

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

The meeting convened at 3:30 pm at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present at Station 40 were Chairman Ben St. Mary, Commissioner Les Riel, Commissioner David Ramynke, Fire Chief Dale Hille, District Secretary Katelynn Hogan, and Administrative Assistant Morgan Frost; via Zoom was Deputy Fire Chief Ray Lamoureux.

Commissioner St. Mary called the meeting to order at 1530.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner St. Mary lead in the pledge of allegiance.

**LIMITED OPEN PUBLIC INPUT** for items NOT on the Agenda - Public comment for items that are on the agenda are allowed as the item comes up for discussion during the meeting.

Commissioner St. Mary noted there was no public input at this time.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. Commissioner Ramynke seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**SECRETARY'S REPORT**

- Fund Balances as of May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

- June 12, 2023 BOC Meeting Minutes

**CLAIMS REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL**

Claims Requests FIRE \$	88,939.07
Claims Requests EMS \$	<u>3,764.50</u>
<b>Total Claims \$</b>	<b>92,703.57</b>

**CORRESPONDANCE – None**

**CHIEFS REPORT - Attached**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Annexation

Commissioner Riel, DC Lamoureux and FC Hille had a meeting with the attorney Seth Otto from a consulting firm and an attorney the district currently works with on creating more detailed reports regarding a complete strategic plan. DC Lamoureux and FC Hille will send Seth a current strategic plan, showing an Apparatus and Capital Projects Amortization schedule so they have an understanding of where to begin. The cost for them to proceed is around \$40,000. Commissioner Riel informed the board that they will be meeting with that group again on June 27<sup>th</sup> at 1300 via zoom.

- RFA

Commissioner Ramynke noted that an RFA seems to be more of a threat due to the district being financially secure on its own as well as an annexation. Commissioner Riel reminded the board that the idea of an RFA was brought up some three years ago where it was decided it wasn't beneficial for our district as there would be no benefit for the taxpayers in the community. FC Aaron Markham emailed FC Hille stating he would like to have another meeting with FC Hille and DC Lamoureux to discuss the potential of an RFA. There is no commitment as they are looking at if the district would want to be a part of the feasibility study of the RFA. FC Hille believes that an RFA would not be possible without a fire benefit charge and does not believe the voters would agree. Commissioner Ramynke believes the board and the Fire District as a whole need to be more versed in an RFA and need to go through the entire process before jumping into a

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feasibility study, Chairman St. Mary agrees. DS Hogan will be looking into what other information WFCIA can send the district on RFAs for reference. FC Hille will reach out to other local Fire Chiefs to see who would be interested in attending an educational seminar on RFA's. FC Hille will reach out to Brian Snure to schedule a time to come to Station 40 to give a presentation on the pros and cons of an RFA to be more informed. At this time the district is not interested in participating in a feasible RFA study with the City of Yakima Fire.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **YAKCORP**

YAKCORP sent out an amendment to reduce the administration fee for communications by half. City of Yakima was the previous fiscal agent for YAKCORP and will now change to Yakima County meaning they will be the ones taking care of billing. Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the YAKCORP City Interlocal agreement. Commissioner Ramynke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Levy Lid Lift**

This will be a constant on our agenda to be a place holder to talk about any changes. FC Hille informed the board that he sent an email to Jacob Tate with Yakima County regarding projections for assessing evaluation and his response was that they do not assess projections because property tax assessments are retrospective. Their current assessment date is January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 for 2024 values. Currently we are seeing a 10-15% growth warranted because the difference between sales price. They're also looking at slightly higher assessment valuations as the Moxee area is growing rapidly while other areas are slowing down and they won't see those values until the next year.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - None**

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

- **Fire Marshal**

FC Hille informed the board that Yakima County is currently going through the process of hiring a Fire Marshal. Commissioner Riel stated there will be a Fire Chief, a contractor, and a Fire Commissioner to sit on the interview panel for the Fire Marshal hiring process.

- **Party in the Park**

This will be a family event in the Moxee Park Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 1300 - 1600 to benefit the neighborhood watch program. There will be a silent auction, food and kids' games.

- **Recognition of our Career/Volunteer Staff**

FC Hille expressed that he would like DS Hogan and AA Frost to work on coming up with a way to recognize all Career and Volunteer Staff for their milestone years of service (past and present.) FC Hille also noted that local business Station 1889 on Front St. is looking for vintage firefighting memorabilia to hang on the walls for décor.

- **Summer Maintenance**

FC Hille informed the board that the summer maintenance recruits are doing very well with painting fire hydrants and are readily willing to help out on any calls as volunteers.

**SIGNING OF DISTRICT DOCUMENTS – None**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING - Monday, June 26, 2023 at 3:30 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, Commissioner St. Mary made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:26. Commissioner Riel seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:26.

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Chairman Ben St. Mary

  
Vice-Chairman Les Riel

Excused Absence  
Commissioner David Ramynke

Attest:  
  
District Secretary Katelynn Hogan