

West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority

Regular Meeting

119 NE Church Street White Salmon WA 98672.

Thursday April 16, 2025. 6:30pm.

- ❖ The meeting was called to order by Chair Thomas Montag at 18:30.
- ❖ Flag Salute.
- ❖ Attendance:
WKRFA Governing Board: Quorum: Thomas Montag, Ben Giant, Robert Connor, Charles Virts.
Absent: David Lindley, Morella Mora
Advisory groups/staff: Deputy Chief Hunsaker, Eric Bosler, Jennifer McLean, Rozalind Plumb. Thomas Crumpacker (via Zoom).
- ❖ Agenda:
"Motion to approve the agenda for April 16th, 2026." made by Ben Giant, second by Bob Connor (4 in favor, 0 opposed) motion passed.
- ❖ Minutes of the last Meeting.
"Move to approve both sets of minutes from March 19, 2026, and December 13, 2025, Strategic Planning Workshop.", made by Ben Giant, second by Bob Connor (4 in favor, 0 opposed) motion passed.
- ❖ Public Comments: None noted.
- ❖ Administrative Secretary's report (see attached)
 1. The Treasurer's report for March shows some property tax revenue for 2026.
 2. Approval of the scripts and ACH payments.
"Move to approve scripts in the following list March 23, 2026, \$373.32, April 6, 2026, \$11,565.20, April 7th, 2026, in the amount of \$761.88, April 9th, 2026, in the amount of \$4,766.44". In addition to that motion, I approve the ACH payments March 9th, 2026, in the amount of \$24,399.41, March 9th \$12,954.05, April 7th \$27,472.22, April 7th \$7,784.03, April 7th \$6,942.49 and April 13th \$17.99." Motion made by Ben Giant, second by Charles Virts. (4 yay, 0 opposed) motion passed.

*3. Turn out Purchase – Review of the Quote for 5 sets of Turnouts.
"Motion to approve \$15,978.60 for turnouts." made by Charles Virts and second by Ben Giant. (4 yay, 0 opposed) motion passed.*
- ❖ Fire Chief's Report –See attached by Chief Long.
Deputy Chief Hunsaker spoke for Chief Long who was teaching fire Academy.

- ❖ **Training Report:** See report attached prepared By Captain Crumpacker.
Ben Giant asked about the training hours. Training hours are currently well above average due to Fire Academy and the recent Driver training. Ben Giant recognized the impact of so many hours on volunteers and expressed concern for potential negative impacts. Captain Crumpacker acknowledged the time expectation for attending Fire Academy is high and faculty are very respectful of the volunteer's time. The volunteers enrolled were made aware of the commitment when they signed up. The fact of the situation is it takes a long time to train adequately for the safety of everyone.
- ❖ **Volunteer Representative Report.** Eric Bosler noted the next fund raiser is SW Fire on the Mountain Trail Race on May 2nd. The Association continues to fund exercise equipment at the stations. They have established a committee to actively seek and apply for grants.
- ❖ **Information Only Items.**
 1. **Quit Claims-** Roz and Legal counsel have been working on transferring the KCFD3 Building to the WKRFA.
 2. **IAFF Local 5172 –Firefighters Union.** We have received the initial letter of intent for a collective bargaining agreement process to be established. Expect more information at the next meeting.
- ❖ **Unfinished Business- Follow -up Items. See below**
 1. **WSFD Capital Reserve Funds to WKRFA –** Ben Giant confirmed the City has approved an amendment to the budget which acknowledged the \$25,000 was intended for the WKRFA and will be transferred.
 2. **Snowden Water Tanks –** Tunnel Road is complete and ready for use; Snowden Road tank should be complete next week. Refilling the tanks has been a training opportunity for Tender operators.
 3. **St 32 Well –** Finding a specialist with a specific well license has been slow. Coordination is needed with a roof contractor. Best efforts are being made to use the small business plan established by the Board.
 4. **Fleet Maintenance –** Chief has listed the known issues that need to be addressed. Hose and Ladder testing has been completed – 3 sections of hose and two attic ladders need to be replaced.
- ❖ **Discussion Items/Action Items**
 1. **Resolutions**
 - **PDC –** WKRFA is not currently listed with the State Public Disclosure Committee as the board members are elected to the City of White Salmon and KCFD3 and not to WKRFA directly. Discussion with the PDC indicated the WKRFA Board can establish a resolution requiring board members submit a Financial Declaration to ensure no conflict of interest with WKRFA funds. Ben Giant noted that the City Council members do not currently report to the PDC as the city is not big enough. Roz will forward her contact at PDC to Ben for more information. Item tabled to the next meeting.

- **Volunteer Stipends.** Resolution 2026-01. This resolution confirms the Board's intent to pay volunteer stipends.
Motion to approve the Resolution for Volunteer Stipends made by Charles Virts Second by Bob Connor, (3 yay 0 nay) motion passed.

2. **Policies.** None

3. **Agreements.** None

4. **Other Discussion Items-**

- **Strategic Planning** – Chief Hunsaker summarized the need for replacement of vehicles. It is important to schedule replacement of critical equipment to avoid having an aging fleet. The age of the fleet affects the WSRB rating. In addition, maintaining an ageing fleet increases maintenance costs, risks multiple vehicles needing to be replaced at the same time without adequate funding.
 - Engine 30-01 is 27 years old. Current ordering timelines extend to approximately 500 days. Cost is estimated at \$550,000. Next engine in line for replacement is E-31.
 - Brush-32 is beyond its service life and is due for replacement immediately. Historically brush engines have been acquired from other agencies after reaching their service life with those agencies. Maintenance and safety are priorities. Estimated replacement cost \$150,000.
 - Staff Vehicle – C 300 utility is leaning into higher mileage and potential for maintenance costs is increasing for this vehicle.

Board discussed:

- Current finances – Capital Fund includes White Salmon Fire Reserve Funds total \$374,293. Additional funds are available from the 10% of annual revenue (2025, 2026, 2027). The engine would not be paid for until delivered so there is time for additional funds to be added to the Capital Reserve from 2027 Tax revenues and existing General Reserve funds.
- Build out timelines – New Type 1 Engine is over 500 days. New chassis for a Type 6 Brush Engine may take 4 months.
- Financing– Discussion on depleting Capital Funds versus using municipal financing.
- Discussion on Engine types – 1, 3, and 6 and the requirements of WSRB.

Motion authorizing staff to start looking for replacement engines and report back to board with options. Made by Charles Virts, second by Ben Giant. (3 yay 0 nay) motion passed.

Note: Any contracts for purchase would come to the board for approval.

- ❖ **EXECUTIVE SESSION** (as needed per RCW 42.30.110). – None needed.
- ❖ **Action items** – covered above.
- ❖ **Good of the order.**

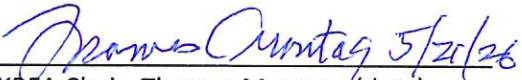
- **Robert Connor** - Noted road work on Snowden may affect response to and out of Station 32.

❖ **Next Meeting:**

Regular Board meeting Thursday May 21st 18:30. Location: Station 30, 119 NE Church Street White Salmon.

- ❖ ***"Motion to adjourn," made by Charles Virts, seconded by Robert Connor (3 in favor 0 opposed). Motion passed.***
Meeting adjourned 19:28.

APPROVED:


WKRFA Chair -Thomas Montag (date)

Attest:


Administrative Manager - Rozalind Plumb