

Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Special Meeting of the Boards of Directors  
270 Columbia Blvd. St. Helens, OR  
May 13, 2026, 11:00 am

Special Meeting: After due and legal notice, the Special Board meeting of the Columbia River Fire & Rescue Board of Directors was called to order by VP Zimbrick at 11:02 am.

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

Absent: None

Others: Chief Smythe, Kate Lehner, Jeramy Lehner

Business: Jeramy Lehner presented a PowerPoint outlining the two bids received to complete the tile repair project at station 71. Director Gundersen made a motion to accept the bid presented by RT Tile. Director Rice 2nd the motion; all were in favor, 5-0. A resolution formalizing the contract would be presented at the board meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>—no further discussion.

Adjourn: 12:10 pm

Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Budget Meeting of the Boards of Directors & Budget Committee  
58611 McNulty Way, St. Helens, OR  
May 21, 2026, 5:00 pm

Budget Meeting: After due and legal notice, the budget meeting of the Columbia River Fire & Rescue Board of Directors was called to order by President Welby at 5:00 pm.

Present: Ryan Welby, Austin Zimbrick, Richard Fletcher, Paul Rice, Mark Gundersen, Melissa Dueck, Ira Swanson, Dan Garrison

Absent: None

Others: Chief Smythe, K. Lehner, Eric Kytola, BC Schrotzberger

Via Teams Meeting/Phone In: Kate and Ricky Linares

Flag Salute: President Welby led the salute

Election of Chair of the Budget Committee: President Welby nominated Ira Swanson as the Chair of the Budget Committee; VP Zimbrick 2nd the motion; all in favor, 8-0.

Election of the Secretary of the Budget Committee: Ira Swanson nominated Kate Lehner as the Secretary of the Budget Committee; Dan Garrison 2nd the motion; all in favor, 8-0.

Presentation of the Proposed Budget: Chief Smythe provided an introduction for everyone and reviewed the budget message. Eric Kytola, CPA, discussed the proposed budget for FY 2026-2027 with the board of directors and the budget committee.

Committee Discussion: The board of directors and budget committee discussed the training budget, the increase in PERS contributions due to a new agreement with the union, the decrease in disability insurance, HRA Veba contributions, sick leave/retirement payout, an increase in the reserves, and the duplicate page that needs to be removed.

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Additional Committee Discussion: There was additional discussion regarding the two budget committee members with expiring terms, Dan Garrison and Melissa Dueck.

Motion to impose the Tax Levy: VP Zimbrick moved to approve the tax levy; Director Gundersen 2nd the motion; all in favor, 8-0.

Motion to approve the Budget: Director Gundersen made a motion to approve the budget. Director Rice 2nd the motion; all in favor, 8-0.

Adjourn: 05:48 pm

Columbia River Fire & Rescue  
Regular Meeting of the Boards of Directors  
58611 McNulty Way, Saint Helens, OR  
May 21, 2026, 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 6:00 pm.

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

Absent: None

Others: Chief Smythe, K. Lehner, David Bair, David Bair Family and Friends, Lt. King, Lt. Pulito, T. Saunders, M. Chandler, BC Schrotzberger

Via Teams Meeting/Phone In: M. Stanton

Flag Salute: President Welby

Recognition: David Bair promotion to Lieutenant and badge pinning

Changes to Agenda: New Business: Elect to renew M. Dueck and D. Garrison's budget committee terms

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 April 9<sup>th</sup>, the April check register, the budget-to-actual, and the April bank statement. VP Zimbrick moved to approve the consent agenda, and Director Gundersen seconded the motion. All were in favor, and the motion was approved 5-0.

Chief Officers Report: Chief Smythe discussed the detailed reporting in the board packet, which covers the call volume. He spoke of staffing updates and scheduled interviews. Chief Smythe requested that his Fire Chief's annual evaluation be completed and reviewed at the June board meeting. VP Zimbrick said he would supply the forms/score sheet necessary for the evaluation.

Old Business: None

New Business:

VP Zimbrick moved to renew the seats of Melissa Dueck and Dan Garrison on the budget committee for another term. Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion, all in favor 5-0.

Resolution FY 2025-26-09 RT Tile Construction (St. Helens Station). VP Zimbrick moved to approve resolution FY 2025-26-09. Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All in favor, 5-0.

Award RFP for Emergency construction services to Rapid Response Restoration & Construction LLC. Director Rice moved to accept the agreement with Rapid Response Restoration & Construction LLC. Director Gundersen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all in favor, 5-0.

Board Comments:

Director Gundersen: Honored to be part of this organization, congrats to Lt. Bair

President Welby: Great budget meeting, easier format for budget packet, congrats to Lt. Bair

VP Zimbrick: Will look into the form for Chief review.

Director Rice: Nice budget meeting

Adjourn: 6:26 pm