

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on December 9, 2025, at Station 152 located at 4301-334th Place SE, Fall City, Washington, 98024. The meeting was also available remotely with online video and audio conferencing.

Chairman Meredith called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Daniel Meredith
Commissioner Lilly Hansen
Commissioner Kristopher Belfield
Chief Brian Culp
Secretary Melinda Wall

In Attendance:

Cpt. Scott Fleming
Lt. Joe Springer
Lt. Parker McKinnon
FF Dane Brookshear
FF Greg Lussier
Chief Will Aho
BC Seth Merritt
Dave Hart
Robert Angrisano - Teams

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Commissioner Belfield Oath of Office

The November 4, 2025, general election was certified on November 25, 2025. Commissioner Belfield was duly elected, and his next term will begin January 1, 2026, through December 31, 2031.

Commissioner Belfield took his Oath of Office for King County Fire Protection District No. 27, Position No. 2.

Public Comment Period

Dave Hart commented on the development growth that was occurring in Fall City, the current and future direction of the District, he suggested some messaging to the community about the District's future plans.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved the Minutes of the November 11, 2025, Regular Meeting and November 18, 2025, Special Meeting.
MOTION CARRIED.

WARRANTS:

Chief Culp briefed the Board on the warrants and EFT transactions presented for payment.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Belfield, the Board approved the following expenses: Voucher No's 25345-25374 Totaling \$95,988.08; and Payroll and EFT transactions totaling \$190,620.87. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

2025 Budget and Bond Fund Report

The 2025 Expense Budget and Bond Fund Report were provided to the Board for review. Secretary Wall reported that overall the budget for 2025 is finishing the year on a positive note; taking out our capital expenditure for the down payment on the engine we are expecting expenses to be near budget and revenues to come in above budget.

STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

Falls Little League - Board Meeting - 12/11/25 (6:30-8:30 pm)

Fall City Park District - Construction Meetings - 12/12, 12/19, 1/2, 1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30 (11:00 am-noon)

Philip Williamson – Soccer Meeting – 12/10/25 (4:30-6:30 pm)

Agreements approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

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CHIEF'S REPORT:

Alarms:

- For November 2025, the District responded to 36 aid calls, 14 medic calls, 16 Fire calls, and 9 service calls, for 75 calls. The year-to-date total is 920 compared to 968 in 2024.
- Turn-out times: November – The turn-out time standard was achieved on 50 of 72 calls, which was 69.4%. The 90th percentile turn-out time was 1:59.
- Redmond Fire went to two MIH calls.
- EFR responded to one call while we were at training, and two calls while we were on other calls. SQFD responded to one call because they were the closest unit.
- In November, we transported 17 patients to the hospital.

Volunteer Firefighters / E-Shift Program:

- FF Geller is still on medical leave after having a medical procedure.

County Projects:

- We are waiting on the new KC EMS Levy contract for the district.
- The King County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) has been finalized and signed by the County Executive. This was an excellent experience for me to be part of the CWPP Core Planning Team over the past year. This will be a great start in educating our public to reduce the risk of wildland fires in our communities.

Career Staff:

- We had one recruit who resigned last month after having conversations with him regarding performance.
- Recruit Johnson is finishing the Fire Academy portion and will be moving on to the EMS section. I have his last evaluation on 12/11/2025.
- We asked EFR for candidates who were still on their list. Interviews will be conducted on 12/9/2025 by the Officers. I should be able to offer a conditional offer this week. The goal is to have them part of the February recruit academy.

Training:

- Crews are finishing their last quarter training to include the new AEDs and Fire Reporting system that will become active on January 1, 2026.
- Career staff have also been conducting night MCO drills with the other stations.

Station/Equipment Projects:

- The Brush Truck has completed all of its repairs except for the replacement of the pump, which should be completed within the next few weeks. We hope to obtain the unit back at the beginning of the year and place it in service.
- Engine 152 was taken to Shoreline due to an electrical issue with it going into pump mode.
- Davis Doors had to replace a broken spring and cables on the Engine bay door. This was noticed after replacing a door sensor.
- We had to bring out Noble Plumbing again to look at the drain pipe that serves the kitchen. It was jettied out, but we were advised that the cast-iron pipe has significant corrosion and pitting, and that we should consider lining the pipe in the future.
- The vendor for the generator service at the station will be here on 12-19-2025.

Community Projects/Events:

- The Festival of Lights was held on December 6, 2025. The weather was great during the event, and it was an excellent success for Fall City.

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- The Union is conducting their Operational Santa and has the giving tree at Fall City Meats.
- The Holiday Engine is occurring as it can since we are in the backup engine.

Commissioner Hansen commented that she was pleased to see the duty crew participating at the holiday lights festival. Commissioner Belfield shared his appreciation to the duty crew that responded to the fire incident near his home.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2026 Draft Budget

Secretary Wall reviewed the final tax levy worksheet from the Assessor's Office with the Board. There were no changes made to the three versions of the 2026 draft budget that were reviewed at the November 18th meeting. The Board discussed scheduling a special meeting to finalize the 2026 budget and review future budget projections.

Contracting for Services Discussion

Eastside Fire & Rescue Interlocal Agreement for Fire Administration Services

Chief Culp stated that the most recent version of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) was emailed to the Commissioners. He reviewed the edits that the Attorneys had included. Chairman Meredith stated that the District would need to draft a corresponding separation agreement for Chief Culp. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Belfield shared his views that the District has three options that the Board has been considering; continue our operations without a Deputy Chief, and stay under budget, hire a Deputy Chief and increase our budget significantly and still continue to have some of the same challenges with single failure points in our operations. He stated when we look at our 2026 budget with this agreement included, it is a good solution to meet the needs of our community and to do it in a fiscally responsible way. He further stated it is a significant change for our community but allows us the path to explore the relationship with Eastside while also giving us options going forward.

Chairman Meredith conveyed that the District's presence in a regional response could ultimately help the District's funding challenges, looking at regional options and being included in that process would be helpful for the District's long-term goals.

Commissioner Hansen shared her thoughts and stated that this would be a good step in the right direction and she was in support of the ILA.

Chief Culp stated that this ILA helps the District to align with its visions and mission statement that we have been building, and important decisions should always be based on making good business decisions for the District and the community.

Chief Aho stated that all members of the Eastside Fire & Rescue Board were in full support of the ILA. Eastside and Fall City have been valued partners for a long time. He conveyed that the community identify and continued involvement will have full support within all agencies.

Discussion ensued on the ILA effective date of January 1, 2026. Chairman Meredith stated that after the Executive Session he expects that the Board would take action on the ILA.

Collective Bargaining Agreement - Letter of Agreement

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board convened into a 45-minute Executive Session at 4:05 p.m. with Chief Culp and Secretary Wall in accordance to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b), for planning and adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress. At 4:50 p.m. an additional 20 minutes was requested.

At 5:10 p.m. the Board convened back into the Regular Meeting and took the following actions:

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Collective Bargaining Agreement - Letter of Agreement

Chairman Meredith thanked the parties who participated on the negotiations to extend the current CBA for an additional year with the letter of agreement.

Chairman Meredith made a Motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement - Letter of Agreement with District 27 and IAFF Union 1762, One-Year Extension of the Collective Bargaining Agreement through 12/31/2026, of the current 2023-2025 Agreement and includes Appendix A-Schedule and Hours Change, and Appendix B-Driver Operator. A second to the Motion was provided by Commissioner Belfield. MOTION CARRIED

Eastside Fire & Rescue Interlocal Agreement for Fire Administration Services

Chairman Meredith stated that the Board has had several discussions on the Interlocal Agreement and with the Fire Chief's recommendation and his participation in the ILA, the Board agrees that this makes sense for the District and is looking forward to future opportunities with our partner. Chairman Meredith stated Chief Culp does currently have an employment agreement with the District and is still in effect, in consideration of the ILA, the Board will be drafting a separation agreement for Chief Culp in recognition of the proposed changes.

Chairman Meredith made a Motion to approve the Interlocal Agreement for Fire Administrative Services between Eastside Fire & Rescue and King County Fire District 27 as presented, and he would be authorized to execute the Separation Agreement for Chief Culp. A second to the Motion was provided by Commissioner Hansen. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Culp thanked the Board and staff and shared his appreciation for the accomplishments that they had achieved over the past five years, and going forward he expects the same high level of service for the District and for the community with the new partnership. Chairman Meredith shared his appreciation to Chief Culp for his service and stated that he had exceeded the expectations of the Board that they had five years ago when his tenure began with Fall City.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chief Culp's Employment Agreement

Included in the ILA discussion.

OTHER:

Adjournment:

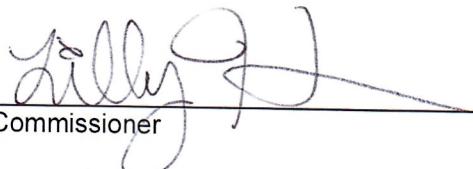
With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Meredith at 5:18 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall

Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner