Board of Fire Commissioners

Regular Meeting Minutes
July 7, 2026

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

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Lyons called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Gibson and Commissioner Rhine were in attendance. Also present at the meeting were District Administrator Jennifer Bethke, VFD Chief Drake and Deputy Administrator Chris Cohen.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gibson motioned to approve the June 16, 2026 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Rhine seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Chief's Report

Strategic Plan – Chief Drake updated the Commissioners on the Strategic Plan for VFD and CCFD5. He introduced the acting VFD Chief of Staff, Ryan Morrisey. He presented an organizational chart that displays the seven administrative support staff positions approved by the City's Human Resources department.

RFA (Regional Fire Authority) Discussion – The Board continued the RFA discussion from previous meetings. Chief Drake discussed possible next steps in forming an RFA and has a meeting this Thursday with several other agencies. After reviewing the 2011 feasibility study that CCFD5 paid for, it was agreed that an updated study would be necessary.

Citizens' Communications

None.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Rhine moved to approve items A through G as submitted. The Board asked for clarification of an item on the consent agenda. Commissioner Gibson seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

The consent agenda included the following items:

A. Commissioners' Fund 6209	$	15,063.72
B. Commissioners' Fund 6209	$	4,704.35
C. Commissioners' Fund 6209	$	6,307.15
D. Payroll Transmittal – May 1 to 15, 2026	$	33,253.93
E. Payroll Transmittal – May 16 to 31, 2026	$	28,222.45
F. Payroll Transmittal – June 1 to 15, 2026	$	33,932.54
G. Sales Refunds – May & June 2026	$	5,581.78

Secretary's Report

A. **Commissioners' Fund Financials – May 2026 - Provided to the Board for informational purposes.**

B. **Classes Taught – June 2026 - Provided to the Board for informational purposes.**

Board Communications

Street Access Concern – Commissioner Gibson informed the Board that he will be meeting with Friends of Central Vancouver this Thursday to follow up on concerns from citizens regarding narrow streets. The width of the streets poses a potential problem for emergency vehicle access. Commissioner Gibson will report at a future meeting.

Clark Public Utilities – Administrator Bethke informed the Board that Clark Public Utilities reached out to her to ask for a letter of support from the District. They are interested in adding a new water supply pipeline. The pipeline would allow a better supply for fire suppression hydrants and the ability to add additional hydrants.

EMT Student – Commissioner Rhine informed the Board about a recent incident involving an EMT course graduate who attended training outside the District. The student expressed concerns about inclusion and diversity during a ride along with a Fire Department unaffiliated with Vancouver Fire and Clark County Fire District 5. Chief Drake expressed disappointment in the incident. He assured Commissioner Rhine that the individual is welcome to pursue a position with VFD.

FIRE DISTRICT 5
CLARK COUNTY

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Chair Lyons adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Sincerely,

Chair

Commissioner

Secretary to the Board

Commissioner