



Board of Fire Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes March 4, 2025

**Clark County Fire District 5
11606 NE 66th Street, Suite 103
Vancouver, WA 98662**

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Rhine called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Commissioner Gibson and Commissioner Lyons were in attendance. Also present at the meeting were District Administrator Jennifer Bethke, VFD Chief Brennan Blue and Deputy Administrator Chris Cohen.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Lyons motioned to approve the February 4, 2025 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Chief's Report

Facilities Exercise - Chief Blue reported on a recent facilities exercise. The exercise was performed to ensure the Department's priorities aligned with Proposition 2, Fire and Emergency Services and Facilities Levy Lid Lift. The Chief reconfirmed this from the findings of the exercise.

Fire Academy – The current Fire Academy is underway. Chief Blue updated the Board on the progress of the academy. He reported that the class is down to 9 recruits from the original 11. Two dropped out of the academy for personal reasons.

Citizens' Communications

None.



Consent Agenda

Commissioner Lyons moved to approve items A through F as submitted. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

The consent agenda included the following items:

A. Commissioners' Fund 6209	\$	26,606.31
B. Commissioners' Fund 6209	\$	15,019.98
C. Commissioners' Fund 6209	\$	16,690.49
D. Payroll Transmittal – January 16 to 31, 2025	\$	33,849.61
E. Payroll Transmittal – February 1 to 15, 2025	\$	34,033.47
F. Sales Refunds – February	\$	3,699.58

Secretary's Report

A. Commissioners' Fund Financials – January 2025

B. Classes Taught – February - Provided to the Board for informational purposes.

Board Communications

Social Security – Administrator Bethke cold polled District employees to gauge whether they would vote in favor of opting into Social Security benefits. Upon completion of this poll, Administrator Bethke determined that the majority of employees would not be in favor. Therefore, she will no longer pursue Social Security benefits for the District.

Federal Funding – Commissioner Rhine prompted a discussion regarding recent changes in Federal funding policies. The Board discussed how these changes could affect the District. Chief Blue reported that some grants from the Federal government could potentially be affected.

Building Firearm Sign – The Board directed Deputy Administrator Cohen to post a sign at the main entrance prohibiting firearms in the building per District policy.

Security Issues – The Board addressed the importance of monitoring the unlocked main entrance door during Board meetings. Moving forward, the front door camera will be monitored via laptop computer if an employee is not available to watch the main entrance in order to monitor potential people walking into the building.

City Council Annexation Workshop – A City Council annexation workshop will be held sometime in March and Commissioner Gibson will let Administrator Bethke know when it is scheduled so she can share with other Board members.

Pledge of Allegiance – A discussion was held regarding the potential inclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance at the beginning of Board meetings moving forward.



Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Executive Session

At 6:26 p.m. Chair Rhine requested to move to Executive Session to discuss employee performance issues for 15 minutes. The executive session will be until 6:41 p.m.

At 6:41 p.m. Chair Rhine moved the meeting back to regular session.


No official board action was taken after the Executive session.

Adjournment

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

Chair Rhine adjourned at 7:01 pm.


Sincerely,



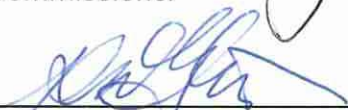
Chair



Commissioner



Secretary to the Board



Commissioner