



# BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

## Regular Meeting Minutes

February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
12:15 p.m.

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER 12:15 p.m.**

**FLAG SALUTE** Commissioner Pearsall led the group in the Flag Salute

**ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Pearsall, Hutchins, Dalessandro, Chief Rux, Chief Smith, Beka Rudolph, Elcista Ridings

**OTHERS PRESENT**

On Duty Crew

**RECOGNITIONS:**

Swearing in Commissioner Hutchins, Chief Rux conducted the swearing-in.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS**

- Set evaluation for Fire Chief Rux, date and time

**APPROVAL/CORRECTION OF MINUTES**

1. Approve minutes from January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026
  - Commissioner Dalessandro made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - Commissioner Hutchins seconded the motion; the motion passed by unanimous vote

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*The Fire Commissioners recognize the value of public comments on fire department issues and the importance of involving members of the public in its meeting, and so, we provide this opportunity. The statements or presentation may relate to any aspect of the fire department except those matters pertaining to any specific member which will not be allowed during public meetings. The Fire Commissioners would appreciate your comments being limited to approximately three (3) minutes.*

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

*Finance Officer's Report:*

- Revenue and Fund Balances

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Fund Totals**

Thurston County Fire Protection District 13

01/01/2026 To: 01/31/2026

Time: 14:22:05 Date: 02/17/2026

Page: 1

Fund	Previous Balance	Revenue	Expenditures	Ending Balance	Claims Clearing	Payroll Clearing	Outstanding Deposits	Adjusted Ending Balance
001 General Fund	619,786.29	7,250.09	188,254.20	438,782.18	0.00	3,616.30	0.00	442,398.48
002 Reserve Fund	523,915.46	1,482.77		525,398.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	525,398.23
003 Apparatus Fund	194,124.97	549.44		194,674.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	194,674.41
004 Transporting Fund	18,487.48	478.31	-12.89	18,978.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	18,978.68
301 Capital Projects Fund	155,782.99	440.89		156,223.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	156,223.88
302 Loan Fund	-35,564.91	0.00		-35,564.91	35,564.91	0.00	0.00	0.00
	<b>1,476,532.28</b>	<b>10,201.50</b>	<b>188,241.31</b>	<b>1,298,492.47</b>	<b>35,564.91</b>	<b>3,616.30</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,337,673.68</b>

- Voucher Approvals
  - Request approval to pay the following vouchers
  - Commissioner Hutchins made a motion to approve the payments as stated.
  - Commissioner Dalessandro seconded the motion and passed by unanimous vote.
- Chief Rux noted that in the coming months funds will be transferred from the Apparatus Fund as previously budgeted and discussed, for the Brush Unit build out.
- Also of note, a large Cintas purchase was made due to uniforms not being returned upon separation from the Department. A new policy will be coming in March to address this going forward.

Batch	Numbers (Transactions/Vouchers)	Amount	Type	Description
2026.01.02	Transaction #s 73-89 <b>260102001-260102015</b>	<b>\$48,865.45</b>	Warrants	General Expenditures
2026.01.03	Transaction #s 90-91	<b>\$3,616.30</b>	EFT	Payroll Expenditures Q4 2025 LTC/PFML
	Transaction #s 92-141	<b>\$102,443.69</b>	EFT	February - Career Payroll/Vol & Comm Stipends
2026.02.01	Transaction #s 142-144	<b>\$42,275.55</b>	EFT	Payroll Expenditures February (EFTPS, Legal Shield, DRS)
2026.02.02	260202011-260202022 Transaction #s 155-166	<b>\$47,102.81</b>	Warrants	General & Payroll Expenditures
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$244,303.80</b>		

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

**Month(s):** January 2026

<b>Incident Statistics</b>		
Total Incidents: 56	EMS: 34	Fire: 22
Aid Given: 7	Aid Received: 1	Overlapping: 10.71%
<b>Year to Date (through 1/31/26)</b>		
Total Incidents: 56 (41 PYTD)	EMS: 34	Fire: 22
Aid Given: 7	Aid Received: 1	Overlapping: 10.71%

<b>Transport Statistics</b>		
Total Patient Contacts: 37	Non-Transport: 20	Transportable Pts: 17
GFD Transports: 13	Transport by another agency: 4	Capture Rate: 76%
YTD Transports Billed:	Resident: -	Non-Resident: -

<b>Monthly Training Activity</b>
Training Hours: 311 Agency Personnel Hours for January
Tuesday Night Drill – Traffic Safety 1/6/2026 @1930
New Tender Train-the-Trainer conducted 1/23/2026; Approx. 85% of D/O's through EVIP Rodeo Course during various on-shift dates in January.
OPEP – Stroke/Medical Exam 1/22/2026
Fire Officer 1 – FF Means 1/29-30/2026
<b>UPCOMING SCHEDULED TRAINING:</b>
EMT Academy starts 2/9/2026 – 7 (allocated spots) 7 Candidates entered (1 withdrawal 2/11/26)
Volunteer Fire Academy starts 2/28/2026 – 4 allocated spots – 4 Candidates entered
Building Construction Class – FF Means 2/28/2026; IFSAC Sr Evaluator – AC Smith 2/10/26
Live Fire Training MERTS in Astoria, OR 2/21/2026 (12)
Saturday Training Series – 2/28/2026 at D9 training center with multiple departments.

<b>Fire Chiefs Report</b>
<p><b>Misc:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Due update</li> <li>• Anticipated 2026 FML – Draft MOU to Union</li> <li>• JBLM Mutual Aid Agreement signed</li> <li>• U.S. Representative Strickland Valentine’s Day letter of appreciation</li> <li>• Coverage for South Bay Fire 2/7/26</li> <li>• Three (3) Graduated from Fire Academy - Hudson Roney, Ryland McCullough and Granville Stidham) at Capital High School – Chief Smith Represented GFD</li> <li>• TCOMM Run Card updates</li> </ul>
<p><b>Apparatus:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Brush 13-1 – Delivered to Mallory Fire for Skid and cabinets install January 7, 2026. Targeting completion/delivery – March 2026 (revised date due to cabinet install change).</li> <li>• B13-1 remaining items: Tire/wheel estimate – pending; Light package install estimate – pending; Bumper/winch estimate – pending. Pending \$5,000 50/50 matching Phase 3 DNR grant for front bumper remote nozzle system</li> <li>• E13-3 – hold surplus for 2026-1 Fire Academy use</li> <li>• T13-2 – will be listed- pending</li> </ul>
<p><b>Facilities:</b></p> <p>Station 13-1 Renovation Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom</li> <li>• USDD Alert System Installation</li> <li>• Phone Lines</li> <li>• Upstairs Chairs</li> </ul>

## **Community Outreach & Communications:**

### **Website Report:**

Since last Commissioners' meeting

- 288 site session- (down 11% from last meeting)
- Clicks to contact- 10 – (up 43%)
- 234 Visitors (88% new, 12% returning)
- Most clicks- top 3:
- Apply now - 19 (up 3 from last month)
- Contact Us - 14
- About Us - 8

### **Facebook Report**

Views

- This month so far 25,110
- Last January total 13,694 (up 12k more)
- Last year total views 353,996
- 1/1/25 1,641 followers
- 12/17 1,835 up 31 from previous month
- 1/12/26 1,842 up 7 from last month

### **Top 3 posts for 2025**

- Fatality Fire - 112k views
- Bear Gulch Fire Smoke Update - 10k
- Now Hiring - Career Firefighter Job Posting - 9k

### **Plan moving forward:**

- Planning for 2026 events
- Planning for 2026 social media outreach
- Jan- CWC
- Feb - Town Hall, Tender Push Back event
- Pancake Feed for SICP

### **Additional Notes:**

- Change order for Brush Unit regarding cabinet — needing to add a passthrough. Not originally budgeted, but the cost will be workable within the total budget amount.
- Commissioner Hutchins had questions regarding how Transport billing is handled for out of District transports. A third party, Systems Designs West handles the billing for Transporting and addresses that for the District.
- First Due is doing well, likely live first of March with the start of tandem systems testing.
- Chief Rux and AC Smith are supporting testing centers for other departments and are happy to be supporting and representing Griffin Fire at these events.

## **COMMISSIONERS/SECRETARY REPORT**

*This time is set aside for commissioners to report on meetings and conferences they attend, etc.*

Commissioner Hutchins: TCOMM building will be sold. Reported during County Commissioner Meeting — however, it was also noted that this has not yet been formally approved. There may be an abundance of surplus Aid Units.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

*None*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Review of 2025 Annual Report
  - Chief Rux walked through the attached Report, no notable questions or concerns were raised.
- Executive Session: The Board will convene in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of a public employee. No action will be taken in executive session.
  - Session began: 1:26 p.m.
  - Reconvened at 1:47 p.m.
  - No decisions were made during this session.
- Set evaluation for Fire Chief Rux, date and time
  - 3/2/26 12 p.m., by Zoom

#### **COMMENTS FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

- Letter of Appreciation from Representative Marilyn Strickland
- March BOFC will offer hybrid attendance due to Commissioner Pearsall being out of town
- Commissioners would like business cards

**MEETING ADJOURNED 1:55 p.m.**