

## KITTITAS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #2

Ellensburg, Washington

**Minutes of:** Commissioners' Board Meeting, Special Session  
**Meeting date:** June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**Meeting time:** 8:00am  
**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 Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026.

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

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

**1. Call to Order:** Commissioner Clerf called the meeting to Order at 08:00am and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**3. Interfacility Transfers/KVFR Safety Standdown** Chief Moen shared that administrative staff have been meeting with KVH regarding transfers and that a significant safety concern has been brought forward regarding members falling asleep on non-emergent transfers in the middle of the night. He initiated a safety standdown from 2200-0400 to give him time to investigate the root cause. He held meetings and the first meeting was about the issues and solutions mainly looking at the issues for commonalities. A couple of things stood out, fatigue and transfers in the middle of the night. Training and activities happen during the day and then fatigue happens when taking transfers in the middle of the night. The work schedule was another commonality. There was a special safety committee meeting and there was deep discussion. The recommendation from the safety committee has prompted him to work on changing the policy. Chief Moen stated that this decision will have a reaching effect, he will lay out what the best solutions would be and then the board think about it and make a decision. The thoughts for the solution would be no non-emergent transfers between 2000-0800. This may lead to mandatory overtime for people, and it interrupts them getting their days off, especially childcare. Chief Moen stated that KVFR will needs to transport all kids including non-emergent overnight because he is worried about the optics of not taking the kids, that would look negative upon KVFR and wouldn't look good. Yakima is closer so those times may be different than other hospitals. Chief Moen again stated that he would like the board to think about it because it will have lasting effects for the hospital. We have had conversations about standing up a day car to take non-emergent transfers. This would be paid staff and volunteer EMT's. We have a rig available and it will take a little bit of money. We can have conversations at the next meeting

to make a decision. Commissioner Clerf asked the board if there were any, the board members had no questions or comments.

**4. Lid Levy-Levy Lift:** It was shared that Commissioner Polak and Pettit met with the Union and had a really good discussion regarding messaging that will be used for the Levy Lid Lift. They want language to reiterate that this is not a new tax and maintenance of an existing tax for already approved. It is necessary for us to maintain operations. The Levy Lid lift mailer was presented and Commissioner Pettit commented that he would like to work on things a little bit differently. He would like a removed where it says EMS related incidents. He would like to change the last sentence, the way it is worded says increase and he would like to change that to difference. Increase is truthful and difference is as well. The intent is to not create confusion using words like increase. They would like to reuse difference in other spots and say it is 15 cents to maintain the current \$1.50 or restore the \$1.50 rate already approved. Commissioner Pettit commented that \$1.50 has not been approved, but it has been in the past. Commissioner Polak said you can word that to wanting to approve that to the 1.50 that was approved in 2022 by voters or when it was last. ASM commented 2022 for 2023 tax collection. Commissioner Pettit said we need to make the flyer more positive. Commissioner Clerf stated that he is thinking Commissioner Pettit and Commissioner Polak should look this over with Sydney and make a committee and tweak the flyer and the commissioners can go out into the community. We need to get this information out right away. Commissioner Pettit said we are way ahead of you we have already thought about that. We have connections. Once it is approved we can go talk to the groups and provide information with the groups. If the rest of the board is ok with that. It was commented take the ball and run with it. Commissioner O'Neill asked who is in charge of the social media? It was commented Sydney. ASM McBride stated she can make time for this if that is a priority set by the board. The board agreed. Commissioner O'Neill made a motion for Commissioner Pettit and Polak to on the Levy Lid Lift committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ciarulo. There was no further discussion and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

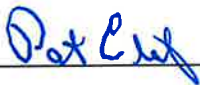
**5. City of Ellensburg/KVFR Contract Amendment:** Commissioner Pettit requested City Manager Heidi Behrends Cerniwey who was a member in the audience, to speak about this. City Manager Behrends Cerniwey introduced herself and shared that the city is a complex organization, and they are wishing for the opportunity of bringing the emergency management function within the city, it is a very simple change to the agreement and not contentious for the board to consider today. Commissioner Pettit made a motion to approve the City of Ellensburg/KVFR contract amendment. Commissioner Ciarulo seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**6. Executive Session:** Commissioner Clerf announced at 8:20am the board would be going into executive session pursuant to "RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress." The board requested that Chief Moen and ASM McBride stay to meet with the board. The executive session would be for 30 minutes until 08:50am and there would be action following the executive session. The board moved to the small conference room and Commissioner Clerf recused himself from the executive session. The board requested the Chief Moen remain outside of the executive session until asked to come in. ASM McBride remained with the board. At 9:20am it was announced that executive session would extend for another 30 minutes until 9:50am. At 9:50am it was announced that executive session would extend for another

30 minutes until 10:20am. At 10:20am it was announced that executive session would extend for another 10 minutes until 10:30am. The regular meeting resumed at 10:30 am. Commissioner Clerf announced that he recused himself from portions of executive session that pertained to Chief Moen. Commissioner Pettit shared that the board spent time talking about where we want to go with Chief Moen's contract and bringing Levon Yengoyan. Secondly then then brought Chief Moen in to see what he needed help with and being able to put together an addendum on what responsibilities are for Levon. Commissioner Clerf brought it for that portion. Commissioner Polak will be working with Sydney to put together a counter proposal for Chief Moen's contract. Secondly, Commissioner O'Neill, Chief Moen and Sydney will be working on what a job description will look like for Levon and an employment contract. The goal is to have those by next Thursday. He also said that they will be looking that the agreement that we currently have with the hospital district and there are some options there on how we manage that as well. Chief Moen would hopefully like to have a decision by the board on Thursday to enact a new transfer policy in response to the safety standdown in a letter from our board to the hospital board. Commissioner Pettit made a motion to extend Sydney current agreement regarding pay for continuing to train Dina for the next 60 days to include June and July. Commissioner Ciraulo seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

**6. Good of the Order:** The board would like to thank everyone for the work that we are doing, all the crews working with Chief Moen for all the options.

**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 10:37am.



Board Chair

  
District Secretary



