

YCFD#2 Board of Commissioner Meeting Minutes, August 22, 2023

A. Call to Order: 18:30

B. Roll Call: *Commissioner Dan Boyle, Commissioner Rex Reed, Commissioner Brad Helms, Chief Jim Lange, Secretary Christine Willis, Guest Roger Bell (18:32)*

C. Approval of Minutes: *July 11, 2023, Meeting Minutes; Motion to approve by Commissioner Boyle, 2nd by Commissioner Reed, all in favor, approved.*

D. General Business:

1. Financial Report:

a. Deposits:

b. Fund Balances:

(1) Expense Fund.....	\$ 483,331.57
(2) Fire Inv. Pool	\$ 1,948,150.00
(3) EMS Fund.....	\$ 47,484.35
(4) EMS Inv. Pool.....	\$ 43,530.00
(5) Fire Reserve Inv Pool.....	\$ 1,328.00

c. Review of Expense Vouchers:

(1)	\$ 0.00
Total Expense	\$ 0.00

E. Unfinished Business:

Single Ambulance Provider RFP, Concerns For Ambulance Responses Update – *Chief Lange, Tony Miller, Chief Markham, City Attorney and County Attorney have met twice, They have been in contact with both dispatch centers and IT for proper language in contract. Edits and suggestions have been turned in and are with legal for review.*

Hosting Yakima County Fire Commissioner Meeting on November 16 –*Chief Lange stated at County Fire Commissioner’s meeting last week it was brought up that Selah has not hosted for a while. Chief Lange called Selah Civic Center for rental fees and will be setting up the caterer. Commissioners support Selah hosting.*

F. New Business:

No new business.

G. Chief's Report:

County ARPA – *Most Fire Departments and Police Departments received contract drafts last Friday. Contract currently in review by departments/attorneys.*

Grants – *Safer and AFG Grants have not been awarded yet. DOD Grant denied for training tower. Participated in L&I Program to reduce hazards and safety through department, with this participation, department able to get \$17,000 Grant from L&I to purchase EMS supplies, backpacks and particular hoods per NFPA safety standards which needs to be in place by July, 2024.*

Preliminary Budget – *Increased Firefighter Roberts budget for PPE due to a large recruit class and Structural PPE price up 30%.*

Station 22– *Chief Lange has still not been in contact with Rod from Scout Lake. Irrigation season is coming to a close, wants to get him on the schedule.*

Yakima Valley Emergency Management – *Received check for 10 of the radios still trying to get rid of. New trailer will have new radios and coffee maker in it.*

Station 26 – *Received email from Gray Surveying for survey work in progress, once done, Chief Lange will continue with fencing project.*

Budget Update – *Working on preliminary numbers for budget. Hardest part is Selah's budget is due before everyone else and Police Department and Public Works have not completed their contract with the Union. There has been a significant cost increase, specifically with insurance and power.*

Deputy Chief Position – *Good process, happy with candidate pool. Chosen candidate is a n Assistant Chief from a different local department, conditional job offer was made. Tomorrow is doctor physical and Monday is combat challenge, hoping to have signed letter of acceptance after he passes.*

Records Management System-ERS – *Not user friendly, company was bought out by ESO. ESO sent out new rates, Chief Lange looking to explore other options. Able to get better system with Image Trend.*

DNR Grant – *Chief Lange asked for update on DNR Grant for buying computers, Commissioner Boyle said to go forward, reimbursement is coming.*

Commissioners' Report:

Fire Commissioner's Meeting-August 17 - *Commissioner Reed asked Commissioner Helms how the Fire Commissioner's meeting went on August 17. Commissioner Helms said there was a presentation from Dale Panatone with Telegate, they are trying to work in a phase approach with the new radios. Commissioner Helms does not like the zero sunset sales tax, 2/10ths tax, states it would allot more money than any department needs. Commissioner Reed feels that the subject needs to be talked about at every quarterly County Fire Commissioner's meeting. State Fire Marshals spoke about their budget and need more money as well.*

District 4 Discussion - *Commissioner Boyle asked about the discussion with District 4 and the houses in the gap, questioned if agreement is appropriate approach or would it make more sense to annex into District. Chief Lange has not investigated an annex. Chief Lange stated the intent of agreement was for the homes on the top of the ridge as well as the homes in the gap. Commissioner Reed stated it would be a boundary line adjustment, any route that is taken, just need to make sure all citizens are taken care of. Chief Lange to look further into.*

Rural Fire Authority Meeting - *Commissioner Boyle recommends the Commissioners obtain a copy of the RFA from the Rural Fire Authority meeting to review. RFA might be a better option than a joint agreement for Selah. Chief Lange mentioned possibly a contractual agreement instead of a joint budget agreement. This would remove the public safety utility tax and replace with a new public safety tax. Major advantages single taxing district and control over setting parameters. Commissioners to review and discuss further.*

Fire Commissioners Association Conference - *October 25-28 at Tulalip Resort Casino, Commissioner Reed not attending.*

Communications Committee - *Commissioner Reed stated progress made with the Communications committee. Agreement with DNR for Sedge Ridge is signed and paid in full. Looking to change up Cowiche Mountain to a different repeater site. Received state capitol money for improvement to system, which will focus on microwave improvements, in the amount of \$139,000. Forest Service is replacing the infrastructure at Little Bald next month.*

H. Secretary's Report:

No new business.

I. Public Comment:

Roger Bell stated he has been trying to promote for the last 5 years that from the city standpoint, there needs to be better contact/relationships with the legislators in regard to tax dollars. Expenses for the city for the next 5-10 years are staggering. Sewage treatment plant is failing, \$51 million to replace, still need to solve traffic problem, over \$60 million to put a bridge over river. Water is a huge concern, spending \$300,000 on just one well, \$1.5 million to just drill. Need new police station, lease continues to rise at current location.

J. Adjournment: 19:29

Next Meeting: September 12, 2023, SFD Sta. 21, 6:30 PM