COMMISSIONER MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2023

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. Baneta (Bonnie) Sheffler, Chairman
2. Steven A. Brown, Commissioner
3. Gary Frisque, Commissioner

**STAFF, FIREFIGHTERS AND GUESTS PRESENT**

1. Star Orman, Secretary to the Board of Commissioners
2. Robert Webber, Fire Chief
3. Caleb Barnett, Resident FF / EMT
4. Adam Micone, Captain

Chairman Sheffler called the meeting to order at 15:00; Commissioner Brown led us in the pledge of allegiance, and Commissioner Frisque led us in Prayer.

**Consent Agenda**

* Approve Meeting Minutes – May 23th, 2023.
* Deposits: $1,716.04
  + EFT- $871.13, $146.29, $548.62, $150
* Vouchers: 8430 – 8447
  + General Fund – $28,429.59.

**COMMISSIONER BROWN MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, COMMISSIONER FRISQUE SECONDED, AND CHAIRMAN SHEFFLER CONCURRED.**

**CORRESPONDENSE – See Attached**

* None

**CHIEF’S REPORT – See Attached**

* The ARPA grant application – I have been advised that we have been approved for the whole $182,938.76. Just a reminder, this will fund another battery-operated gurney and associated lift system, an additional AutoPulse CPR machine, 2 more Zoll 12 lead monitors, tablets, a computer and software. Further discussion took place regarding ARPA grant.
* Engine 45 – We are still waiting for the right parts for the throttle control module.
* M41 accident claim is progressing. So far, all expenses are adding up to over $35,000. Samantha is still being seen by multiple practitioners for persistent pain. The new bumper for Medic 41 has been received. I did end up having to order new siren speakers. Chief Webber is still working with Enduris to get the claims settled.
* Samantha fell to her knee on a call at the Fair Grounds, and she is being seen for the injury.
* The dash cameras for three of the ambulances are in, and will be installed soon. There will be a camera on the windshield looking forward, a camera facing the cab crew mainly driver and the 3rd camera to the back of the box.
* The certified wildland firefighting classes are ongoing, and will be completed in a couple of days.
* We had a vegetation fire on Black Rd. behind Merkle Standard and the current status of the fire is “undetermined, under investigation”. I have shared our findings with the Sheriff’s Office, and we are working together on this. It was approximately 40 square feet, and it damaged nothing, and there were no injuries. It appeared to be duff and tree segments that were dumped and subsequently ignited.
* LT/FF position is being flown. We are posting it on social media, and I will put it up on Indeed.
* POFD4 was dispatched to 52 calls in the month of May, with the breakdown being 26 in Newport City, 9 in the Newport area, 10 in Usk and 6 in Cusick. We were also dispatched to 1 mutual aid request for Fire District 5 (Vegetation Fire).
* Training hours logged for May was 318 hours. Topics last month consisted of multi company vegetation fire operations, reading smoke, structure firefighting tactics, recruiting and retention, fire operations on structures with solar panels, leadership, mayday operations, intravenous technician (5 people), risk management and our required annual wildland refresher (RT-130).
* POFD4, along with cooperative partners South Pend Oreille Fire and Rescue, Kalispel Tribal Fire and Rescue, Pend Oreille Paramedics, Pend Oreille County Sheriff’s Office, LifeFlight, Newport Tow, the Newport High School Fire Science Program and the school district conducted a mock DUI presentation at Newport High School. The scenario was a two-vehicle injury motor vehicle accident caused by an intoxicated teenaged driver resulting in most of the children in the vehicles being injured, one of which was killed. The intoxicated driver was field tested for impairment, and subsequently arrested. The presentation had one victim flown out in the helicopter, and the rest were transported in ambulances. After the presentation, Firefighters and Deputies went into the High School and spoke in different class rooms with the students. It was very apparent that the presentation was impactful to most of the students.
* Ecology Grant Update
  + Filings
  + Radios
  + Next Grant Period
* Chief informed about a Department of ecology exercise on the other side of the river. The fire districts were not notified until about 30 min before the exercise started.
* I have Adam writing a Computer Grant through DNR ($4,000)
* I have Star ordering EMS supplies for, and managing an EMS grant we got ($30,000)
* Commissioner Brown said he has heard a rumor about Merkle Standard moving the equipment to north America since power is cheaper. Chief informed we have not heard that.
* Chief informed Merkel Standard is paying Exbabylon to put some new phones in the stations.
* Chief informed next week himself, Star, and Adam are going to a meeting at Merkle Standard to see the new greenhouse they are breaking ground soon.

**UNFINSHED BUSSINESS**

* EMS and Newport update – No new information
* FD4 EMS Levy – No new update
* Commissioner Frisque asked Chief if he has gotten his life insurance yet. Chief informed not yet.
* Commissioner Frisque asked if the lawn mower is in yet, he informed yes and the old mower is at station.
* Commissioner Frisque asked if we are involved in the Rodeo this year, Chief informed yes, we will.
* Commissioner Frisque inquired about the gym memberships which is ongoing. Commissioner Frisque also inquired about if any ambulance services will be using station 42, Chief informed no that has not been talked about further.

**NEW BUSSINESS**

* We were unable to get more ID cards done in a timely manner, so instead of relying on anybody else, we found a great deal on a machine and associated stock, and will start doing them ourselves.

**OPEN SESSION**

* Chief thanked the Board for allowing us to be able to go after the grant money we have.
* Chief informed about the Cusick sending out shut off notices regarding the water and sewer.
* Adam Micone informed the Board the forecast for this summer for our wildland season. DNR has ramped up on fires already compared to last year. The predications are looking like low fuel moisture, the model is showing us still having project fires at Thanksgiving.

**MEETING ADJOURENED**

As there was no further business before the Board, Chairman Brown adjourned the meeting at 18:58 pm.

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Gary Frisque, Commissioner

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Baneta D. Sheffler, Chairman

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Steven A. Brown, Commissioner

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Star S. Orman,

Secretary to the board of Commissioners