

**Klickitat County Fire District 3**  
**200 Husum Street Husum, WA 98623**  
**Commissioner's Regular Meeting**  
**May 11, 2023, at 15:00 (3 pm)**

This meeting was available using remote online video and telephone technology. The district posted notice of how to access the meeting (Website).

Call to order: 15:00 (3 pm)

**Attendance**

Commissioner Montag (Chair), Commissioner Connor (Vice Chair), Commissioner Virts – (Quorum),  
Staff/Volunteers: Wes Long (Fire Chief), Jennifer McLean (Admin. Assistant), Bob Merritt (mHc Associates via zoom)

Via Zoom: Eric Bosler (Fire Prevention/BVFF)

**Approval of agenda**

*"Motion to approve the agenda for May 11, 2023, as presented" -made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

**Approval of minutes of last meetings:**

- April 13<sup>th</sup> – Annexation Hearing
- April 13<sup>th</sup> – Regular Business Meeting (3pm)

*"I move to approve the minutes of the April 13th Annexation Hearing, and Regular Business Meeting as presented" made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

- April 19<sup>th</sup> – Joint Special Meeting with WS City Council – Task Force Report

*"I move to approve the minutes of the April 19th Joint Special Meeting with WS City Council as presented" made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

**Secretary / Finance Report:** See attached report for details.

County Treasurer report for April has not been received.

- GENERAL EXPENSE FUND 667.1

*"I move to approve the general scripts as presented" made by Commissioner Connor, seconded by Commissioner Virts. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

- CAPITAL EXPENSE FUND 667.3  
None.

**Chief's / Training Report** – see attached.

Additional: One lightning strike fire in the Snowden area, and a hoax active shooting incident at the White Salmon High School occurred.

**On Going Business**

1. Personnel:
2. Policies:

**3. BOND**

- CAPITAL PROJECTS
- **Station 31**

a) Bathrooms

- **Action** – Merriam Contracting was awarded the contract and signatures are needed by both a KCFD3 official and Merriam Contracting. Merriam is requesting to set up an electronic signature.
- Chief Long would like to ask Merriam contracting while they are here working on the bathrooms to consider completing a few small projects, to be billed separately.

*“Motion to approve and sign the Station 31-bathroom remodel contract with Merriam Contracting, LLC, as presented” -made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

b) ADA Walkway

- **Action** – The contract will be available next week for signature.

*“Motion to approve Chief Long to sign the ADA Walkway contract” -made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

c) Kitchen – nothing to report.

d) Training room kitchenette - nothing to report.

e) Fence – project postponed due to current workload.

- **Station 32**

a) Oven - nothing to report.

b) Fence – project postponed due to current workload .

4. **Engine Replacement** – A video link will be provided later in the year to watch our engine being constructed. Commissioner Virts raised the question about planning for the next capital replacement. Chief Long has been tracking those needs and will follow up later.

5. **City of White Salmon -Cooperative Services /WKRFA Committee**

Jim Ransier (City of WS) will be the point person for the planning committee to arrange the next planning meeting. Three possible dates have been provided.

The last meeting with the City of White Salmon regarding the RFA on 5/10/2023 lead to postponing the measure to the November Ballot. Some discussion on what that means for the funding of the RFA. Robert Merritt is still researching the matter with Legal Counsel. The table below indicates what may occur.

Vote	Start RFA	Submit for levy	Collect levy \$	Receive Levy \$	Result
Aug 2023	Oct 2023	November 2023	Beginning Jan 2024	April/May 2024	RFA funded by reserves for 5-6 months
Nov 2023	Jan 1 2024	November 2024	Beginning Jan 2025	April/May 2025	No RFA funds for 1 <sup>st</sup> operating year 2024 plus 5-6 months. Would need to be funded from reserves. <b>No changes to staffing level and programs until RFA funding is available.</b>
Nov 2023	Oct 2024	November 2024	Beginning Jan 2025	April/May 2025	2024 proceed as normal – KCFD3 will levy as usual. WSFD will be funded by COWS as usual. Then RFA funding available in April May of 2025. <b>No changes to staffing level and programs until RFA funding is available.</b>
Nov 2023	Jan 1 2025	November 2024	Beginning Jan 2025	April/May 2025	Need to research if this is possible



There was some concern about losing momentum for the vote. And consideration given to the timing of the vote (November v August). Merritt noted that he has many years of experience and has seen over the years that August is usually more favorable for this kind of measure. Several reasons for this he stated that the more responsible voters will vote in August, noting that a lot of the population does not vote in August. It is during fire season and fire is on people's mind.

Discussion on the plan- the plan is a foundation and will not have all the detail. 5/10/23 meeting presented some concerns from some that there was not enough detail. Robert Merritt noted that Legal Council had advised to make the plan as simple as possible. One particular concern has been the number on the governing board.

**6. RFA planning Committee Stipend**

RCW 52.26.030 (2) "... Members of the planning committee may receive compensation of seventy dollars per day, or portion thereof, not to exceed seven hundred dollars per year, for attendance at planning committee meetings and for performance of other services on behalf of the authority and may be reimbursed for travel and incidental expenses at the discretion of their respective governing body."

*"Motion to approve the \$70 stipend as provided in RCW 52.26.030 (2) " -made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

The WKRFA planning committee is only allowed to meet up to 10 times per year per RCW 52.26.030 (2).

**New Business:** None.

**Public Discussion:** None.

**Good of the order:** None.

**Next meeting:** Regular meeting: Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm.

**Adjourn:**

*"Motion to adjourn," made by Commissioner Virts, seconded by Commissioner Connor. (3 yay, 0 nay) motion passed.*

Meeting adjourned at 1600 (4pm)

**APPROVED BY:**

Thomas Montag 6/8/23  
Chairman – Commissioner Thomas Montag (date)

**Attest:**

Rozalind Plumb  
District Secretary Rozalind Plumb

Robert Connor 6/8/23  
Commissioner Robert Connor (date)

Charles Virts 8 June 2023  
Commissioner Charles Virts (date)