

WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
TUESDAY MAY 2ND, 2023
WBRFA HEAD QUARTERS STATION 310

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Randy Cobble called to order the May 2nd, 2023, regular meeting for the West Benton Regional Fire Authority at 6:00pm. and he then led the participants in the Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman R. Cobble, Vice Chair D. Moon, Commissioner Richard Clizbe and S. Williams. Commissioner L. Galbraith attended remotely via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Fire Chief Charles Damron, Deputy Fire Chief Erubiel Clara, and Administrator Gayle Carrasco.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Cobble made a request for public comments. No public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Cobble requested a motion to approve the board consent agenda. Commissioner S. Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda for May 2nd, 2023; with the minutes for 4/18/23 as submitted.; Commissioner R. Clizbe seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman R. Cobble opened the floor for old business. None reported.

NEW BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCES:

• **Governing Board:**

Commissioners: Commissioner R. Clizbe

• **Staff Reports: Fire Chief Damron**

Chief's Report: Chief Damron began his report stating the SCBA trailer purchased from BCFD#6 is now at the department. It will be disassembled. The reassembly will be approximately (1) one month. The Chief met with S. Zetz, and N. Alsbury with the City of Prosser and they discussed the portion of water usage agreement of the department's maintenance of the fire breaks. The Chief plans to use the dozer to build a fire break behind the housing developments within the next month. Chief Damron visited the site with Deputy Clara, Volunteer firefighters who are dozer operators W. Petersen and R. Haringa to build the fire line. The Chief mentions a couple items he considers when building the fire break is not to scar or damage the land nor be visibly unappealing to the community. Commissioner Moon asked who the owner is currently of the property. Chief Damron stated this land was provided to the City of Prosser by the development's contractor. A further discussion ensued in detail of the fire break. Commissioner Moon stated a few fires erupted due to spring burning of tumbleweeds. The Chief will have his annual report to be back from the printer to provide to the board at the next meeting. proved to the board End of Report.

Staff Reports: Deputy Fire Chief Clara

Deputy Chief's Report: Deputy Chief Clara provided the status report for the newly hired Captain Babcock. He will be assigned to shift schedule in (2) two weeks. Chief Clara explained the work completed to repair the bay door by replacing the receiver and new springs. Commissioner Clizbe requested status on the Resident Program. Chief Damron

stated the department has (3) three current students. Deputy Chief Clara described the recruit involves the Prosser School District and the Occupational Health program. A further discussion followed on the general decline to the numbers enrolled in the Resident Programs. Chief Damron stated he focusses on offering the resident program to individuals who are motivated. End of Report.

- **Staff Reports: Administrator Carrasco**

Administrator's Report: Administrator G. Carrasco. None Provided. End of Report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Multiple items were tabled on the agenda for the executive session portion of the board meeting and have been listed below in the sequence of occurrence.

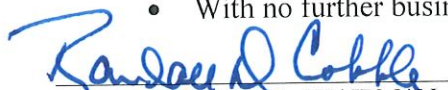
- Chairman Cobble confirmed the need for an executive session with Fire Chief Damron. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:14p.m. for 15 minutes per 42.30.140(4)(a) Collective Bargaining Agreement to discuss labor negotiations. The executive session was extended for an additional 5 minutes at 6:29 p.m. The Executive session ended at 6:34 p.m. The regular board meeting resumed at 6:34 p.m. No action taken.
- Chairman Cobble confirmed with Fire Chief Damron the need for an executive session per 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of an employee. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:35 p.m. for 5 minutes to reconvene at 6:40 p.m. The executive session ended at 6:40 and resumed the regular board meeting at 6:41 p.m. Commissioner L. Galbraith made a motion to accept the MOU as provided by Fire Chief Damron for Administrator G. Carrasco Commissioner S. Williams seconded the motion. Passed unanimously. The motion carried.
- Chairman Cobble confirmed the need for an executive session with Fire Chief Damron. Chief Damron requested an executive session at 6:42p.m. for 10 minutes per RCW's 42.30.110(1)(i) to hold discussions of potential litigation or legal risk of current proposed action. The executive session was extended for 10 minutes and ended at 7:02 p.m. and resumed the regular board meeting. No action taken.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

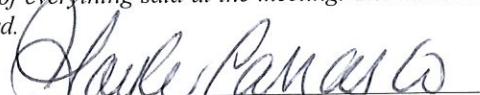
- Chairman R. Cobble asked the board for items for the good of order. Chairman Cobble proposed the hiring assistance in the future for Administrator G. Carrasco. A discussion on what that position could detail followed. Next board meeting May 16th, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

- With no further business, Chairman R. Cobble adjourned the meeting at 7:14p.m.


RANDALL COBBLE, CHAIRMAN

The West Benton Regional Fire Authority's minutes are intended to be a reasonable summary of the RFA's governing board deliberations and actions. The Minutes are not a verbatim record of everything said at the meeting. The minutes include all actions taken by the West Benton Regional Fire Authority Board.


GAYLE CARRASCO
BOARD SECRETARY

ORIGINAL