



Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting  
June 8, 2023

McLane Black Lake Fire Department  
Board of Fire Commissioners  
July 13, 2023

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Dale Putnam of District 9 Board of Fire Commissioners called the meeting to order at 1800 hours. Commissioners Dale Putnam, Len Albert, Mark Thompson (virtual), Mark Campeau and Jason Foust, Chief Leonard Johnson, AC Chris Patti, Division Chief - Logistics Josh Ambrose, BOD Brett Warwick, Chris Welch, Sean Keegan, Joe Chipman, Bud Faires, Board Secretary Tom McBride and guest Kyle Rose attended the regular meeting held in person and via the virtual Zoom platform using the link posted on the Fire District's website.

**BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

No Business.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None. The agenda was approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT & VISITING SPEAKERS**

None.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. *Approval of Minutes:*

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 8, 2023; the motion carried.

**2. *Approval of Vouchers and Payroll:***

A motion was made and seconded to approve vouchers and payroll in the amounts listed below in items a through c; the motion carried.

- a. General Fund 6690 \$465,378.99;
- b. EMS/Apparatus Replacement Fund 6694 \$21,278.55;
- c. SORT Fund 6699 \$7,122.15.

***Approval of Resolution 23-590:***

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 23-590 Surplus of Macintosh Computer; the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. *Ethics and Related Parties Policy***

The final draft of Ethics & Related Parties Policy #2901 is prepared for review and comment. Two technical fixes will be made in paragraph 1.2 (Policy) to change references to (1) paragraph 1.4 to 2.0 (Prohibited Conduct) and (2) paragraph 1.5 to 3.0 (Guidelines).

The Board decided to consider Policy #2901 for approval; a motion was made and seconded to approve Policy #2901; the motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**STAFF REPORTS:**

**1. *Finance/Administration:***

BOD Warwick reported that the CMS report was completed and submitted on June 30.

IAFF firefighter physicals were completed. 80 firefighters and fire service members from Thurston County participated in the IAFF physicals hosted at Station 91. The physical exams consisted of comprehensive health testing and consultation with an on-site Nurse Practitioner. Fire District 9 thanked all participating departments and members who put their health first and made this opportunity possible.

The Fire District 9 Bike Rodeo took place on July 1. Despite attendance being over twice that of 2022, it was still lower than anticipated. The District 9 team is working on

formulating ideas and plans to improve the event in the future.

On June 20 Fire District 9 held the Captain's exam at Westwood Baptist Church. Following the Chief's interview, Joe Chipman was selected as the new McLane Black Lake Fire Department Captain.

Davie Kindell's Retirement Celebration took place on June 27 at Station 91. BOD Warwick extended his appreciation to all who attended and made Davie's final day of work memorable.

Maintenance and Operations Levy Public Meetings and social media are underway. Two public meetings have been completed at Stations 91 and Station 95. Two more are scheduled for July 18 at Station 94 and July 25 at Station 93. Social media posts have been released on a weekly basis to encourage meeting attendance and offer information regarding the M&O levy. As we move closer to the Primary Election on August 1, the Fire District will be increasing contact with the public to ensure its voters are as informed as possible.

Information for the annual GEMT report is being collected and will be submitted by July 31. This includes asset depreciation, station square footage, annual expenditures, CAD response data, and federal funds.

## **2. Logistics:**

Division Chief - Logistics Josh Ambrose is enjoying his time in District 9. Captain Novak has been very helpful as Division Chief Ambrose onboard.

Division Chief Ambrose updated the Board on completed or ongoing facility issues, repairs, maintenance, and inspection items since the last report.

- ST91: Continues to have issues with heat and A/C in large training room. Repairs are approved and awaiting parts. The commercial ice machine has been repaired and is back in service. Fire alarms continue to have intermittent communication problems. Cost estimates are requested for crack sealing of asphalt, landscaping related issues and addressing storm water system cleaning. Replaced storm drain sediment filters.
- ST93: Entire lot trimmed and mowed by DOC-Cedar Creek. Air compressor awaiting installation plan.
- ST95: Vent fan for bathroom and laundry room repaired. Gas valve shut off in kitchen replaced. Patriot fire completed repairs to fire pump packing leak and replaced faulty water tank sensor. Cost estimates are requested for crack sealing

of asphalt, landscaping related issues, and addressing storm water system cleaning. Replace storm drain sediment filters.

- ST96: Replace storm drain sediment filters.

The Fire District has 4 candidates that are progressing forward to preparation for recruit academy this fall. Candidates are being progressed through medical evaluations and getting PPE issued.

Graduation for Recruit Class 2023-01 and EMT Class was on June 17, 2023. The Fire District graduated 5 new EMTs and 5 new volunteer firefighters.

Chief Johnson added that at least one ST91 roof repair bid has been received and a decision on a contract will be made shortly. The ST95 roof project retainage is still on hold awaiting the release of the project by LNI. And the Training Center pump control replacement has been completed and the system is functioning normally. The addition of red light to the system was made so that personnel can be aware of when the pump is operating.

### **3. Operations:**

AC Patti reported that operations activity for the month of June 2023 was down from May 2023 (214). There were 192 calls for the month of June 2023, composed of 81 fire and 111 EMS. 2023 calls to date (1202) are ahead of 2022 calls through June (1139). BLS transports in June 2023 were at 43 and 296 for 2023 to date. The BLS number remains down from 2022.

The work on base station radio upgrades for all stations continues. The project will continue through the summer and the first installation will be at ST92.

Braun NW has received 2 Ford F450 chassis for the ordered ambulances and anticipate receiving the 3rd chassis within the next 1-2 weeks. Anticipated delivery for the first 2 ambulances has been moved up to November 2023 and the 3rd is anticipated to be completed in February 2024. Inspections of the chassis will take place in September 2023.

June was a very busy month for crew training. Personnel continue to work through the 2nd quarter Fire and OTEP training. All personnel completed the month-long in-service career recruit training on June 30 and personnel have been assigned to shifts. With respect to RT-130 Wildland Refresher, annual training is in progress and includes pack testing for Red Card Renewals. And the Rope Rescue training course was completed on June 28 with 8 personnel in attendance.

Most recently, the July 4 holiday was very busy in Thurston County. Fire District 9 was able to provide significant help to the surrounding areas. On July 4, there were two small fires in our district. One was a brush fire caused by fireworks on a steep hillside and the other was a structure fire near the beach. During that time frame, problems were experienced with 911 related to routing of calls.

In addition to the July 4 holiday activity, there was a brush fire that burned 1/4 acre on Highway 8 near Summit Lake. There was also a second brush fire in Capitol Forest near the last one that occurred. And, finally, there was a multiple vehicle fatality accident on Highway 101 near a construction site. The Highway 101 accident involved the transport of 4 patients to the hospital.

Commissioner Albert asked about how the construction site related to the accident. AC Patti provided more details about the accident, including the existence of a backup of cars through the construction site. District 9 firefighter Keegan came upon the accident while off duty and was able to assist the injured until crews arrived.

#### **4. *Chief's Report:***

There is one new work-related injury to report for June 2023. In addition, one employee continues long-term LNI Time Loss leave. One employee is on light duty for work related to a shoulder injury. One employee reported an upper extremity injury to an elbow, and is off awaiting updated activity restrictions before light duty can be offered.

Work on the M&O Levy continues. The Fire District will prepare a resolution for a replacement levy measure proposal in the event the current levy measure fails.

The ST91 roof repair bid came in at about \$150,000 and the contract will be awarded. For efficiency and cost savings, the roof on an adjacent training building will also be replaced at the same time.

The Rapid Extrication Module System (REMS) is staffed and deployed to the Tunnel Five Fire in Skamania County and is currently assigned to the Boulder Fire near Mt. Hood, Oregon. It has also been deployed to the Barnett Springs/Benton complex.

There were a lot of fires in June and that is expected to continue. The McEwen fire near Shelton expanded quickly and required evacuation orders.

The Fire District was busy over the July 4 holiday with Summit Lake boat races, the Tumwater parade and the Tamoshan parade.

As noted above, progress on the ambulances at Braun NW is moving along. In addition to the chassis deliveries, all 3 VINS have been received. The Fire District did not pursue the Thurston County public health used ambulance. Upon delivery of the new ambulances, existing equipment A95, A96 and A97 will be cleaned and sent to surplus.

The Fire District is studying the need for security cameras at its stations.

Real property work is underway at ST92 to clear up debris, cars, etc. Discussions with neighbors to ST95 have taken place related to the use of adjacent property.

### **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Campeau reported that West Thurston Fire meets on Monday.

### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

None.

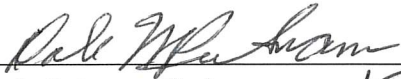
### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board convened into Executive Session at 1842, for an estimated 15 minutes, to discuss collective bargaining. The Board will reconvene at 1857 and immediately adjourn. No action is anticipated.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Board meeting; the motion carried. The Board adjourned at 1857.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
For Thurston County Fire District 9:

  
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Dale Putnam, Chair

  
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Len Albert, Commissioner

  
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Mark Campeau, Commissioner

  
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Jason Foust, Commissioner

  
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Mark Thompson, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tom McBride, Board Secretary

07/13/23  
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Date