

**KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #2
Ellensburg, Washington**

Minutes of: Commissioners' Board Meeting
Meeting date: September 11th, 2025
Meeting time: 7:00pm
Meeting place: 400 E. Mountain View, Station 29

Commissioners in Attendance: Ross Ogan Pat Clerf, Jerry Pettit, and Neil O'Neill and Scott Ciraulo. Commissioner Pettit attended virtually.

Others in Attendance: Chief DJ Goldsmith, ASM McBride. DC Moen and FSM Cramer had excused absences. Six firefighters and members of the public.

1. Call to Order: Commissioner Ogan called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda: Commissioner Clerf made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner O'Neill seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

3. Consent Agenda

- 3.1 Approve Proposed Meeting Minutes
 - August 14th, 2025- Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 Acknowledge Correspondence
 - None.
- 3.3 Authorize to pay vouchers

Sep-25		
Batch #	Amount	Description
2025.09.01	\$539,330.48	Payroll - General Fund 010
2025.09.02	\$199,682.08	Payroll - EMS Fund 011
2025.09.03	\$76,929.85	Accounts Payable - General Fund 010
2025.09.04	\$12,745.82	Accounts Payable - EMS Fund 011
2025.09.05	\$0.00	Accounts Payable - CON Fund 020
2025.09.06	\$41,088.54	Accounts Payable - Equipment Fund 041
\$869,776.77		

Commissioner O'Neill made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Clerf seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

4. Public Hearing: None.

5. Public Comment: None.

6. Administrative Reports:

6.1 Finance Report: ASM McBride presented the attached report and addressed the following:

- OT report is attached. 236 of the hours were due to mobilizations.
- Detailed financial statements are not attached. We have not received any financial statements back from the county. Once those are received, we will reconcile and provide them to the board.
- Revenue, we received some mobilization reimbursement.
- Expenditures, we paid for the Stryker contract which was about \$150,000 and the second ambulance chassis which was about \$60,000.
- ASM McBride and FSM Cramer attended the MRSC financial training this week.
- Electronic budget requests are due on September 30th.

6.2 District Secretary Report: District Secretary McBride presented the attached report and addressed the following:

- Thank you to the board for allowing me to attend the MRSC training. It was a very informative class.
- I have registered two commissioners for the WFCA conference in October. Please let me know if anyone else would like to attend.
- GEMT is still uncertain when it comes to the super rural modifier. It is still possible that something can be passed by September 30th but Sydney was able to attend a webinar on GEMT and the public sector EMS is going to see lots of changes to that program in the coming years.
- A friendly reminder for everyone that, the district is strictly prohibited from being involved in elections. This includes any resources such as facilities, worktime or equipment. Employees can exercise their rights outside of work when not engaged in district business.

6.3 Deputy Chief Report: Chief Goldsmith presented the attached report and addressed the following:

- The August responses totaled 417; 317 EMS, 25 Out of County Transfers. 12 burn complaints that the Duty Chief handled.
- 25 out of county transfers is a sharp decrease over the previous months for transfers.
- Our staffing is improving, we have only had one paramedic still out.
- The fair and rodeo went very well, we are compiling a list of things that went well and didn't go well to improve for next year.
- Response guidelines have been loaded with Kittcom. We are getting dispatched 20-30 seconds quicker than before.
- New Medic units are getting inspected on October 22nd for final delivery.
- Our call mix is 20% Fire; 80% EMS, this is pretty typical for KVFR.

6.4 Chief Report: Chief Goldsmith presented the attached report and addressed the following:

- Staffing is improving. We are in a hiring process and had over 100 folks apply and 12 are moving on to Chief Interviews. Chief Goldsmith has changed the process and had DC Moen apart of the interview process.
- We are getting reimbursed for most of our overtime hours because of State Mobilizations, so that number is high.
- The executive staff has a meeting every Tuesday that is about 30 minutes to 1 hour to get everyone on the same page. We get together every Tuesday morning to put heads together.
- Lt. Campbell has accepted the training Captain position. We have a couple of people interested in the Training Lt. position, so he selected the best candidate. Congratulations to Lt. Klopfer for his promotion to the line.
- Response models are complete. Still some more changes need to happen through Kittcom.
- Meetings with KVH continue to remain really positive. Jason CEO of KVH signed the preferred provider contract with Airlift NW, nothing wrong with life flight but this streamlines our airlift process for limiting delays for the critical patients. They will launch life flight if airlift is not available. Chief Goldsmith will be speaking next month with the board of KVH about what KVFR does.

- The budget remains the top priority. Danae did a great job adding in ongoing costs for purchases and technologies on requested items.
- Chief Moen and Chief Goldsmith have spent a couple of hours with each shift to meet about the agency and felt that it went very very well.
- There were lots of folks not from this local area in attendance at the rodeo and we had heat related calls, the rodeo board response was positive and they felt like they have never had better communication.
- Chief Goldsmith is finishing up the questioner for the entire department for the strategic plan. For the external stakeholders stuff Chief would like to have a workshop meeting. Chief would like to have that in October for open dialogue of what the strategic plan could be and set up the options we want for the strategic plan with the board. This would be used to build the RFP for the consultants.
- The Kittitas County Commissioners have been sent a letter regarding a fire protection contract. The PUD and the hospital will receive their letter next. Chief Goldsmith is having a conversation with Heidi about the City of Ellensburg contract. Chief Goldsmith attended the District 1 board meeting last month, there was some talk about trying to annex and trying to do something with them, Chief Goldsmith shared that we are only there as a good neighbor and said there is no interest from him or the district in a merger at this time. We provide their EMS service through the hospital district to their area and want to be good partners.
- Agreements we are continuing the process with the annexation for Sun East and Manastash.
- Chiefs Schedule is still Monday-Thursday 0700-1700. He made the honor society for his degree and received a letter.
- Chief Goldsmith wanted to touch on the Strategic planning process again. Hi one ask is if the board would like to review the questions before sending them out. Commissioner Clerf commented that he would like to see the questions for the strategic plan being sent out, the rest of the commissioners agreed that they wanted to see the questions before Chief sent them out to the organization so they could provide feedback. Chief Goldsmith commented that he does like separation a little bit from the board in this process to allow his people freedom to express themselves. The board requested Chief Goldsmith the questions to them before they send them to the entire organization.
- Our folks stepped up to the table and worked a lot of hours to help the Rodeo. The prevention division has done an amazing job on the hydrant testing process. Thanks to our team both volunteers and career, our responses have been phenomenal. Chief Goldsmith is very grateful on how everyone has stepped up. No matter where Chief goes the brand means something, social media, we are getting extremely good feedback. Chief Goldsmith would like to thank everyone.
- Commissioner Clerf commented that he and the board would like to be informed when he has an opportunity to meet with FD1 commissioners. They would like to be invited to attend next time.
- Commissioner Ogan asked the Chief where are we at with the Fairview property. Chief Goldsmith responded he reached out a couple of times to the family but he had dropped the ball and didn't follow up will have an answer in October.

6.5 Commissioner Report: Chief Goldsmith attended the Kittcom meeting, they are working hard. They have the Sky Meadows site updated the sites they flipped the switch to the new system already has improved the radio coms. They are installing repeaters to improve communication.

7. Unfinished Business:

7.1 KVFR Cutting Own Checks Update: We are on target for October switching date to the new process and bank accounts. Everyone has been given new direct deposit forms for paychecks.

7.2 KVFR Communication: Commissioner Clerf spoke that he requested this to be put on the agenda. Since we started the process of looking for a fire chief we have always talked about communication. Commissioner Clerf believes we have come along ways but his first question is for Commissioner Ciraulo as to the secret regarding patriot night. There was a big productions and involvement of KVFR personnel that the board didn't know about. Commissioner Ciraulo commented that he is a part of the rodeo board and as an Ellensburg rodeo director member, he approached Chief Goldsmith and Chief Lowe for honoring the firefighters involved in the California wildfires. Chief Moen and Chief Goldsmith made it all come together and he believes that it was great event. Commissioner Clerf responded that he felt like it would have been appropriate to have this discussion at the last meeting. Commissioner Ciraulo commented that he didn't feel that this was not my role as a commissioner. Chief Goldsmith spoke up and said that he will own this and take responsibility and will own that he should have reported it and make sure that doesn't happen again with the lack of communication. Commissioner Clerf said that he can look at it two ways. Nobody else in the organization knew about it either he asked staff and only people directly involved were informed. He also had questions about if people were given OT to attend and if OT staff or on duty staff were driving the rigs involved. Chief Goldsmith said it was the three that went down to California. Commissioner Ciraulo commented that it was a way to honor them for their sacrifice being away from their families, all of the District 7 were given OT to be there. Chief Goldsmith apologized for not making Commissioner Clerf aware of it. Commissioner Clerf commented that he knows Commissioner Ogan has been trying to be really good about calling people. Commissioner Clerf and Ogan commented that they would like to have all communication for the entire board sent to Sydney and then an email sent out to the entire board. Commissioner O'Neill commented that we have made such a great improvement in our communication, and I don't want to stumble now and it's a little speed bump and it will be clean up, if we have Sydney send out the emails again.

8. New Business:

8.1 Special Budget Meeting Dates: The board reviewed their calendars and contemplated October 14th, October 27th and November 4th. Commissioner Clerf made a motion for October 14th and November 4th at 1000 at Station 29 for the two budget workshops. Commissioner O'Neill seconded the motion and there was no further discussion, and the motion passed unanimously. Discussion occurred that the Finance committee meeting will be on October 8th, but Commissioner Clerf will be gone so he would like the board chair to sit in his place. The board agreed.

8.2 Firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic Hiring Eligibility List: Chief Goldsmith spoke that we currently have two vacancies, but he would like to have the board consider allowing him to make three conditional offers, because we would be behind the curve if we have an additional resignation and would have to wait to get them into a spring or summer state academy. Commissioner Ciraulo believes it is a wise move to be prepared for the vacancies and being proactive. ASM McBride spoke up and asked the board to clarify that hiring this third position doesn't constitute adding an additional position, it is only to allow a hire forward for potential vacancies. The board stated that yes, this is not a new position this just to allow for any current position vacancy to be filled. Commissioner Clerf

made a motion to approve the firefighter/EMT and Firefighter/Paramedic eligibility list and to give Chief the rule of the list of fill any vacancies they may have not to create a new position. Commissioner O'Neill seconded the motion and there was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

9. Good of the Order: Commissioner Ciraulo shared that the Ellensburg Rodeo had feedback that, it was really a pleasure to work with Chief Moen and Goldsmith as a director, it was seamless, and they could not have done it without them. Chief Goldsmith spoke that it is a symbolic day and there has been a lot of turmoil over the past two days, for first responders throughout the county and asked for a moment of silence for reembrace.

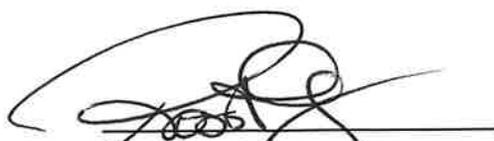
10. Executive Session: Commissioner Ogan announced at 1955 that the board would be going into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1) (g) To review the performance of a public employee. The executive session would be for 40 minutes until 2035. Commissioner Ogan requested Chief Goldsmith and ASM McBride to remain for the executive session to meet with the board members. At 2035 the board announced it will be extending the executive session for an additional 10 minutes until 2045. At 2045 the board announced it would be extending executive session for an additional 10 minutes until 2055. At 2055 it was announced that the board would be extending the executive session for an additional 5 minutes until 2100. At 2100 it was announced that the board would be extending for an additional 10 minutes until 2110. At 2100 it was announced that the board would be extending for an additional 5 minutes until 2115. The regular meeting resumed at 2115.

11. Fire Chief Performance Evaluation: Commissioner Clerf made a motion to approve the fire chief performance evaluation as amended. Commissioner O'Neill seconded the motion and there was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

12. Fire Chief 2026 Wage: Commissioner O'Neill made a motion to give a 2.7% increase to the fire chief position for 2026, Commissioner Ciraulo seconded the motion and there was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment

Commissioner O'Neill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Clerf seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm hours.


Board Chair


District Secretary

