

Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors  
58611 McNulty Way, St. Helens, OR 97051  
And Virtual via Teams Meeting  
January 09, 2025, 6:00 pm

Regular Meeting: After due and legal notice, the Regular Board meeting of the Columbia River Fire & Rescue Board of Directors was called to order by President Welby at 6:05 pm.

Present: Ryan Welby, Richard Fletcher, Mark Gundersen, Paul Rice (6:08), Austin Zimbrick

Absent: None

Others: Chief Smythe, K. Lehner

Via Teams Meeting/Phone In: E. Wonderly, J. Lehner, J. Pulito, S. Raichel

Flag Salute: President Welby led the flag salute.

Changes to Agenda: None

Public Comment: None

Local 3215 Report: None

Volunteer Report: None

Correspondence: None

CRFR Consent Agenda: Included in the consent agenda are the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on December 12, 2024, the check register for December checks, budget v. actual, and the December bank statement. VP Zimbrick made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, approved 5-0. There was a discussion regarding Flex Financial.

Chief Officers Report: Chief Smythe discussed the state of the district letter that was included in the board packet, the lieutenant's test, and the panel selected to interview the 9 candidates. The next Civil Service meeting will be held on Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> to approve the list for promotions and 4 firefighter/paramedic candidates. A memo has been issued to the current lieutenants with information on how to apply for the open battalion chief positions. The next audit will begin on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the administrative office, and a special meeting with Wolfe Advisors will be scheduled for noon on March 4<sup>th</sup>. There was further discussion regarding the turnaround time for the new ambulance.

Old Business: Board policy review and discussion regarding section A policies 20-24. Director Rice made a motion to approve Section A Policies 20-24 with no changes. Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor 5-0.

New Business: Board Policies Section A Policies 25-28. There was a discussion regarding board policy 25 (succession), and revisions are needed before approval. Policy 26 (Emergency Response Billing) needs to be reviewed by legal before approval. Policy 28 will be removed as it does not apply to the district anymore.

The board was presented with the only RFP for accounting services received from Wolfe Advisors. Director Rice made a motion to approve the RFP from Wolfe Advisors, Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor 5-0.

There was discussion regarding the location of the board meetings that take place in Rainier every other month. Due to the ongoing construction at City Hall and access issues, a new location was proposed. Director Gundersen made a motion to approve Rainier Riverside Church as the new Rainier Board Meeting location, VP Zimbrick 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor, 5-0.

Board Comments:

Director Gundersen: Proud to be on the board seeing everyone work as a team.

Director Rice: Likes to hear there is a plan in place for new hires.

Secretary Fletcher: Wants to see boots on the ground.

President Welby: Going in the right direction and better than expected.

Adjourn: 6:47 pm