

NEWMAN LAKE FIRE & RESCUE
Spokane County Fire District No. 13
Minutes for April 18, 2024
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONER MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Fire Commissioners of Spokane County Fire Protection District No. 13 met on April 18, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at Station No. 1, 9324 N Starr Rd., Newman Lake, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Board: Commissioners Eileen Weyrauch and Teresa Phelps; Ben Kaiser participated via Microsoft Teams

Others Present: Chief Daron Bement, Captain Josh Ambach, Secretary Robin Harbin, and Fire Auxiliary Representative Faye LeGrand

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes for March 18, and March 21, 2024; Financial Reports; Approval of April 2024 Warrants #12037 - #12074 in the amount of \$41,412.34; Payroll Taxes in the amount of \$5,765.10; and DRS Pension in the amount of \$2,876.17. Commissioner Kaiser motioned to accept the consent agenda; Commissioner Phelps seconded; Chair Weyrauch called for the vote, which passed unanimously.

AUXILIARY REPORT

Faye Le Grand reported the Fire Auxiliary balance is \$8,331.00. There was nothing further to report.

CORRESPONDENCE

Card from Yamane Family: Keith Yamane and family appreciated the card sent by the department and the Fire Auxiliary expressing our sympathy for the loss of their daughter, Sally Ann.

Public Records Requests: Robin reported she has received numerous public records requests from the Levy Lid Lift Con Committee - Dennis Gleckler and Jerry Le Grand. Chief Bement and Captain Josh Ambach are working with Robin to gather the data requested. However, it may take three weeks to provide all of the information. A few items on the latest request have already been answered or provided. Robin will invite Dennis Gleckler to come in to go over all the records to ensure questions are answered with clarity and understanding of data. In a letter dated April 7, 2024, Dennis Gleckler stated he had contacted the Fire Commissioner Association in Olympia regarding Commissioner Weyrauch, who is in temporary ALS patient housing, while caring for her husband, Scott. In 2020, Commissioner Weyrauch notified the District of the necessary move to temporary ALS housing to care for her husband, who has ALS. Attorney Brian Snure was contacted regarding her eligibility to continue as Commissioner for the District. Per Brian Snure's legal memo dated March 5, 2020, Commissioner Weyrauch is qualified to serve in her office as long as she is a registered voter in the district and intends to return to the district after the stay in temporary housing ends. Commissioner Weyrauch stated she has a physical address within the District, which is her principal address, to which she will move after the death of her husband, Scott.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT by Chief Daron Bement

General Message: Chief Bement and Robin are working on effective community messaging regarding the need for a Levy Lid Lift August 6, 2024.

Calls/Training/Staffing/Apparatus/Facilities: We have had 56 calls year to date. Training has included apparatus maintenance, search and rescue, and EMS trauma review. Academy 2024 has commenced on Thursday evenings and all day Saturdays. We have 5-6 recruit participants. The department has moved to a new model for work distribution and to assist with the chain of command. After completing the application process, the following have been promoted to Lieutenant: Mike Jennings, Carleen VanDerostyne, and Jim Stevenson. We have also implemented a Facilities Supervisor position, assigned to Kelli Lemley, who will also retain her duties as Community Liaison. These are all volunteer positions; not employee positions.

Facilities: McKinstry Fire Sprinkler systems completed the system as shown on original plans at no cost. Andrews Mechanical is moving forward again with HVAC repair/replacement after delays in getting clarification from Spokane County building inspectors. Chair Weyrauch mentioned two abandoned homes which may be available for live fire practice. Captain Ambach stated the homes are not available to us as they are in the Spokane Valley Fire District. However, Ellers may have a building we might use if asbestos is not present. Captain Ambach and Kelli Lemley will check on it.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT by Captain Josh Ambach

Apparatus: Engine 13-2 is out of service. The certified mechanics at Spokane Valley Fire Department are diagnosing the problem free of charge and will provide us with an estimate for repairs. Attack 13-1 has been moved up to Station 2 until Engine 13-2 is repaired.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Levy Lid Lift:

- **Ballot Documents for Spokane County Elections Department**

Robin presented the Levy Lid Lift Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement for the August 6, 2024 election. As allowed under Resolution 2024-3, section 10, it was slightly modified from the resolution to meet word count restrictions. It has been approved by Attorney Brian Snure. After careful review, Commissioner Phelps motioned to approve the Ballot Title and Explanatory Statement as presented; Commissioner Kaiser seconded; Chair Weyrauch called for the vote, which passed unanimously.

- **Informational Material for Community**

Chief Bement and Robin will be present at the Community Clean Up organized by the Newman Lake Property Owners Association this Saturday, April 20. Robin suggested handing out the half-page informational sheet from the last community meeting and updating the Frequently Asked Questions flyer from our door-to-door campaign. The commissioners agreed this would provide good information for the community,

- **Schedule the Next Community Meetings**

The next Community Meetings were scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. Flyer announcements will be emailed by the Newman Lake Property Owners Association, and posted on Facebook, at Newman's Pour and Pies, and the Post Office. Signs will be posted on Starr Road, Trent and Idaho Road, as well as in front of Station 1.

NEW BUSINESS

Annexation Petition – Rich Peplinski:

Richard Peplinski has signed a petition to have his 65 Acres at the end of Morris Road annexed into the district. The property address is: 22156 E. Morris Road. The parcel number is: 56225.9093. Chief Bement reviewed the SCOUT Maps presented with Rich Peplinski’s Annexation Proposal. The three map views show the properties in district and those not in district; the exact borders of the property requesting annexation; and where the property borders the district. Commissioner Phelps motioned to accept Richard Pelinski’s petition for property annexation; Commissioner Kaiser seconded; Chair Weyrauch called for the vote, which passed unanimously. The required public hearing will take place during the next Commissioner Meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 16, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. The District will publish a hearing notice in a local newspaper and post three notices in the proposed annexation area.

Budget Review:

Robin presented 2024 proposed budget changes. The budget changes reflect actual beginning balances for each fund and adjusted end balances based on the actual beginning balances. The budget changes also include the actual Property Tax revenue which includes \$989.44 in refunds as reported by the Spokane County Assessor’s Office. We were awarded \$766.00 for medical supplies through the state Department of Health. This adjustment was made in both revenues and the corresponding expenditure budget line. Commissioner Phelps motioned to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget Changes as presented; Commissioner Kaiser seconded; Chair Weyrauch called for the vote, which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2024-4 Transfer of Funds F32 to F61 (Proceeds from Sale of 2003 Tahoe):

Captain Josh Ambach was able to sell the 2003 Chevy Tahoe for \$5000.00. All deposits go into the Operating Fund 032. Resolution 2024-4 authorizes the \$5000.00 to be transferred from the Operating Fund 032 to the Capital Project – Apparatus Fund 361 to offset the \$5600.00 purchase of the 2015 Ford Explorer made March 11, 2024 from District 9 to replace the 2003 Tahoe. Commissioner Phelps motioned to approve Resolution 2024-4 as written; Commissioner Kaiser seconded; Chair Weyrauch called for the vote, which passed unanimously.

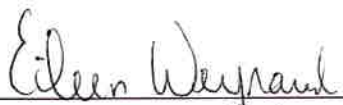
PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Phelps will send us the contact information for the new owners of the marina. Silverbeard’s Marina will have their grand opening celebration on Saturday, May 4th. The District will contact them about having a department presence at the grand opening.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.



Eileen Weyrauch, Chairperson

5-16-2024
Date



Robin Harbin, District Secretary

5-16-2024
Date