



## Pierce County Fire District 13

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www.PCFD13.org

### Minutes Board of Fire Commissioners February 13, 2024

**Commissioner Noll** called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM and led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Members of the Public and Staff 4

#### CONSENT AGENDA:

**Minutes: Motion-** A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve the meeting minutes for January 9, 2024, Regular Meeting.

**Seconded Commissioner Noll**

**Passed (Unanimous)**

#### Vouchers:

**Motion-**A motion was made by **Commissioner Malone** to approve vouchers, #18346-18388 in the amount of \$79,055.10 for Monthly Payables.

**Seconded: Commissioner Noll.**

**Passed (Unanimous)**

**Motion-**A motion was made by **Commissioner Noll** to approve vouchers, #18389 in the amount of (\$1,365.33) for Monthly Deposits.

**Second: Commissioner Malone.**

**Passed (Unanimous)**

#### Public Comments:

#### Correspondence:

The Camp Fire girls stopped by and donated campfire mints to all the volunteers and thanked them for their service.

#### Chief's Report

**Calls:** 23 total calls, 3 fire calls, 13 EMS calls, 1 MVA, and 3 Service Calls, 3 Mutual Aid Calls, A76, had 3 transports, Oly131 had 5.

**Staffing and Recruiting:** We have been struggling with daytime staffing. Those who did workday shifts are now employed. Evening staffing has become more consistent. We are continuing to receive inquiries about becoming fire fighters. Also, about our fall academy. We

have 5 recruits that will be part of the South Pierce Fire Academy starting in March. Three of the 5 are already EMT's. We have 2 scheduled to go to EMT school and will be part of the August fire academy in Browns Point.

**Financial Report:**

GL Trial Balance cash on hand:	\$215,700.44
Less 02-13-2024 expenses	-\$79,055.10
Deposits (not yet posted)	<u>\$0</u>
Remaining cash on hand:	\$136,645.34

Reserves: \$857,501.98

**Training:** We have had good turn outs for drill. The make-up days have been attended as well. We held a re-test practical for HazMat Ops for 5 candidates who did not do well in January. Three of the 5 passed. We will continue training to assist the candidate's testing requirement to earn their FF1. Chief Fitzgerald has put together a robust training program for the first quarter that will continue into the second.

**SS911:** The Fire Chief's, SS911 and DEM, the turf war is in full swing (over radio communications equipment/standards). Fees and fees what you get for these fees are at the forefront. Gig Harbor is building their own communication towers and inviting others to put their things on it, for a fee. Central Pierce is using technology that fits in a backpack called SBT, and has LTE, and LMR, public and private satellite. Where this leads to communication and the cost associated is anyone's guess.

**Fleet Status:** We had Engine77 ransacked last month. We have the cost of the loss at around \$12,500. We still have rope rescue equipment we need to replace. We are waiting for Chief Rapozo to return from vacation to get what we need. We had the LifePak we keep on A76 serviced; we added a feature at no cost. We are looking at adding a second. Once we know the cost for the second, we can move forward.

**Good of the Order:** We are grieving along with LT Tapia; he lost his Grandfather last Friday night. We sent him Thursday to be there for his mother and make sure she had support. We had the Camp Fire girls stop by Station 77 with a gift basket of treats. They were selling outside the QFC and receiving donations. They as a group decided to buy treats for the Police station, TFD Station 3 and for us here at Station 77. They of course heard of our loss of equipment and got a tour of the engine. I had a breakfast meeting with our insurance company. We went over the coverages we have and confirmed the information they have on us and our equipment. I also attended a Zoom meeting with the WSRB. They are concerned with the firefighting foams used by the fire service and the long-term effects of the "forever chemicals." We do not use them. When we train, we use Dawn Dishwashing liquid. Then the subject turned to car fires with electric vehicles (lithium batteries). This is concerning for them in how and what fire departments are using to put these types of fires out and the runoff generated. The Washington Fire Chief's are holding a conference in May in the Tri-Cities. WSRB will be having their meeting on the first day of the conference and this subject is going to be discussed. The third day is a class about best practices pertaining to stored energy devices. I would like to attend

this conference to hear what WSRB is thinking and about the stored energy class. There's a class on fire agency funding, volunteer surveys on what their priorities are and 2 leadership classes, I think would help us grow. Lastly, we are gearing up for what is believed to be an overactive wildland season, we have volunteers taking their preliminary classes to be part of a field day sponsored by the DNR in May. Our goal is to be ready when the call goes out to assist our neighbors.

**MSO-Craig Williams**

MSO is reviewing our call reports.

**PIO – Per-Captain Noel Fitzgerald**

Did not attend.

**Commissioners Report**

**Commissioner Zuluaga:**

Did not attend.

**Commissioner Malone:**

BPIC upcoming events:

March 12th Member Social

March 30th Easter Egg Hunt

June 21<sup>st</sup> Summer Bonfire

August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Salmon Bake (planning on 5000 dinners)

September 13 Movie in the Park

December 10<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bon Fire

**Commissioner Noll:**

Commissioner Noll will be attending the Snure seminar on April 19<sup>th</sup>. The topic is procurement. Commissioner Noll contacted Brianna May, Washington State Treasury, with questions regarding long term financing for balance owed on the new fire engine.

Commissioner Noll presented 10-, 7- and 5-year loan payment schedules.

Time limit to send notice of intent to borrow from Washington State would be March of 2025.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Town Center Status

Grocery Store is now sharing space with a pickler.

Two businesses have left, and U-Haul is renting space.

2. Property Opportunities

Chief and Commissioner Zuluaga walked the Monahan property for sale.

Would the site need to be rezoned?

St Matthews is working through how to continue operating in a scaled down version.

3. Rosenbauer Engine Status

Payment for the chassis is due this summer. Approximate 375K.

Will we need to schedule a mid-build inspection of the engine?

Commissioner Noll talked with the state on financing balance due.

Time limit to send notice of intent would be March of 2025.

4. District Office Technology

Need to continue search in replacing phone system. Not sold on Pacific Automation.

Windows 10 will not be supported by Microsoft after October 14, 2025. Computers will still work but could be more exposed to security vulnerabilities.

5. Status of Public Records Request

The public record request has been completed.

6. MRSC, Next Steps

Resolution is being reviewed by Commissioners.

**New Business:**

1. Protecting District Assts

Chief looking into purchasing monitoring systems for both firehouses.

If the engine goes on a run someone will stay with it.

Ford pickup will be taken on most runs. That way it can be locked up.

2. EFT Payment Policy

We only use EFT to pay the IRS. Formal policy not needed at this point.

3. Legislative items

Short session ending March 2024

Bill 5770 Property Tax limit, increase 1% to 3%. Bill died in session.

SB6230 Change TIF to allow Fire District to veto new tax revenue going to development for up to 25 years.

ESHB1932 Change elections to even years. Implications for Fire District?

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next regular meeting will be Tues., March 12, 2024, at 09:00 AM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 11:35 pm.

Approved By:

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Chairman Noll

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Commissioner Malone

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Commissioner Zuluaga

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Fire Chief/District Secretary