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 October 13, 2026, 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 3:01 p.m.

Present:
Chairman Daniel Meredith
Commissioner Lilly Hansen - Teams
Commissioner Kristopher Belfield - Teams
Fire Chief Will Aho
Assistant Chief Brian Culp
Secretary Melinda Wall

In Attendance:
Cpt. Scott Fleming
FF Kyle Patterson
FF David Johnson

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Belfield, the Board approved the Minutes of the September 8, 2026, Regular Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

WARRANTS:

The Board reviewed the warrants and EFT transactions as presented.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved the following expenses; Voucher No. 25657-25691 totaling $118,432.11 and Payroll and EFT transactions totaling $168,451.77. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

2026 Budget and Bond Fund Report
The 2026 Expense Budget and Bond Fund Report were provided to the Board for review.

STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

Falls Little League - Board Meeting - 9/23/26 (6:00-8:00 pm)
Cascade Soccer - Shane Wakefield - Team Meeting - 9/29/26 (5:30-8:00 pm)
Cascade Soccer - Braxton Allport - Team Meeting - 10/7/26 (6:00-8:00 pm)
NW Atlantic Salmon Fly Tying Guild - Meeting - 10/17/26 (8:00 am-4:00 pm)
Agreements Approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

Snure Seminar - 10/21/26 (6:30-9:30 pm)

CHIEF AHO'S BRIEFING / EF&R MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT:

Chief Aho provided his Monthly Division report to the Board and reported on the following:

- Eastside Fire & Rescue approved their budget.
- The ILA with Fall City was approved and signed.
- DC Justin Walker has accepted the Operations Chief position effective January 1, 2027.
- Thanked the crews that attended the 9/11 memorial events.

- Wa Legislative Committee Meetings; in preparations for 2027 there is some focus on getting some support for PFML.

ASSISTANT CHIEF CULP'S OPERATIONS REPORT:

Alarms:

- In September 2026, the District responded to 48 aid calls, 14 medic calls, 18 Fire calls, and 12 service calls, for a total of 92 calls. The year-to-date total is 781 compared to 760 in 2025.
- Turn-out times: September – The turn-out time standard was met on 65 of 86 calls (75.6%). The 90th-percentile turnout time was 2:13.
- Redmond Fire went to four MIH calls.
- In September, we transported 14 patients to the hospital.

EMS Transport Billing Update:

- Per our policy, we have increased our transport fees based on the Medical CPI-U from August 2025 to August 2026 of 2.5%. Our new rates for 2027 will be $1047.12 per transport and $20.94 per mile. Currently, our rate is $1021.58 per transport and $20.43 per mile

Career Staff:

- We will be meeting with the Union on CBA negotiations.
- Lt. Springer is on L&I for the next few months from an injury.
- D/O Dumas will be on PFML soon, as his wife will be having their baby in October.
- D/O Patterson will be on PFML sometime in December as his wife will be having their baby.

Training:

- All Shifts were involved in Swiftwater Training night operations last week at the Tolt and Snoqualmie Rivers. It was great training that involved Eastside, Snoqualmie, and Fall City.
- Lt. Fleming took the Swiftwater Advanced Course September 28-30.
- FF Johnson will be taking the Swiftwater Course in November to obtain his Swiftwater Tech.
- FF Johnson and PFF Moriarty continue their training in JATC.

Station/Equipment Projects:

- A252 came back from the shop after having the turbo replaced again. This was covered by the shop because it was the same problem as before.
- A152 is at the shop for a PM
- T152 went to the shop for a pump shifting problem that could not be replicated, but the crew will continue to monitor it.
- I have a work order for Stryker to come out and PM the gurney and EZ Load that was installed in A252.
- The hydrant behind the station is OOS, and the water district has been notified, and they have created a work order.

Community Events:

- I want to thank Firefighter Lussier for setting up Fire Prevention Classes at Fall City Elementary last week for Fire Prevention Week. All the crews spent last week at the school presenting classes.
- The crews participated with FC Elementary for the walk-a-thon on October 8.
- We will hold our annual Halloween event on October 31st at the station.

Commissioner Belfield asked about other staffing considerations with the recent disability and future PFML leave. Chief Culp stated that those absences will be backfilled with overtime and debit days.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2027 Budget Planning – Draft Budget

The 2027 draft budget and preliminary tax levy worksheet were provided to the Board for review. The District's overall assessed valuation decreased by 1.9%. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment applied to last year's tax levy was 4.53%, and new construction values totaled $7.4 million. The 2027 allowable tax levy was $3,303,782. Secretary Wall stated that these figures are subject to revision until final certification is received.

Secretary Wall reviewed the budget line items with the Board. The proposed 2027 budget included funding for a special election and the District's 3-year audit. Salaries and benefits illustrated an increase of 6.5%; pending negotiations on the collective bargaining agreement. The Board discussed overtime costs, noting that recent disability leave and Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) will impact those expenses. Commissioner Belfield requested additional analysis of the projected overtime costs.

Secretary Wall explained that funding was not included for mobilization reimbursement or the corresponding overtime expense line item. She noted that the District did not participate in any wildfire mobilizations this year. Chairman Meredith recommended including a minimum of $15,000 or $20,000 for mobilization activities. The Board also discussed facility and vehicle maintenance expenses. The Board discussed increasing the vehicle maintenance budget to align with 2026 expenditures.

After discussion, the Board scheduled a Special Meeting and Public Hearing to take testimony on the District's 2027 Revenue Sources for November 16, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

District 27 Regional Fire Consolidation Options

Chief Aho reported that the next RFA Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. At the last meeting, the Committee decided on their name "East King Regional Fire Authority", and they also decided on their Governance Board, three from North Bend and three from FD38. At the RFA meeting there was discussion on other agencies who were interested in participating in the RFA and they also discussed funding and the fire benefit charge modeling.

Collective Bargaining Agreement

AC Culp reported that bargaining meetings have been scheduled.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2026-2 Canceling Warrant No. 10204874

Secretary Wall reported on the warrant that needed to be cancelled.
On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved Resolution 2026-2 Canceling Warrant No. 10204874. MOTION CARRIED.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session was not needed.

OTHER:

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Meredith at 4:02 p.m.

Attest:
Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner