



KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT # 7
MINUTES OF SPECIAL FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 2, 2024 16:00

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting started at 16:20 at station 72, 5511 Airport Road, Cle Elum, WA, on January 2nd, 2024. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by KCFD7 Commissioner Bob Cernick.

PRESENT: Commissioner Bob Cernick, Commissioner Justin Zipperer and Commissioner Jeff Myers. Deputy Chief Hutsell, and Finance Admin/District Secretary Micallef were all present. 35 members of the public and 17 members of KCFD7 were in attendance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Commissioner Zipperer motioned to approve the agenda, Commissioner Cernick seconded the agenda, the Board voted 2-0 to approve the agenda.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY: Commissioner Jeff Myers was sworn in by District Secretary Micallef. Commissioner Myers wanted to read a statement. He thanked all of his supporters. Commissioner Myers talked about why he wanted to become a Commissioner and what he wanted to achieve. He asked everyone to be patient as changes will take time. Commissioner Myers thanked the neighboring districts for their support of Kittitas County Fire District 7, and moving forward we hope to be good neighbors.

CHIEF SEARCH: District Secretary Micallef went over the two companies that have given proposals for the chief search. Both are very expensive. Commissioner Myers would like to have a committee and do the search without a company. There seems to be lots of interest already in the position without it even being posted yet. Commissioner Myers motioned to not use an executive searching company and to do the search by KCFD7 committee. Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to handle the search by KCFD7 committee. Commissioner Myers wants the committee to assist with the search and to identify with the district and its members what everyone is looking for in a chief. The hope is to identify a chief in 90 days.

INTERIM CHIEF: The bridge contract with KCFD7 and KVFR for Chief Services was presented. Former Chief Sinclair said that the contract is month to month and can be ended at any time. He stated that there are current conditions that need to be dealt with like the day-to-day operations and contract negotiations to finish. He would like the district to move forward. Commissioner Cernick wants to continue with the contract. Commissioner Zipperer doesn't like the increase in the cost of the contract. Commissioner Myers stated it's not the correct price for a part-time chief. Commissioner Myers asked former Chief Sinclair if he would negotiate his costs, and possibly do an hourly rate. Former Chief Sinclair said he needed to consult with his wife and that he would consider negotiating in an executive session at the next regular meeting. Commissioners agreed to that. As for the interim duties Commissioner Cernick stated we have a Deputy Chief who could step in. It was not put forth for a vote. Commissioner Myers motioned to have Battalion Chief McFarland as Interim Chief. Commissioner Zipperer seconded the motion. The Board voted 2-1 to have McFarland become interim chief. Commissioner Myers asked District Secretary Micallef to add an executive session to the next meeting.



**KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT # 7
MINUTES OF SPECIAL FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 2, 2024 16:00**

Commissioner Zipperer moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Myers seconded it. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 16:44.

APPROVED

Kittitas County Fire District No. 7,
Kittitas County Washington

By: 
Robert Cernick, Commissioner

By: 
Justin Zipperer, Commissioner

By: 
Jeff Myers, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Eryn A Micallef, District Secretary