



MINUTES

Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue
Board of Directors Meeting
In Person / Virtually Held
1400 W 8th Street, The Dalles, OR 97058
January 27, 2025

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Jacobs called the Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Directors Present: David Jacobs, Diana Bailey, Dick Schaffeld, Corey Case, and Walter Denstedt.

Staff Present: Chief David Jensen, Division Chief Jay Wood, Division Chief Josh Beckner, and Office Manager Stephanie Ziegler. Division Chief Adam Cole was excused.

Others Present: Legal counsel Andrew Meyers.

4. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

5. MINUTES

- a. Minutes from December 16, 2024, Board Meeting stand approved as written.
- b. Minutes from January 13, 2024, Special Board Meeting stand approved as written.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no one in attendance, however new Division Chief Chris Grant was listening online.

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. Cash Account Summary – Director Case would like to see the Cash Combo sheet first, then balance sheet and income statement last. There was also a question concerning the training reserve fund and why there was an increase. Chief Jensen explained it was an annual payment for the City of The Dalles.
- b. Ambulance Service Financial Report – There were no questions asked.



8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Urban Renewal Report – Director Denstedt gave a report on the Urban Renewal board, stating that the board had received the expected money and were now looking into ways of spending it correctly.
- b. EZ Report – President Jacobs stated there was nothing to report and suggested dropping the report from the board packet. Director Bailey asked that the Urban Renewal Report become a written report that Director Denstedt submits. There will no longer be an oral report given.

9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- a. Fire Chief's Report – Included in board packet. Chief Jensen gave a brief update on the items he included in the board packet. He did state that he was going to attend a legislative meeting on January 25th, however he was unable to attend due to illness but did send a letter. He also stated a representative reached out to him regarding grants that we have already but may need additional money to finish grant projects. One idea Chief Jensen presented was regarding the apprenticeship grant to bolster funding for the next round of apprentices.
- b. Chief Beckner's Report – Included in the board packet.
- c. Chief Wood's Report – Included in board packet.
- d. Chief Cole's Report – Included in board packet.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Columbia Gateway Urban Renewal Agency FY 2023/2024 – President Jacobs asked what the numbers stood for, and Director Case explained the amount was what MCFR would have receive, minus uncollected taxes, if they were not being redirected towards Urban Renewal.

11. OLD BUSINESS

None.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Strategic Plan Status Report – Chief Jensen included the status report in the board packet and also gave a brief update on some of the projects stating the Standards of coverage, Continuity of Operations Plan, and the station study were projects still needing to be finished.
- b. Information Sheet – Appointment of a Budget Officer. Director Bailey made a motion to appoint Chief David Jensen as the budget officer for fiscal year



2025/2026. Director Schaffeld seconded. All those in favor; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays.
Motion passed.

- c. Information Sheet – Budget Committee Member Appointment. There are three budget members that are expiring this year. Dr. Wally Wolfe, Kyle Nairns and Tom Ashmore. Kyle Nairns and Tom Ashmore said they would be happy to continue on as a budget member, however Dr. Wally Wolfe has declined. Chief Jensen reached out to Jared Sawyer of Sawyers True Value and he stated he would be interested in becoming a budget committee member. Director Bailey made a motion to appoint Jared Sawyer, Kyle Nairns, and Tom Ashmore to sit on the fire district budget committee based upon their knowledge, experience, and desire to volunteer for a consecutive three-year term for the purpose of continuity and consistency and the addition of knowledge and experience. Director Schaffeld seconded. All those in favor; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motioned passed.

Director Bailey would like to recognize all the years that Dr. Wolfe was on the budget committee. Chief Jensen stated we would get something ordered and will present it once the award arrives.

- d. Information Sheet – Adoption of Budget Calendar. Director Case made a motion to adopt the budget calendar for FY 2025/2026. Director Bailey seconded. All in favor; 5 Ayes 0 Nays. Motion passed.
- e. Information Sheet – Employee Handbook updates. Chief Jensen summarized some of the changes that were made to the Employee Handbook because of the Collective Bargaining Agreement and that usually Admin follows the CBA, however some items Admin will not follow. Accrued sick and vacation will not change for Admin, the PERS swap, PEHP and Deferred Comp will not change for Admin either. Longevity will change and match the CBA. Chief Jensen also stated that he added Martin Luther King Day as an additional holiday for Admin. He stated that would match city and government holidays. The wage adjustment formula stays consistent with the last wage formula. Director Bailey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-01 “A Resolution Adopting revisions to the Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Employee Handbook”. Director Case seconded. All those in favor; 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Motion passed.



13. GOOD OF THE ORDER

SDAO conference is next week

SDAO conference is next week with Chief Jensen, President Jacobs and Director Denstedt and Director Schaffeld will attend with Chief Beckner coming down a day. Chief Jensen also stated that there is an Ethics class that all the board members need to attend, he will send invites out for everyone that needs to attend virtually.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 18:32 p.m.

Board President

Secretary/Treasurer