

Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors  
58611 McNulty Way, St. Helens, OR  
December 11, 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 VP Zimbrick at 6:00 pm.

Present: Austin Zimbrick, Richard Fletcher, Mark Gundersen, Paul Rice

Absent: Ryan Welby

Others: Chief Smythe, K. Lehner, BC Schrotzberger, Jeremy Hipes

Via Teams Meeting/Phone In: BC Wonderly

Flag Salute: VP Zimbrick led the salute

Changes to Agenda: None

Public Comment: Jeremy Hipes – Columbia 911 Director

Local 3215 Report: None

Volunteer Report: Chief Smythe provided an update on Toy n' Joy

Correspondence: Letter from Jeremy Hipes – Columbia 911 Communications Dist.

CRFR Consent Agenda: Included in the consent agenda are the minutes from the Regular Board meeting on November 13, 2025, the November check register, the budget-to-actual, and the November bank statement. Secretary Fletcher made a motion to approve the consent agenda, and Director Rice seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion was approved 4-0.

Chief Officers Report: Chief Smythe discussed that 93% of tax revenue projections have been collected. Staffing numbers are 27 firefighters and 7 single roles. Interviews will wrap up next week, with 2-4 new hires coming on after background checks are completed.

Old Business: None

New Business: Resolution 2025-26-04 Declaring Surplus Equipment, Director Rice made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-26-04 Declaring Surplus Equipment (Fire Hose), Director Gundersen seconded the motion, all were in favor, and the motion was approved 4-0.

6:22 pm enter Closed Executive Session: Labor Negotiator Consultation ORS 192.660(2)(d), Real Property Transactions ORS 192.660(2)(e), Legal Counsel ORS 192.660(2)(h)—7:16 pm exit Closed Executive Session.

Board Comments:

Secretary Fletcher: Thank you to everyone who came and helped with the fire.

Director Rice: Stay safe, and thanks to the crews.

Director Gundersen: Very welcoming to hear the uptick and morale.

Adjourn: 7:17 pm