



Pierce County Fire District 13

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Minutes  
Board of Fire Commissioners January 10, 2023

**Commissioner Malone** called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call led by **Commissioner Malone** to confirm quorum has been met. Present for the meeting: **Commissioner Noll (zoom), Commissioner Zuluaga (zoom), Chief Wassall**

Members of the Public and Staff 5

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**Minutes: Motion-** A motion was made by **Commissioner Zuluaga** to approve the meeting minutes for December 13, 2022, Regular Meeting.

**Seconded Commissioner Noll**  
**Passed (Unanimous)**

**Vouchers:**

**Motion-**A motion was made by **Commissioner Zuluaga** to approve vouchers. #17659-17695 in the amount of \$37,244.78 for Monthly Payables.

**Seconded: Commissioner Noll**  
**Passed (Unanimous)**

**Motion-**A motion was made by **Commissioner Noll** to approve vouchers. #17628-17658 in the amount of \$19,019.03 for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Vol Pay.

**Seconded: Commissioner Zuluaga**  
**Passed (Unanimous)**

**Motion-**A motion was made by **Commissioner Noll** to approve vouchers. #17696 in the amount of \$683.29 for Deposits.

**Seconded: Commissioner Zuluaga**  
**Passed (Unanimous)**

**Correspondence:**

**SPECIAL REPORTS AND/OR STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Calls:** 23 total calls, 3 fire calls, 15 EMS calls, 3 MVA and 1 Service call, and 1 Mutual Aid call. 3 Community events.

**Staffing and Recruiting:** We are in the process of adding our newest academy graduates to the schedule to help with shift coverage. We have a new resident, Brady Congo who we have on the fast track to become a driver and engine operator. We have brought on LT. Dylan Tapia as a full-time paid Lieutenant. To assist all of us with training and any special projects. With Dylan being on staff, we know will have at least 1 paid person on shift during the day. We have

13 completed applications for the next fire academy. We are looking at who needs their EMT certification prior to fire academy. Retired Chief Cliff McCollum will be teaching an EMT class here at Sta77. He has made 16 seats available. All but 1 seat will be Browns Pointer's.

**Financial Report:**

GL Trial Balance cash on hand:	\$264,172.25
Less 01-10-2023 expenses	-56,263.81
Deposits (not yet posted)	<u>\$0</u>
Remaining cash on hand:	\$207,908.44

Reserves: \$582,501.98

**Training:** We are in person for all training in 2023. Captain Fitzgerald and I attended an "Electric Powered Vehicle Lithium-Ion EV" course last month. It was hosted by East Pierce Fire & Rescue and taught by a person from Seattle Fire. There is a second class scheduled for January in Seattle. Which will be taught by General Motors with Illinois Fire Service Institute. We have electric cars in District we should know something about them. How to handle these fires if we get one.

**SS911:** At the Pierce County Fire Chief's meeting, SS911 was the topic of conversation. The next Fire Commissioner's meeting, you will also hear about this concern. The discussion about the Priority Dispatch system. The program was supposed to speed up dispatch times and has done just the opposite. The number of resources dispatched is causing major problems for the larger departments. We have 2 units dispatched to all our calls but the time from SS911 receiving the call to when we get dispatched is longer than it should be. We have asked for a demonstration of how the system works and plan on making suggestions. The radio replacement is headed to a single source supplier. Nothing to announce currently for who and at what cost.

**Fleet Status:** Ford Motor Company has ripped out my heart by not accepting our order for a new cab and chassis for BR76. The local Ford dealer has our order open if there is a cancellation. If they re-open the ordering for this cab and chassis, our order is in line to be accepted. We made it through the ice and snow with no incidents to report. We did find that the emergency brake on B77 had a broken cable that applied the brake. That has been replaced and is now part of what B/C Rapozo includes in his rig check.

**Good of the Order:** Our latest academy, CVA2022-02 had their graduation last month. There were 15 graduates, 10 of them were ours. We are adding them on the schedule. We will be having a post academy to go over the paperwork and how things work. B/C Rapozo had the reins for the Santa Runs. We want to recognize FF/EMT Lucey and FF Perla Sanchez-Mendoza as being our Santa's this year. We also brought Santa to the Dash Point Tree lighting. Mr. Lucey being Santa with half the academy being Santa's elves.

Tacoma Fire and AMR were unsuccessful in reaching an agreement. AMR will be leaving Pierce County. They will be shutting down their operation January 28<sup>th</sup>. I need to schedule a meeting with Chief Green with Tacoma Fire. We will discuss how we need to work together when we find ourselves looking for a Paramedic. Chief Thirkield is looking into the possibility of combining Pierce Fire #14 and Pierce Fire #13 and hiring a few medics. Putting them in a response vehicle of some type and have our departments supply the aid car for transports. With an EMT to drive. We do not have a cost associated with this idea or what the deployment model would look like. We are being audited for years 2019, 2020 and 2021. Commissioner Noll and I

had a Zoom meeting last week with the auditor and her boss. The paperwork has been brought over to Sta77 and we will give them what they need.

**MSO Report:**

No MSO. We need to find out if System Design will bill an ALS call once AMR departs on Jan 28th. Cares Grant monies being paid at 90% this year rather than at 100%.

**Commissioner(s) Report:**

**Commissioner Malone:**

Boat ramp is being repaired.

BPIC meeting on 1.10.23 discussing short/long term goals for boat ramp.

Browns Point totem pole is being looked at by the Puyallup tribe.

**Commissioner Noll:**

**Legislative session begins January 9th WFOA Interests**

Vol FF Pension Enhancements

Rate of levy limit 1%, change to rate of inflation.

Elections every two years (WFOA opposes)

Public records amendments to stop frivolous requests.

Increase grant funding for fire districts.

Sales tax exemption for purchase of equipment

**Chief's Interests**

Mental health co-responder funds

Wildland fire mitigation improvements

Lithium-ion battery training and emphasis

Vol FF pension enhancements

State fire marshal office funding for training

**WFOA Spring Education series**

Online classes will be announced.

April 22 seminar at Suquamish, Innovations in Fire Service

Streamline website, looked at, have not contacted yet.

Thinking about our ability to resource this and supply staff to work on.

**Website updates – Done**

- Voter lid lift thank you.
- Home page – remove Oct meeting change.
- Events & News - remove Oberg Obit

**Commissioner Zuluaga:**

Discussion on AMR leaving Pierce County. This will put a strain on transports and resources.

**Public Information Report**-Presented by (position vacant)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Equipment Upgrade Status**

Brush Truck Status on hold. Ford did not accept order.

Any Alternatives to Ford? Not currently.

Existing brush truck is ready to be deployed.

Gasoline capacity is an issue.

**2. Status of Vol FF Association**

President Parker Lucey

Treasury Captain Fitzgerald

Secretary Loren Bevington

Bylaws have been updated.

BC Rapozo is looking into spending the Puyallup Tribe grant money.

Expenditure of grant money must be tracked and documented.

**3. Status of approval for EMT class at Browns Point**

Norma approved classes to be taught at Browns Point Station

16 Slots available 10 are filled.

Class start date is March 20, 2023

National EMT License scheduled for May 26, 2022

Retired Chief McCollum is currently working on lesson plan.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. State Audit for 2019, 2020, 2021**

Introduction call week of January 2, 2023

Cost approximately 80 hours at 128.00 ea. = \$10,240.00

End of January completion time frame.

Exit conference is open to anyone to attend.

**2. Long Range Planning Focus:**

What is our vision? We need to document various station configuration options.

Involve community members in decision in long range planning (listening session).

Building needs involve community changes and services. Estimates of costs for remodel and/or St Matthew site.

Block building on St Matthews site.

Special meeting in February to be determined.

**3. Grant Opportunities**

The latest Fireline publication lists availability of Grants.

A. Wassall is looking into how to create/process grants.

**4. DruNetix-replacement for Rainier Connect**

Presentation by Captain Fitzgerald. Noel is assessing our overall technology situation with several vendors. This involves security, issues with our domain registrar, how our email is delivered and the status of our office computers.

See attached documentation.

**COMMENTS:**


**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next regular meeting will be Tues., February 14, 2023, at 9:00 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Approved By:

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Chairman Noll

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Commissioner Zuluaga

  
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Commissioner Malone

  
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Fire Chief/District Secretary