

# **Pierce County Fire District 23**

## **Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting**

### **September 13, 2021**

The Board of Commissioners of Pierce County Fire District 23 met at 7 p.m., Monday, September 13, 2021 by Zoom for their regular meeting. Those present were Chairman Bill Tylor, Commissioners Claudia Frey and Joe Koehler, Chief Matthew Medford and District Secretary Nancy Adams. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

The secretary gave her report, talking about how the district is edging into the territory of spending more than they take in. She added that the board and chief need to start watching that. She added that most years the district spends as much as it takes in, but a couple of years the district has dipped into their savings. Comm. Koehler said that maybe the district should consider a maintenance and operations levy. The secretary said the election in November about the levies should give a sign of where the population is at. Comm. Frey said she is attending a conference about how to pass major levies and bonds.

The chief read his report. Under old business, the chief said that there is nothing new on the negotiations with Tacoma City Light. He said he needs to talk to the attorney to see if the attorney has made further contact with the city. The chief added that he was almost ready to submit the information to the banks about a loan for the SCBA gear.

Moving on to new business, Comm. Tylor said that September would be his last meeting. He said he had some personal issues coming up that meant he would be unable to attend meetings.

Vouchers for the month were approved as written. The secretary said that some paperwork going to Volunteer Firefighters would have to be signed at this meeting. That list was approved.

The board talked about the firefighters and the state's covid policy on the covid vaccination. The chief said that the covid policy does apply to the district, but there are exemptions that people can apply for. Comm. Tylor asked how the volunteers were going to protect themselves if they apply for an exemption. Chief Medford said there would be policies that the volunteers would have to comply with for safety measures. He said that the district was providing PPE. More discussion ensued.

Comm. Tylor said he wanted to talk about volunteer involvement. He added that the district did have an investment with the volunteers, and that some were not making the response on calls. The board discussed the issue for awhile. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.





Chairman

10-11-21

Date



Commissioner



Commissioner

# Chief's Report

## September 2021

### General:

- Almost tied record call volume, one short. We've been busy this month for a variety of reasons. Fire and EMS were both busy. Thank you to all those who are responding and helping with this high call volume.
- Large 5 acre wildland fire. Fire stopped at the treeline by DNR Helicopter. Great response for county strike team response as well as SPFR and DNR. Fire could have been far worse if not for the fast response from outside agencies assisting.
- Meeting with Ilwaco Fire department, moving to wemsis advising +/-'s

### Facilities:

- Mount Rainier Toured Station 85 with Chief Ranger on looking for a long term solution for helibase and aviation program location. Ball is in their contracting court.
- Power outage created some issues at station 87, fortunately surge protectors did their job preventing major damage during surge/brownout.

### Responses:

43 (44 Current record 2020)

- EMS: 25
- Fire: 18 (mut aid to 6 SPFR, 1 USFS, 2 DNR)
- Other: 0
- Year to Date: 353
- Last Year Comparison: 44\*/287 (September 2020) 26/282 (September 2019)
- Ambulance Runs: 7 D23 Transports (12 for Sept 2020) (7 for Sept 2019)  
6 South Pierce (5 for Sept 2020) (2 for Sept 2019)  
1 Graham  
14 Total Transports

### Meetings Attended:

- Lewis County Chief's Meeting
- Pierce County Chief's Meeting
- Pierce County EMS meetings
- Meeting with Mount Rainier NP

Respectfully,  
Chief Medford