



## MINUTES

Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue

Board of Directors Meeting

In Person / Virtually Held

1400 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, The Dalles, OR 97058

June 16, 2025

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- a. President Jacobs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 3. ROLL CALL

- a. Directors Present: David Jacobs, Walter Denstedt, Corey Case, Dick Schaffeld and Diana Bailey.
- b. Staff Present: Chief David Jensen, Division Chief Josh Beckner, Division Chief Adam Cole, Division Chief Chris Grant, and Office Manager Stephanie Ziegler.
- c. Others Present: Legal Counsel Andrew Myers.

### 4. AGENDA CHANGES

- a. Chief Jensen requested the Good of The Order be moved before the adjournment to the Executive Session.

### 5. MINUTES

- a. Minutes from May 19, 2025, Board Meeting stand approved as written.
- b. Minutes from May 20, 2025, Budget Committee Meeting stand approved as written.

### 6. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. None.

### 7. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Balance Sheet/Combined Cash Accounts – Director Case asked if the transfers for the special funds had been done. Chief Jensen stated that it had just been done. Director Case also asked if the transfers included Retirement liabilities and Chief Jensen stated it did.
- b. Ambulance Service Financial Report – There were no questions.



## **8. OPEN PUBLIC HEARING**

- a. President Jacobs opened the Public Hearing to receive citizen's testimony on the FY 2025-26 budget approved by the MCFR Budget Committee.
- b. Board of Directors to consider public testimony. There was no public testimony or anyone online, nothing to consider.
- c. The Board of Directors to consider and incorporate any proposed budget adjustments. There were no adjustments to be made. There were no comments made. President Jacobs closed the budget hearing at 17:34.

## **9. COMMITTEE REPORT**

- a. Urban Renewal Report – Director Densted reported that Crez Partners submitted an application to Urban Renewal requesting monies to renovate the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the old post office which was approved. He also stated that the Mint building was asked to make some changes to their proposal and to resubmit. He stated that he would like to know if the apartment in the Mint building is sprinkled. Chief Jensen stated that Chief Grant will coordinate with the City Planning Director regarding a Sprinkler presentation.

## **10. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- a. Chief Jensen's Report – Report provided. Chief Jensen shared additional details on his board report. He stated that the Finance Director position has been narrowed down to 2 candidates. The Community Wildfire Forum went very well. Chief Jensen stated that he and Chief Grant spoke to several people at the Forum regarding what they can do to protect their property from Wildfires. Chief Jensen also spoke a great deal about the Rowena Fire. He plans on speaking with state representatives regarding homeowners being allowed to remove trees and brush from their properties. There is a worry that people will not be able to rebuild due to the Scenic Area restrictions. He also stated that he had just met with City and County partners on Emergency Management the morning of the fire so what needed to be done was fresh in everyone's mind. There were 117 crew members that came from all over the state. Chief Jensen plans on preparing awards and recognitions for the companies that came to help fight the fire. Chief Jensen also stated that a Declaration of Authority was given to the State Fire Marshal's office at 11:30 on the night of the fire. ODF will lead the investigation as to the cause of the fire. President Jacobs stated that we need to make sure we have a signed agreement with ODF to share in the investigation. Chief Jensen stated that he would get with Legal Counsel Meyers regarding that. The fire was turned back over to MCFR as of today.
- b. Chief Beckner's Report – Report provided.
- c. Chief Cole's Report – Report provided.
- d. Chief Grant's Report – Report provided.



**11. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Wasco County Burn Ban Proclamation
- b. ODF Declaration of Fire Season.

**12. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. None.

**13. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Resolution 2025-03; "A Resolution Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, and Imposing and Categorizing Taxes. Director Bailey made a motion to adopt Resolution 2025-03; Resolution Adopting the budget, Be it Resolved that the Board of Directors of Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue adopts this budget for FY 2025-26 in the amount of \$13,999,492. Be it Resolved that the following ad valorem of the property taxes are hereby imposed upon the assessed value of all taxable property within the district for tax year 2025-2026; in the assessed value at the rate of \$2.1004 per \$1000 of assessed value for permanent tax rate. Director Denstedt Seconded. All in favor:  
President Jacobs **YES**  
Director Case **YES**  
Director Bailey **YES**  
Director Denstedt **YES**  
Director Schaffeld **YES**  
Motion passed unanimously.
  
- b. Resolution 2025-04; "Certificate of Election". Director Bailey so moved that Resolution 2025-04 requires a Special District Election held in Oregon. The Mid-Columbia Fire and Rescue Board of Directors the results held on May 20, 2025, and that the Fire Chief is hereby authorized and directed to sign the Certificate of Election results for submission to the Wasco County Clerks Office. Director Schaffeld seconded. All in favor:  
President Jacobs **YES**  
Director Case **YES**  
Director Bailey **YES**  
Director Schaffeld **YES**  
Director Denstedt **YES**  
Motion passed unanimously.

**14. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- a. Board Member Service Awards for Corey Case and David Jacobs. Chief Jensen stated he wanted to recognize Director Case and Director Jacobs for their services



as board members for the district, he then presented Director Case with his award and thanked him for serving on the board from 2021 to 2025. Chief Jensen then presented President Jacobs with his award for his many years of service both on the Budget Committee and on the board from 2017 to 2025. Director Bailey also thanked them and told them how much she appreciated all they did.

**15. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- a. Annual Evaluation: Adjourned to Executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, public officer, employee, or staff member who does not request an open hearing. Adjourned at 18:25 p.m.

Back in session from Executive Session at 18:57 p.m.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

President Jacobs adjourned the meeting at 18:57 p.m.

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Board President

  
Secretary/Treasurer