



Pierce County Fire District 13

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Minutes Board of Fire Commissioners September 13, 2022

Commissioner Noll called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call led by **Commissioner Noll** to confirm quorum has been met. Present for the meeting: **Commissioner Malone, Chief Wassall**

Members of the Public and Staff 2

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes: Motion- A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve the meeting minutes for August 9, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Seconded: Commissioner Noll.

Passed (Unanimous)

Vouchers:

Motion-A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve vouchers #17411-17449 in the amount of \$45,952.35 for Monthly Payables.

Seconded: Commissioner Noll

Passed (Unanimous)

Motion-A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve voucher #17450 in the amount of \$11,082.00 for a deposit WSP CVA22-01.

Seconded: Commissioner Noll

Passed (Unanimous)

Correspondence:

Bill Drews Memorial Service was well attended. Appreciation for PCFD#13 representation. Donations to Browns Point/Dash Point Fire Department Volunteer Firefighter Association in respect of Bill Drew.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEES:

Chief Report

Calls: 25 total calls, 4 Fire Calls, 13 EMS calls, 1 MVA, 2 Mutual Aid Calls and 5 Service calls.

Staffing and Recruiting: Staffing has been a struggle. During the day shifts especially and evening shifts not so much. Part of the problem is not having enough drivers. We have identified this as being a problem. We are getting some of our newest probationary staff drive time. Our current academy (CVA22-02) is moving ahead. They are now on the drill ground at

Station 21 on Saturdays. Academy group of 22 is now down to 16. Browns Point recruits of 12 is now 10. We lost the Class Commander to illness. His Dr's recommendation is that he does not continue with academy. He is an EMT, when healthy, continue to be one. We will put him through the next Academy. We have started to receive other applicants who would like to make up the next class.

Financial Report:

GL Trial Balance cash on hand:	\$346,402.90
Less 09-13-2022 expenses	-45,952.35
Deposits (not yet posted)	<u>\$2,535.60</u>
Remaining cash on hand:	\$302,986.15

Reserves: \$357,483.88

Training: We are training in-person for both fire and medical. Some would like us to continue to have a hybrid, but we need the hands-on training. Skills learned during academy need to be practiced. So, we don't lose our skills. Same with medical practicals. We are going into winter, and we will need to be on our game. Not everyone is an EMT. For those who are not, we are training them to be valuable during a EMT type call. To assist us until they do get their EMT. The first week of August, I took a FEMA class, All Hazards Logistics Section Chief Course. Learned how many pieces it took to set up a camp and what it took to handle a major incident. Great class. Much more to learn.

SS911: There was a meeting yesterday. Did not have daytime staffing, so I couldn't attend. The meeting was about radios. What's working/not working and what is everyone looking for in the next radio. Us? push the button and be able to talk to each other and Firecomm.

Fleet Status: We are still waiting for parts to complete the annual inspection and repairs to E76. I'm hoping that once the academy starts HazMat, we can get E77 in for her inspection and annual service. We deployed to Eastern WA. On day 2, broke the transfer case on BR76. She is currently sitting at a repair shop in Lacrosse, WA. The mechanic believes he can get her repaired but it's harvest time and his priority is not BR76. We are looking and have been looking for an affordable way to get her back on this side of the mountain. We have a transmission shop in Tacoma waiting. Monday next week, my command rig goes in for her lights and siren package.

Good of the Order: We had a table at the Salmon Bake. The first day we had several calls related to the heat and 1 fall patient that needed transport to the hospital. We broke in REX to bring up 1 patient from the beer garden to be picked up. She was giving high 5's the entire ride. Captain Fitzgerald was part of a HazMat response in West Pierce's area. Being the chemist, Dr. Fitzgerald and others developed a game plan to stabilize the incident. Station 76 had a water pipe burst. Good news, it was on the water department side of the meter. Tacoma Water came out and replaced the pipe. We have had no issues since. We had a scare with the compressor. Luckily, I was standing next to the unit when a "long regular valve" started popping off. Loud doesn't properly describe the noise it made. The service tech came out and said there was no damage to the compressor. Parts are ordered, we are down for a couple of days.

We sent both Battalion Chief's to Shelton for the Drager SCBA repair class. The certificate is good for 2 years. Next year Keri and I will be headed to the same class so we can "in-house" keep our SCBA's in service. B/C Rapozo went for his initial training, B/C Sandstrom was a refresher to maintain his certification.

B/C Les Sandstrom will be leaving us at the end of September. He will be headed to Eastern WA. Working for a different department and closer to family. He and I have worked well together. I want to wish him the best of luck in his new position. He will be missed. We have enjoyed working with him and the knowledge he brought to make our department better. Can we move the date for October Commissioner meeting to the 4th instead of 11th? Scheduling problems. (Answer was yes).

MSO Report:

Presented by Chief Wassall:

System Design has now started billing insurance for transports.
We need to send invoices to FEMA.
Grant for Marine 77 needs adjusting to cover our need for radios.

Commissioner(s) Report:

Commissioner Malone:

Can we create a list of what is mandated by WA ST that shows financial impact to PCFD#13. BPIC quarterly meeting tonight.
Decisions to be made about Trunk or Treat, Turkey Bingo, and New Year's Eve Party.
Next Commissioners Meeting Agenda add Metro Parks security gate monitoring.

Commissioner Noll:

We have achieved a magazine article in "Greet". Northeast Tacoma recognizing CVA22-01 graduating class. (Was formerly Life at the Points)
Have provided an article to Greet, DPSIC and BPIC about Fire District planning efforts. Goal is to have information available before November 8th.
Striving to get Fire District information to inform the community.
We appreciate Tara Kleca's efforts related to security, litter, and unsightly camping in our area.
Status of PCFD#13 Volunteer Association? What changes are happening due to new Board.
Parker Lucy is currently acting President.
Noel Fitzgerald (New Treasurer) and is working on cleaning up sloppy bookkeeping. Also need extensive revisions to the bylaws.
Annual Chiefs evaluation form will be distributed.
Can we remove link "Connect With Us" from PCFD#13 website?
For Facebook-currently reads "Content Not Available"
For Twitter

Public Information Report-Presented by (position vacant)
Knox box Grant was turned down.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Town Center Project Status:
Reached out to Dennis Bryant. His response was to call Matt Heron.
Discussed with Matt financials and site development.
Needs investor to build the project.
No activity on permits.
Will impact how we move forward. Building? Engines?
2. St. Matthew Partnership:
Geo Test needed on site. Malone authorizing to proceed.
DOT approved driveways to HWY 509. Will need flashing light.
Motion-A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve Ages Engineering to do a geo technical review on St Matthew property.
Seconded: Commissioner Noll
Passed (Unanimous)
3. Lid Lift Community Information
Prop 1 signs. Are there any out there to borrow?
Planning articles in "Greet" magazine, Ripples, and BPIC bulletin.
Current legislation to raise the 1% limitation will be addressed in 2023.
4. Fire Engine Evaluations:
Rosenbauer is probable choice.
Need work to develop requirements and specifications on what will be needed on new engine.
Is financing through the State of Washington feasible?
Any Grants available?

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Chief Wassall Annual Review:
Will be given on Oct 4, 2022. This will include a self-review by the Chief and input from each Commissioner.
New 3-year contract starting 1.1.2023 being drafted.
2. Review of Volunteer Stipend Rates:
Discussed budget impact of increasing volunteer stipend rates for shifts and calls.
Projections were provided for \$5 and \$10 increase. An additional \$5 increase adds \$16k and \$10 increase adds \$25K to the budget. Stipend rates have not been increased since 2019. A stipend increase may help in filling shifts. Discussion also included some type of pay adjustment if shifts beyond the monthly required number were worked. See attached worksheet for options.
3. 2023 Budget Process:
Budget will be reviewed and discussed during October meeting with approval and resolutions at the November 8th meeting.
See attached first draft. Based on existing Fire and EMS levy rates.

COMMENTS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next regular meeting will be Tues., October 4, 2022, at 9:00 AM. Notice of this meeting change will be posted.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Approved By:

Chairman Noll

Commissioner Malone

Commissioner Zuluaga

Fire Chief/District Secretary