

**MASON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4**

Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2018

Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Present: Commissioners Hirschi, Plews, and Bennett were present. Lisa Brengan was present as minute-taker.

Two firefighters who recently completed probation were sworn in and badged. Congratulations Angus Carpenter and Ben Wright!

**MINUTES:** Commissioner Hirschi **MOTIONED:** to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2018 regular meeting **SECOND:** Commissioner Plews. Unanimous vote. **Motion passes.**

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Expense accounts payables in the amount of \$11,604.55 vouchers 604002181 – 604002196, dated 6/8/2018; \$94,046.79 vouchers 604002197 – 604002247, dated 6/28/2018; \$20,581.21 vouchers 604002248 – 604002272 dated 7/15/2018 were reviewed.

Commissioner Hirschi **MOTIONED:** to approve payment of vouchers as presented. **SECOND:** Commissioner Plews. Unanimous vote. **Motion passes.**

Collected Commissioners June time sheets.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Chief Burbridge received a thank-you to the troops from MCFD1 Chief Ron Satterfield for their assistance with a structure fire on July 17. The Mobe team received huge kudos for their work on the East side of the state, representing Mason County well (they also put out a brush fire on the side of 101 during their travels home!) The District received a thank-you card and donation for all the assistance rendered to a local resident from the “Taco Tuesday” group. Received an email from SAFER asking clarifying questions regarding our grant application, that’s a good sign!

**ASSOCIATION REPORT:** Quick meeting last week regarding the pancake feed that will take place on July 21. Brandon Furrer is taking the lead.

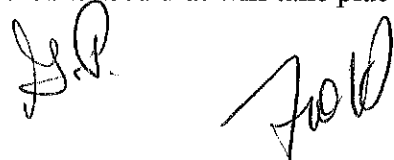
**CHIEF’S REPORTS:**

**Chief Burbridge:**

**USDA** – Rural Grant update: Coincidentally ran in to Ambrea of USDA while picking up grills for this weekends breakfast. She indicated she has \$200,000 in grant funds for the entire state. Micro-grants with matching funds will be highest priority. (PPE, tools, programs) USDA can fund up to 20 year loans at about 3% interest. I believe further work on the application for a granted ambulance will not be worth while. Micro grants and low (relative) interest loans are the focus.

**Assoc. Breakfast.** President Furrer and his planning style will make for an interesting event. The car show folks will be out of county. Labor for Sat. will be needed. He is exercising the phone list for members to help. Slated for 0700 to 1000 hrs.

**FD #18 Emergent** situation – SCBA’s Chief Sexton has an issue with his SCBA cylinders. They will all expire at the end of this month. I have a call in to the FEMA help desk regarding surplus of our current SCBA’s, that were granted by AFG. Early indicators show there is no problem, and I’m awaiting for a FEMA employee to return from vacation. In the mean time, I recommend loaning FD #18 two MSA SCBA’s to begin their training. Our new SCBAs will be in-service within 45 days, following internal training, and one additional manufacture maintenance training.



**FTE assessment needs:** FF Jeff Hanes is currently processing a conditional offer of employment from East Pierce Fire and Rescue. Assuming everything goes well for Jeff, we will be losing a FTE, probably next month. Entry level firefighter testing and assessment will begin the planning stage. Consideration for a temporary FF until testing is complete. Additionally, SAFER awards should be announced in the fall. Other FEMA news: AFG will re-open grants later this year. They have money to get rid of!!!!

**Fire Season** is exceptional this year. The sheriff has reached out for invitees to attend a meeting (July 19) to discuss several fires and share information and timelines. Relations with DNR investigators, the fire district and law enforcement could not be better.

**Explorer Academy** – August, future planning for fire portion of program. This subject was brought up earlier this year. After five years as medical coordinator of the academy, I would like to announce to WLEEA, that I will be stepping down after this summer. I am proud of the medical program that has been created. The clinic, if you will, averages 1200 contacts per academy. This last winter, there was an issue with a partner medic that raised concerns, that caused him to be expelled from attending future academies. I did not attend the winter academy. The overall job description for academy medic is medical support, clinical support, range safety, and liaison to the academy staff. That said, and with the planning that has occurred, it would be bad taste to bail out before the August academy. I do have concerns for the future of Dist. 4's ability to partner with the sheriff's office. It has been a challenge to find a member that organically enjoys working with kids and maintains interest. Academy dates for this summer are Aug. 12 thru 17. We have eight explorers currently, seven will require transportation to Yakima.

**Drone group concept:** Conceptionally, there are numerous agencies that see the benefit of drones. While addressing the current fire(s) situation and investigations, I have found the drone air force. Green Diamond has an employee that oversees their tri-state drone timber program, and he is located in Shelton. A multi-discipline, multi-agency meeting will be scheduled for interested parties.

**Fire Impact Fees, County Chiefs R&D project:** Chief Bakken brought forward (to the county chiefs) the concept of impact fees in Mason County. The association has moved to use assoc. funds to generate a study to present to the county commissioners. The fire districts need to all be on the same page for this to be successful. New construction enters the county, whether a single parcel or planned community, and there are currently no fees for current service levels. Much more to follow.

Ambulance billing is up to date. We should be able to have a clearer financial picture next quarter, after billing is completed by Systems Designs. Thank you Lisa.

**AC Jenkins:**

- Making and handing out ID cards to all members. Slow process.
- 1<sup>st</sup> state Mobe of season for Mason people happened July 1, 2018. We sent Seals as STL in training in Command rig and Miller on the new Brush 46 with a member from Dist 16. The entire strike team from Mason County received kudos and are to be commended for a great job and great representation of Mason County.
- Busy shift....several call backs. Lots of fire.
- Total incidents through July 18, 2018: 738
- Total incidents through July 18, 2017: 681

- Total transports through July 18, 2018: 98
- Total transports through July 18, 2017: 35
- Maintaining an on-duty paid staff of minimum 3

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**IAFF update:** Chairman Bennett called an EXECUTIVE SESSION at 3:50 p.m. to review negotiations of the labor management contract; Bennett announced the session would run until 4:00 p.m. In session were the commissioners, Chief Burbridge, AC Jenkins, and Office Manager Lisa Brengan. At 4:00 p.m. Chairman Bennett announced the Commissioners were returning from EXECUTIVE SESSION where they reviewed negotiations of the labor management contract and no action was taken.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:**

Due to scheduling conflicts, the August 1 meeting has been moved to Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. **BOARD AGREED.**

AC Jenkins has contacted a great motivational speaker, Mark VonAppen who authors a popular blog, “Fully Involved” and has scheduled him to come to Mason County on Saturday, November 17. No firm details yet, this will be open to all emergency service agencies in Mason County.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.  
Minutes prepared by: Lisa Brengan

*Henry R. Lewis*  
*Paul H. Lewis*  
*Curtis W. Bennett*