



LWFR COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2025 10:00AM

In attendance: Chairman Payne, via zoom, Commissioner Lamar, Commissioner Gibbs, Chief Walker, District Secretary Kim Wiley

In audience: Steve Allen, Jody Allen, Deb Wadkins, Jim Passage, Rex McMillian, Stan Morgan, DC Steve Foley, Admin Assistant Hayley Pobst, Lisi Ott, Nan Bolton, Colby McArthur, Rose Robinson, Kelly McDaniels Kris King,

- I. Call to Order - Commissioner Lamar called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM
- II. Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Approval of Agenda.
- IV. Commissioner Lamar led new recruits Rose Robinson and Colby McArthur through the swearing in oath.
- V. Public Input. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes.
Steve Allen stated that he is for the new station but thinks the new station design looks like a Cashmere Valley Bank.
Lisi Ott is not against the fire department and suggests that agendas and minutes get posted earlier.
Nan Bolton wants to work with LWFR.
Admin Assistant Hayley Pobst asked speakers to please sign in to speak.
- VI. Correspondence - none
- VII. Consent Agenda - All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue's Board of Commissioners for reading and study. They are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Commissioners with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request.
 - Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting on October 17th, 2025.
Chairman Payne would like to make an amendment to the prior month's minutes to add more detail about the RiverCom contract and what it was for. Last month even though RiverCom was on the agenda. There was no discussion on RiverCom. The contract was for personnel, District Administrator Kim Wiley
 - Approval of Monthly Vouchers:
AP October 4: \$5,276.04
AP October 11: \$8,519.41
AP October 18: \$7383.76
AP October 25: \$67,777.76
October 5 Payroll benefits/deductions \$26,524.02



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October 5 Payroll: \$55,993.08

Commissioner Gibbs makes a motion to approve the vouchers, Chairman Payne seconds the motion. Motion approved.

VIII. Finance, incident and Chief Report

IX. Old Business -

- Strategic planning: The need to update the strategic plan was discussed. Will need a comprehensive list of station repair needs, including cost estimates. Also need to decide the path forward on the new station 93.
- RiverCom - Commissioner Lamar summarized the most recent RiverCom Board meeting. RiverCom has outgrown their existing space and does not plan to renew their lease. They are evaluating options for more space and considering placing a sales tax increase on the ballot.

Commissioner Gibbs makes a motion to approve the additions to the agenda for the strategic planning. Chairman Payne seconds motion approved. A date in January needs to be scheduled to discuss capital needs, to be organized to talk about the costs involved, what repairs are needed at each station. Chairman Payne would like to add to old business: Discussion about agendas and minutes.

X. New Business -

- Budget:
 - i. Need approval of Board of Commissioner to increase Captain Danny Bachelder's medical stipend to \$735.61 (PPO300 plan health insurance is \$667.46, Delta Dental premium plan is \$68.15) Chairman Payne makes a motion to raise Danny Bachelder's medical stipend to \$735.61, Commissioner Gibbs seconds, motion approved.
 - ii. Set aside 100K from carryover and anticipated revenue for legal costs.
 - iii. No overspending on any line item until board discussion.
 - iv. 10% reduction in each line item for addressing capital improvements at existing stations. (exception payroll/benefits/volunteer incentives)
 - v. The Board signed off on the Ordinance/Resolution 2025-06 Regular for 2026 Levy Rates. Commissioner Gibbs makes a motion to approve Resolution 2025-06, Chairman Payne seconds, motion approved unanimously..
 - vi. Seasonal fuels crew 2026 - The Chief discussed that LWFR and other agencies in the area have agreed to fund expanding the size of our fuels crew to 6. The Board agreed with this expansion
 - vii. Chairman Payne questioned if the Enduris Insurance Policy covered Errors and Omission, if yes, it might be able to fund the legal fees from the lawsuit.
- In discussion of the 2026 budget, the Board gave directions to the Chief to:

XI. Announcements- Pancake Breakfast on December 6.

XII. Executive Session - Personnel 20 minutes. Went into executive session at 11:25am, Meeting extended for an additional 15 minutes. The executive session ended at 11:55am. No action taken.



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XIII. Commissioner Lamar resumed regular session, action taken is that the Board agreed Commissioner Lamar will become Chair at the next meeting. Chairman Payne states that there is too much going on right now with him being out of District at this time. concluded at 12:16pm

The regular meeting concluded at 12:16pm

Kim Wiley
Attest

Public Input
List Off

Nov 20, 2014

After this failed election, I think the best place for me to begin is by telling you emphatically, that I don't know anyone in our district who is against the Fire Department. I've talked to a lot of people in our community about this latest bond measure and I can confidently say to you all that the people in our district want you, our Fire Dept., to have what you need in order to provide us with adequate fire and emergency response.

My concern is about how we can all get there together. The judge explained that his final decision was because there was enough evidence to prove that the manner the election was put before the public, in fact did violate election procedures as well as the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA), which then likely affected the election outcome.

So is it really accurate to say that the will of the voters was denied to them? Well who's really to say? The Judge commented later that "on a more probable than not basis" these violations affected the outcome of the election. That was the issue behind this entire lawsuit, that the manner it was brought before the voters was illegal because it did not necessarily lead to reflecting the will of the people. Period.

When the Judge explained that you, and I quote here, 'need to do the bare minimum and comply with OPMA", I am hoping that it is your intention to do more than the "bare minimum".

I am hoping you will be willing to work more with the community, to have special meetings that are advertised in more places than just your website. Meetings where information can be shared. Where we can really understand exactly what kind of critical infrastructure our Fire District requires in order to provide us with necessary fire fighting and emergency response operations. And where you can hear our concerns of over taxation.

Let's put together a ballot measure where the issues are clear and the voting public understands, and are in agreement upon, what we are being asked to pass.

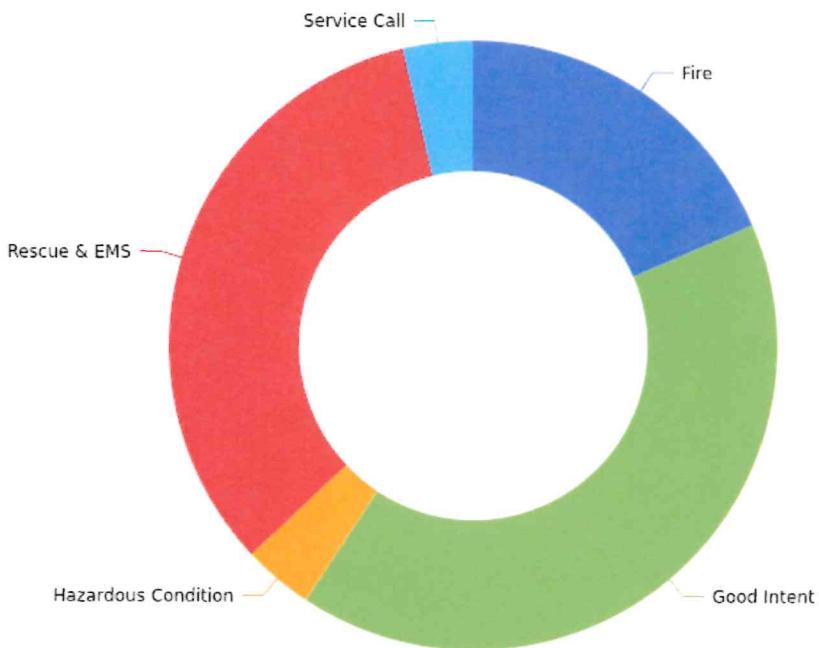
I am willing to pull together a group of people representing our district who want to work together with you to this end.

And for starters I'd suggest that the agenda be published like it is by other agencies elsewhere, a minimum of one week before the meeting, that the minutes comprehensively cover the essence of the information covered and that these minutes appear, in draft form, no more than one week after the meeting has occurred.

Nov 17th, 2025

- LWFR is assisting the West Dardanelles community in making emergency access better. That road and many others in Chelan County are non compliant and can become difficult or impassable during winter months. Adequate width, overhangs, and corners are all defined in the county road standards.
- LWFR is readdressing the final annexation of remaining lots on Muletail Flats and Camp 12 rd. Annexation of 7 lots stalled with the county several years ago. With the road work and the camp 12 evacuation and fuels reduction project taking place it is a good time to complete this task.
- LWFR has been awarded a 6 person van for serving our community outreach program here in the fire district. The van is from LINK transit and will assist in getting our local community members to appointments and services. The Community Outreach program continues to be a valuable model for reducing 911 calls and supporting our local residents. It has repeatedly been recognized as an example in the industry, and one of few working in rural, underserved communities in Washington.
- The LWFR family continues to grow here in the mountains! Congratulations to Steve Pate and Jacklyn on their wedding this month. It was held in Index with friends, family and co-workers all present. The Gilbertsons welcomed a pair of healthy twin boys into our community. Camden and Cooper are doing great and will be joining the department in 16 years.
- LWFR completed a successful test of our mass notification system, utilizing the mobile "football". Meaning our BC can now initiate their operation from any location at any time. LWFR has applied for system expansion to three other communities, we hope to hear if we received authorization around January.
- Department glucometers have been upgraded. A more modern model that is consistent with the medical grade units used by Cascade Medical have been placed on our 2 aid cars and our other apparatus.
- LWFR met with Chelan County, WA DNR, and USFS to prioritize hundreds of acres of fuel reduction projects in and around the fire district this month. Areas crossing federal projects and private property will bring meaningful resilience for our community when facing fires. Interested landowners should contact Kris King at LWFR.

Condolence to Pam Mullen in the passing
of Jim McVay

**FDR-NFIRS: Incident Type Summary (Variable Dates)**

INCIDENT TYPE SERIES NAME (NFIRS)	COUNT	PERCENT
Fire	5	18.52%
Good Intent	11	40.74%
Hazardous Condition	1	3.70%
Rescue & EMS	9	33.33%
Service Call	1	3.70%
Total	27	100.00%