

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 4  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

The meeting convened at 4:00 pm at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present via Zoom were Commissioner David Ramynke, Commissioner Les Riel, Commissioner Ben St. Mary, Fire Chief Dale Hille and Admin Director Jenifer Huitt; at Station 40 was District Secretary Katelynn Hogan.

Chairman Ramynke called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as circulated. Seconded and carried.

**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.

Chairman Ramynke noted no public attended the meeting.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

- Fund Balances as of May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021
- Employment Records, Personnel Information and the PRA Webinar July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 free training.

b. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

c. **CLAIMS REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL**

Claims Requests Fire	\$ 8,254.21
Claims Requests EMS	\$ 1,572.61
<b>Total Claims</b>	<b>\$ 9,826.82</b>

d. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Updated Signatories for Revolving Checking Account #1600081313
- First round of Submissions for the 2021 WFCA Wage & Benefit Survey

e. **CHIEF'S REPORT - None**

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the consent agenda items a-e as submitted. Seconded and carried.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

DNR is active and helping with fires near the river per FC Hille, City of Yakima covered the district while our Firefighters were down fighting fire and our District reciprocated the next day on their fire as well.

Chairman Ramynke would like to know what type of support are we getting from the volunteers during these busy times. FC Hille informed the board that two Volunteers came in to help B-shift on Friday June 25<sup>th</sup>, and four Volunteers came on Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> to help with Fire calls. Training Captain Babcock will call and push for 4<sup>th</sup> of July coverage from the Volunteers. Currently there are six signed up. FC Hille reminded the board that volunteer participation is in the Chief's report each month. Regular participation from Volunteers has dropped since covid which is about 65% lower from what it used to be and this is common for all fire districts. Chairman Ramynke questioned what can we do about losing the volunteer staffing since moving to a combination department? FC Hille stated he does not know, and has been informed every department nationwide is having issues with this.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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- a. A Volunteer is requesting a Leave of Absence beginning June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021 until August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

FC Hille informed Board of his approval and stated a Doctor's note is needed to return. The board Approve this Leave of absence and the meeting continued.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Riel stated education committee meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> over bylaws and will be recommending approval for commissioners to meet electronically over zoom if another pandemic happens.

Chairman Ramynke stated FC Craig of West Valley received a letter of funding for communication committee \$100,940 after a 2% fee is paid. Raycom contract is being finalized for all of the equipment. FC Craig's efforts have been invaluable. Ted will follow up with some of the tower work and landscaping. The Communications committee is very active and Chairman Ramynke is concerned about the amount of time needed to get things done stating maybe a fire chief (FC) needs to be assigned to be accountable and follow up on things going on. FC Hille wanted clarification for when the contract is ironed out are you looking for someone to just follow up on what is happening? Chairman Ramynke informed yes, and it would still be vetted out by the commissioners for approval, just need someone with more time. Commissioner Riel wanted clarification on how many FC's are on the committee. Chairman Ramynke stated there are two. Commissioner Riel questioned if either of the current FC on the committee could take some of that responsibility? District 5 will deal with Raycom for that service. Commissioner Ramynke stated there are four projects and the equipment that need to be followed up on at the next meeting and finances will be looked at for future equipment replacement.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FC Hille will be coming home from Maryland Fire Academy at the end of the week.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

FC Hille working on 4<sup>th</sup> of July staffing. ST42 will be browned out that night. Volunteers will keep ST42 staffed during the day.

Emergency burn ban is in place until July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Although Yakima Clean Air Authority is still issuing permits. Commissioner Riel informed the ban only includes the unincorporated areas. FC Hille would like to see the Agricultural burns done before June 1<sup>st</sup> so it does not cause more problems and will be networking with others to see if he can make progress on this issue.

**SIGNING OF DISTRICT DOCUMENTS**

The documents will be held for signature at a later date due to OPMA restrictions.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING** – Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 at 4:00 pm.


**ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Riel made a motion to adjourn. There being no other business Chairman Ramynke adjourned the meeting at 4:30 pm.

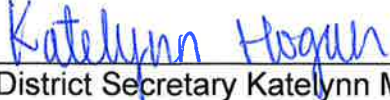
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\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman David Ramynke

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Les Riel

  
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Vice-Chairman Ben St. Mary

Attest:

  
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District Secretary Katelynn M Hogan