

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 July 14, 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.

Commissioner Belfield called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

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

In Attendance:

Lt. Parker McKinnon
FF Kyle Patterson
FF David Johnson

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion of Commissioner Belfield and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved the Minutes of the June 9, 2026, Regular Meeting and June 16, 2026 Special Meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

WARRANTS:

The Board reviewed the warrants and EFT transactions as presented. It was noted that the annual maintenance for the generator had occurred.

On the Motion of Commissioner Belfield and a second by Commissioner Hansen, the Board approved the following expenses; Voucher No. 25569-25600 totaling \$107,075.71 and Payroll and EFT transactions totaling \$155,912.35. 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 and discussion. Secretary Wall stated that overtime costs remain elevated and current year-end estimates indicate lower revenues, and expenses overall staying within budget.

STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

CORRESPONDENCE:

CHIEF AHO'S BRIEFING / EFR MONTHLY DIVISION REPORT:

Chief Aho presented his monthly Division Report to the Board, highlighting the following:

- He attended the Fall City Day celebration with AC Culp and the duty crew.
- He had the opportunity to meet with Duvall City Council and share the history of EFR's partnership with KCFD45. Next month he will be meeting with Carnation City Council.



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- Recruit Academy #22 graduation occurred on July 7th. Recruit Owen Moriarty represented FD27 very well with his many achievements during the academy, and was recognized with the "Top Rung" award.
- Fire District 38 and North Bend will have their first Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee meeting on August 13th at North Bend City Hall. Other agency board members are welcome to participate in the discussions. Chief Aho provided an update on potential timelines for D38 and North Bend's RFA ballot measure.

ASSISTANT CHIEF CULP'S OPERATIONS REPORT:

Alarms:

- In June 2026, the District responded to 49 aid calls, 19 medic calls, 29 Fire calls, and 12 service calls, for a total of 109 calls. The year-to-date total is 475 compared to 470 in 2025.
- Turn-out times: June - The turn-out time standard was met on 61 of 101 calls (60.4%). The 90th-percentile turnout time was 2:06.
- Redmond Fire went to three MIH calls.
- EFR responded to six calls within the district while we were on another call or at the training.
- In June, we transported 19 patients to the hospital.

Career Staff:

- Recruit Owen Moriarty, who graduated on July 7, 2026, is at Post Academy and will be on shift at the end of the month.
- The crews have had a few high-priority fire calls over the past month.

Training:

- The crews closed out Q2 training and will be starting their Q3 training.
- Congratulations to Lt. Fleming on his completion of Fire Officer 1.

Station/Equipment Projects:

- All our 800MHz radios have been updated with new programming.
- E152 went through its 6-month PM.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

3-Year Budget Projections

No discussion; request to remove from the agenda.

2027 Budget Planning

Secretary Wall reported that the published June CPI-U for Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue was 4.5%. This will provide an additional \$142,000 to the District's tax levy next year.

Commissioner Belfield discussed the boat replacement and stated that the District currently owns two command vehicles and one MIH vehicle, despite no longer directly employing Chief Officers. He suggested selling two of the vehicles and applying the proceeds toward the boat replacement, which would provide an opportunity for the District to be more efficient in its use of apparatus. In addition he recommended that the Board consider a formal agreement with Eastside regarding the use of District vehicles. After discussion, the Board agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Commissioner Belfield asked if there has been any discussion from the LOCAL about the CBA negotiations. Chief Aho reported that he recently had a conversation with President Austin and they recognize that they need to start the process and we are awaiting their formal request to bargain.



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NEW BUSINESS:

Eastside Fire & Rescue Interlocal Agreement for Fire Administration Services 1-Year Extension Letter

The Board reviewed the current ILA agreement and discussed the renewal process. Chief Aho explained that he can renew the agreement on EFR's behalf if the Board is seeking an extension. However, any significant modifications to the agreement would require approval from EFR's Board of Directors.

Commissioner Belfield discussed accountability and shared some concerns over the reduced on-site presence of AC Culp. He asked if there were some performance measures or reporting mechanisms that could assist the Board in evaluating the value and effectiveness of the ILA service model. He stated that the intent was not to question the quality of services provided, but rather to identify objective metrics that would help the Board assess performance and ensure that expectations are being met.

Chief Aho responded that AC Culp serves as the primary contact for operations, administrative functions, community engagement, and regional representation for the District. Regarding direct accountability, he suggested obtaining feedback from staff. He added that if the District's expectation is to have AC Culp on site more, we can have that conversation with him and see how my schedule could also be adjusted. Chief Aho also discussed the regular check in's that he has with the Board Chair to ensure that the expectations of the ILA are being met.

After discussion, Commissioner Belfield suggested the following ideas: regular reporting to the Board, a formal process for receiving feedback from firefighters and staff, and quarterly operational feedback meetings with the Board.

Lt. McKinnon shared that, in his view, department operations continue to run effectively and that the current arrangement has been working well. He noted that the increased delegation has empowered the firefighters and officers to take greater ownership of their responsibilities.

Commissioner Belfield stated that he was looking for the best approach moving forward to gauge performance measures and noted that the agreement has worked well for us over the past 10 months, and given our circumstances it makes sense to extend the ILA. Commissioner Hansen acknowledged her initial concerns about not having a Chief assigned to the District full time, but agreed that the arrangement has worked well and she supported extending the agreement.

Commissioner Meredith stated that he believes the arrangement is working well and that he maintains regular communication with both Chiefs regarding District matters. He supported the extension of the ILA and noted that, even when the District operated independently, the Chief frequently attended regional meetings and other commitments on the District's behalf.

Secretary Wall stated that the original contract requires a technical amendment to correct the District's liability insurance language, replacing the aggregate coverage amount with the occurrence coverage amount.

Chief Aho stated that he had consulted with Attorney Snure, and he is prepared to draft an amendment or addendum to the agreement. After further discussion, the following action was taken.

Commissioner Belfield made a Motion to extend the Interlocal Agreement between Fire District 27 and Eastside Fire & Rescue for Fire Administrative Services for 1 year, with the addition of an amendment to address the liability insurance amount called out on page 4 section 8. Commissioner Hansen provided a second. MOTION CARRIED.



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OTHER:

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Belfield at 3:37 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall

[Signature]
Chairman

[Signature]
Commissioner

Commissioner

[Signature]