

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
September 12, 2016**

The meeting convened at 3:00 pm at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present were Commissioner Chairman Les Riel, Vice-Chairman Dan McNulty, Commissioner David Ramynke, Interim Chief Dave Leitch and District Secretary Jenifer Huitt. Others present were BC Rick Woodall, Lt Trevor Lenseigne, FF Tyler Abhold, and FF Sean McDonald.

Chairman Riel called the meeting to order and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved and the meeting continued.

**BRIEFING FROM CHIEF LEITCH REFERENCING HIS ACTIVITIES WITH THE DISTRICT.**

Chief Leitch has been out here more than he wants and has still not met with the Volunteers but will on September 27<sup>th</sup>. One concern is that there are three separate Lieutenants running things so it's like there are three different bosses. It would be nice to have one person here at the station overseeing things and he does not have the time to get it all done. One of the ideas would be to have a Lieutenant promoted to Captain and working day shift Monday-Friday which would make daily operations consistent, which then means for staffing we would be short a Firefighter. The need is now to have someone here. We also need to get new recruits in here as we are really short on volunteers. Volunteer BC Woodall might be able to step in temporarily to be responsible for all the Volunteers and communicate with the Career LT's until a chief is hired. The chain of command needs to be updated so it is clear to all staff to help eliminate some of the personnel issues. Chairman Riel would like a search to be started for a chief as soon as possible and would like Chief Leitch to help if possible. BC Woodall may be willing to help out. Chairman Riel would like everyone to consider this possible scenario: Interim BC Woodall available 2-3 days a week responsible for recruitment/retention, daily issues, meetings w/Chief Leitch. If LT's have issues they cannot resolve then discuss with BC Woodall, if it still does not get resolved move the issue to Chief Leitch. After a new firefighter is hired in Nov-Dec then move one of the LT's up to Captain's position. Commissioner Ramynke suggested the possibility having a Captain now. Chief Leitch stated that would be Trevor however that may complicate things. BC Woodall suggested making a temporary adjustment to the chain of command to make any changes official from the Board of Commissioners and have a MOU in place for the Interim BC position. Chief Leitch would like to see a letter from the Board go out to all the staff to clarify his authority so he can make changes as needed. One other issue that has come up is the Volunteers are concerned that they cannot attend the meetings. To this point Chief Leitch has told them if they have concerns to pass them on up the chain of command because the meetings are for the public to put in their ideas. Chairman Riel continued the meeting.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

There were no comments and Chairman Riel continued the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Vice-Chair McNulty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ramynke seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.



Chairman Les Riel



Vice-Chairman Dan McNulty

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ATTEST:

  
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Commissioner David Ramynke

  
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District Secretary Jenifer Huitt