes at Station 7-1.

Legislative issues—good News, the Volunteer Firefighter Pension Enhancement Bill is headed for the Governors Signature.

COMMISSIONERS REPORT: Legislative sessions currently happening.

DEPUTY CHIEF REPORT: Coffee with Chiefs and many other community events. Daniel Hinkle will graduate soon. March 30th KCFD7 did career day at the High School, May 6 will be doing KCFACC firewise day. Wildland Refreshers are currently being done.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **ESCI/KVFR Joint Meeting:** April 19th at 6pm at KVFR's Station 29 since they have a larger meeting facility. Commissioner Zipperer motioned to approve the Special Meeting Date, Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick seconded the motion. The Board voted 3-0 to approve having the meeting April 19th.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Resolution 2023-7 Volunteer Program Stipend:** We have been advised by our legal counsel that due to some recent law cases where volunteers have sued districts, we need to outline our



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program better and have an updated stipend amounts. Commissioner Zipperer motioned to approve and sign the resolution, Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick seconded the motion and the Board voted 3-0 to sign and approve the resolution.

- b. **Purchasing Policy Update:** With added positions we needed to update our purchasing policy. Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick motioned to approve the policy, Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the policy.
- c. **Resolution 2023-7 Cost Recovery-** EF recovery informed us we need this to be able to bill for responses that are out of district but we use our rescue equipment and apparatus. Commissioner Vice Chair Cernick motioned to approve and sign the resolution, Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion, the Board voted 3-0 and signed the resolution.
- d. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** none.

Meeting was adjourned at 18:53.

APPROVED

Kittitas County Fire District No. 7,
Kittitas County Washington

By: Bill Dickinson
Bill Dickinson, Commissioner Chair

By: _____
Robert Cernick, Commissioner Vice Chair

By: Justin Zipperer
Justin Zipperer, Commissioner

ATTEST: Eryn A Micallef
Eryn A Micallef, District Secretary