

## KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #2

Ellensburg, Washington

**Minutes of:** Commissioners' Board Meeting, Special Session  
**Meeting date:** April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**Meeting time:** 1:00pm  
**Meeting place:** 400 E. Mountain View, Station 29

The special meeting was publicized according to the requirements of Chapter 188, Laws of 2012. Each Board member was sent a written notice via e-mail; the Daily Record was notified via an e-mail, a notice was posted on KVFR's website, and the notice of special meeting was posted in the front window at 400 E. Mountain View on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Pat Clerf, Neil O'Neill, Jerry Pettit and Andy Polak and Scott Ciraulo.

**Others in Attendance:** Chief Palmer, DC Moen, ASM McBride and several members of the public.

**1. Call to Order:** Commissioner Clerf called the meeting to Order at 1:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Approval of Agenda:** Commissioner O'Neill made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Polak seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**3. Fire Chief Search Announcement and Application:** Commissioner Polak said that question 2 was slightly different than what was discussed with the fire chief search subcommittee. Commissioner Pettit felt that this new question would require people to do some research specific to KVFR but conversation occurred that the old question would make easier to understand. Commissioner Pettit made a motion to approve fire chief search announcement and application with the edits for the supplemental questions. Commissioner O'Neill seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda.

**4. Interim Fire Chief:** Commissioner Clerf recused himself from the remainder of the meeting and left the meeting. Commissioner Pettit took over as vice chair of the meeting. Commissioner Pettit asked DC Moen if he would be willing to do temporary fire chief? DC Moen said that he cares about the department and people that work at the department. Commissioner Pettit commented that we would need to figure out how to compensate you and if you could be doing two jobs. We would need to figure out what it looks like to allocate things. Chief Palmer suggested that the shift captains elevate temporarily to help with the workload and build some strength. The board discussed to have Chief Moen come up with some recommendations and present that to the board. Commissioner Polak asked if we have explored other options? Commissioner Pettit said there could be other thoughts on how to do this we each have different experiences. Commissioner Polak stated that he hasn't deeply considered other things but that doesn't mean this isn't the best option available. Commissioner Ciraulo shared said he would be in support of DC Moen as interim chief but is concerned about RCW 42.52.70 and the RCW states that because of their relationship DC Moen cannot be supervised by the board chair. He would be

in favor but would want the board chair to step down. Commissioner Polak stated that without getting into the weeds of the legalities, maybe the perception of the conflict would still exist, he is in support of Chris being interim chief. Commissioner Pettit believes they would have to think about the direct supervision as a board and maybe have our attorney give an opinion. We could do some research. Commissioner O'Neill said we don't need to make a decision right away, and doesn't want to get into crunch time decisions and suggested another meeting maybe the 12<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> to come up with more information before the 14<sup>th</sup> of May. We can have the chair set up a special meeting. Commissioner Polak felt that was the responsible thing to do. Commissioner Pettit made a motion for the appointment of Chris Moen to Interim Fire Chief, commissioner O'Neill stated that he would like to table this until next meeting or a special meeting. DC Moen stated that he just wants stability.

**5. Executive Session:**


Commissioner Pettit announced at 1:25pm the board would be going into executive session pursuant to "RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement" The board requested that Chief Palmer and administrative staff stay to meet with the board. The executive session would be for 20 minutes until 1:45pm and there would be no action following the executive session. At 1:45 pm it was announced that executive session would extend for 10 minutes until 1:55pm. The regular meeting resumed at 1:55 pm.

**6. Good of the Order:** None.

**4. Adjournment** Commissioner O'Neill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Pettit seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 1:55pm.



Board Chair

  
District Secretary

