

Okanogan County Fire District No. 6

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2026

PRESENT

Assistant Chief Stamps, Commissioners Milliken and Lindsey, Secretary Gollen.

ABSENT

Chief Acord and Commissioner Heller.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Milliken calls the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Sisson asks about the cause of recent fires due to the absence of lightening strikes. Assistant Chief Stamps replies that they have been mechanical or undetermined.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

CHIEF'S REPORT

Assistant Chief Stamps provides an update on Engine 633 repairs. During pump testing overheating occurred. A temperature sensor was repaired but still was not functioning properly. A technician was called in and two turbos, at a cost of \$5000 each were replaced. Total bill was \$19,500 and it is now back in service. Secondly, the recent Hamilton Fire resulted in a state mobilization with 8.5 hours in, 21 people and 5 engines. The use of the apparatus will bring in \$24,000 to the District. Commissioner Lindsey asks if when a state mobilization occurs is command transferred to the state? Assistant Chief Stamps answers, yes. Commissioner Milliken asks about the process behind the decision to move to state mobilization. Assistant Chief Stamps explains that the trigger point was W Chewuch Rd and the need to protect the Town. There are 400 structures in the vicinity that were threatened by the winds. Lower County resources were called in from Okanogan, Chelan and Douglas and then the request for mobilization. Five strike teams were approved. State mobilization resources came in later in the day and night and throughout the next day. David Dodge added that the Winthrop Station was used as ICP due to the power outage.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was a report that the Twisp 4th of July parade went well.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- **Apparatus Bid-** Commissioner Milliken opened the one bid that had been submitted. It was a \$250.00 bid. Commissioner Milliken has some questions regarding where we can post for bids. Commissioner Milliken tables the current 2012 Chevy Tahoe bid that came in and makes a motion to repost the 2012 Chevy Tahoe for bids in the newspaper with a closing date prior to the August 10 Board meeting with the condition that it can also be posted in other places such as social media, regional fire forums and/or the local bulletin board. Commissioner Lindsey seconds the motion. **Motion Carried.** Assistant Chief Stamps offers to reach out to Chief Acord to clarify these questions. The current bid is returned to the Secretary. The Secretary is asked to contact the current bid holder to inform him that the bid is tabled until the next Board meeting on August 10. David Dodge adds that WA Fire Chief's site has a place for posting vehicles for sale.
- **Scheduling of work session-** Assistant Chief Stamps asks the Board who will be invited to attend the session. The Commissioners discuss this and report that it will be the Chief, Assistant Chief, Commissioners and the Secretary. Commissioner Milliken makes a motion to hold a special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners on August 13 from 1:00-5:00 pm with the purpose of creating a draft business plan for the District. Attendance will be the Board, Chief, Assistant Chief and Secretary. Commissioner Lindsey seconds the motion. **Motion Carried.** David Dodge asks if the meeting will go into executive session or be a full public meeting. Commissioner Lindsey states that it will be a full public meeting.
- **Infrastructure and funding needs, and compensation comparison-** Commissioner Milliken reports that this information was provided by the Chief to be incorporated into the business plan.
- **Review of T631 and T641 accident reports-** Assistant Chief Stamps provides a report on this agenda topic. In May District 6 was requested to support assistance with the USFS Libby Creek burn that escaped. Tender 641 with driver aided. T641 had issues with a pump so Tender 631 was dispatched. T631 provided water supply at Elderberry Canyon along with other USFS vehicles. They were advised of the fire expanding off containment due to winds and were given two choices. 1. Back up for 3/4 of a mile and do a multipoint turn or 2. Move further up the road and do a multipoint turn. The tender driver chose to adjust forward. During the turn the tender made contact with a stump and caught the fender. The driver reported to his station officer and the report was brought to the safety officer. The tender was taken

out of service by Captain Fosness for repairs. The commissioners discussed ideas about how to better prepare firefighters for these types of situations moving forward. Assistant Chief Stamps provides information regarding T641 repair. The tender was diagnosed by General Fire as having a faulty sensor circuit in the transmission and it was later found that the transmission needed to be replaced. He specified that there had been an ongoing problem and it was not due to the driver.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Emily Sisson asks what will happen if the individual that placed the bid for the Tahoe backs out. Commissioner Lindsey states that the Secretary will communicate with him. Paul Sisson has questions about a recent fire and Commissioner Milliken requests that he communicate with Assistant Chief Stamps outside of the session regarding this.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

- **RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)- Review Performance of a Public Employee-** At 8:12 pm Commissioner Milliken announces the beginning of an executive session for the purpose of RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)-Review performance of a public employee. The session will run for 18 minutes and end at 8:30 pm. In attendance are Commissioners Milliken and Lindsey. Commissioner Milliken announces that no decisions were made and brings the meeting back into session at 8:30 pm.
- **RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)- Review Performance of a Public Employee-** At 8:30 pm Commissioner Milliken announces the beginning of an executive session for the purpose of RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)-Review performance of a public employee. The session will run for 20 minutes and conclude at 8:50 pm. Commissioners Milliken and Lindsey and Assistant Chief Stamps attend the session. Commissioner Milliken announces that no decisions were made and brings the meeting back into session at 8:50 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Winthrop Wildfire Committee Report-** Commissioner Milliken announces that this agenda was skipped earlier in the meeting. Commissioner Milliken attended this recent meeting in review of the Hamilton Fire. It was identified in the meeting that community volunteers for the posting of evacuations etc. are needed. The power outage that occurred during this fire affected emergency repeaters. OCEC recommended applying for grants for microgrids. The occurrence of the fire hawks dipping into the Winthrop sewer pond may result in penalties. There was talk about possibly setting up a portable water tank at the ball field. Commissioner Milliken had the opportunity to share his knowledge of home hardening.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Milliken makes a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Lindsey seconds the motion. **Motion Carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Milliken adjourns the meeting at 9:10 pm.

X 

Myles Milliken

OCFD6 Board of Commissioners Chair

X 

Jade Gollen

OCFD6 Secretary