

Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue, District #9

Commissioners Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2026 10:00 AM

I. Board Members Present

- Commissioner Gibbs, Commissioner Payne

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Call to Order

- Commissioner Payne called the meeting to order at 10:00am.
 - Commissioner Payne as the commissioner pro-tempore
 - Lee Miller as the Board Secretary as sworn in at the June 15th meeting

IV. Attendance

- There were 21 people in attendance. 3 persons on Zoom.
 - In attendance: Elaine Sivey, Rex McMillan, Mike Piroto, Mike Stanford, Stuart McKee, Cliff Trent, Tatiana Weiss, Deb Watkins, Cody Bench, Steve Allen, Stan Morgan, George Wilson, Jimi Wilson, Jim Passage, Rhea Croll, Bill Burgess Sr., Nan Bolton, Rebecca Olson, Laurie Aholt, Michael Aholt, Becky Payne

V. Local Board of Volunteer Firefighter Meeting

- No new firefighters to onboard
- FF Payne departure from volunteer status
- One other firefighter leaving LWFR
- Bills from Cascade Medical and Confluence approved

VI. Approval of Agenda

- **Motion:** Commissioner Payne requested motion to approve the June 18, 2026 10:00am Agenda
- **Second:** Commissioner Gibbs seconded the motion
- **Discussion:** No discussion
- **Determination:** Agenda Approved

VII. Public Comment: Comments will be limited to **3 minutes**. *There are NO requirements in the OPMA, to read out loud comments provided in writing or to publish as part of the minutes.*

- Public Comment from Steve Allen
 - Asked about budgetary items included in the documents publicly available at the meeting, including the plow truck costs, Chelan County Treasurer payment of \$8k, status of the chipping program, charges from previous supply cache of wildland hose
 - Chief Foley responded to Mr. Allen's questions
- Public Comment from Lisi Ott

- June 15 special meeting – dissatisfied with legality of meeting context, requested LWFR follow the law related to replacing Commissioner Lamar with 90d to appoint new commissioner but being compressed to 15d, remaining members should appoint a new commissioner themselves
- Commissioner Payne thanked Ms. Ott and added that the Board was following the legal process for replacing a commissioner and had the right to just appoint a replacement, but wanted to solicit candidates from the public
- Public Comment from Elaine Sivey
 - Felt her comments from the last meeting (Special Meeting on June 15) were heard; invites the public to help things procedurally and through the financial difficulties, provide more information to the public related to business plan as no financials are on public website
 - Commissioner Payne thanked Ms. Sivey for her comments and mentioned that the answers would be addressed later in the meeting
- Public Comment from Jimi Wilson
 - Will METIS payment be based on Phase 0, when is the end of the METIS contract date, public needs to be made aware of what public skillsets would be of use to LWFR
 - New business: hours/month for 3 positions when it was previously 2?
 - Commissioner Payne thanked Ms. Wilson for her comments and mentioned that the answers would be addressed later in the meeting

VIII. Correspondence

- None

IX. Consent Agenda

- **Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs requested motion to approve the Consent Agenda
 - Consent Agenda included:
 - Approval of minutes from the May 21, 2026 regular meeting
 - Approval of the minutes from the June 15, 2026 meeting
 - Approval of the April/May payroll (\$138,785.84) and benefits (\$21,563.53)
 - Approval of AP batch from June 8, 2026 (\$17,012.14)
 - Approval of AP batch from June 12, 2026 (\$75,290.48)
 - **Second:** Commissioner Payne seconded the motion
 - No discussion
 - **Determination:** Approved 2:0
- **Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs made a motion to ratify actions of reconstructed minutes for when a Commissioner Secretary was not in place, with meeting notes reconstructed by Chief Foley and submitted as Exhibit A: Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue Resolution No. 2026-05 Ratification and Confirmation of Procedural



Action and Votes (with minutes from Commissioner Meeting on April 16, 2026 at 10am, May 20, 2026 at 6:30pm, and May 21, 2026 at 10am included in the packet)

- **Second:** Commissioner Payne seconded the motion
- No discussion
- **Determination:** Approved 2:0
 - **Action:** Documents with signatures by Commissioner Gibbs, Commissioner Payne, and Secretary Miller will be supplied to Chelan County

X. Department Reports

- Incident Report
- Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Report (Kris King)
 - Camp 12 Road – research is ongoing given complexities of ownership, actively working on fuels work in Shugart Flats but crew will then shift to private property fuels management in the Camp 12 area
- Chief's Report

XI. Board Discussion and Action Items

- Discussed the possibility of altering the commissioner hiring process approved at the previous Special Meeting (June 15, 2026), particularly related to having all applicants in the same room at the same time, enabling interviewers to hear the answers of the other applicants
 - **Motion:** Commissioner Payne requested motion to alter the hiring process for private, recorded interviews of candidates
 - **Second:** Commissioner Gibbs
 - **Discussion:** none
 - **Vote:** Approved. 2:0, neither abstained

XII. Old Business

- Freeze on hiring and spending
 - Spending hold remains for Over Allocated Time, Over Time, and any non-essential spending. All spending must be approved by the Fire Chief ahead of spending
- Functionally merging the new mechanic between District 3 & District 6
 - Draft proposal sent to District 6 for review
 - **Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs requested motion to authorize Chief Foley to execute a mechanic agreement with District 3 & 6
 - **Second:** Commissioner Payne seconded the motion
 - **Discussion:** none
 - **Vote:** Approved. 2:0, neither abstained
- Station Repairs
 - Station 91 bathroom repair is estimated to be \$2500, additional projects are still being scoped
- Camp 12 Road Access Permit Update

- Kris King provided update (Department Reports), clarity about ownership and liability with upkeep and opening the road
- Metis Global Solutions
 - Metis building and testing tracking systems and documentation for improved processes
 - Call for volunteers: slots available for helping with administrative work (filing, packet building, records updating); contact the front office to schedule a time to volunteer
- Second New Engine
 - 9106 now in service at Station 92 (Chiwawa River Pines) as of June 14, 2026. 9107 next up at Station 95 (Nason Creek)
- Surplus of PPE
 - Resolution to surplus unnecessary or out of date PPE
 - **Motion:** Commissioner Payne requested motion to approve Resolution 2026-04
 - **Second:** Commissioner Gibbs seconded the motion
 - **Discussion:** none
 - **Vote:** Approved. 2:0, neither abstained
 - **Action:** Documents with signatures by Commissioner Gibbs, Commissioner Payne, and Secretary Miller will be supplied to Chelan County

XIII. New Business

- Grant awarded for 3 additional mass notification sirens. Total project is \$258,792. Federal share is \$194,094. State and Local each \$32,349. Management costs allowed is \$12,939. Possible locations are Station 91, Brown Road and Lake Wenatchee Highway, and Fish Lake – based on where audible tests of the recently updated siren system was not noted to be heard well.
 - **Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs requested motion to authorize the Fire Chief to accept the siren grant funding with a commitment of \$33k of matching funds for a 3-year siren project
 - **Second:** Commissioner Payne seconded the motion
 - **Discussion:** Funding is reimbursement based so work is done first and then repaid after billing.
 - **Vote:** Approved. 2:0, neither abstained
- Policy handbook updates for holiday, sick leave, and compensatory time policies
 - Commissioner Payne suggested discussion at next meeting
- Reorganization of the administrative roles into projection coordination and execution
 - Split of Board Secretary role from District Administrator
 - Move District Administrator to an Administrative Director
 - Focus Office Assistant on basic processing and routine office work (phones, files, mail, etc)



Lake Wenatchee Fire & Rescue
21696 Lake Wenatchee Highway
Leavenworth, WA 98826

Phone: 509-763-3034
lwfr.org

- Move accounting away from this role and the county towards an accounting firm
- **(brief recess from 11:25am to 11:33am)**
- Wage matrix updates
 - Updates to the wage matrix to account for reorganization of the administrative roles
 - **Motion:** Commissioner Gibbs requested motion to accept the modified wage matrix to take effect at the start of the July/August payroll
 - **Second:** Commissioner Payne seconded the motion
 - **Discussion:** None
 - **Vote:** Approved. 2:0, neither abstained
- 2027 Budget
 - Budget work can begin when we have better access to county financial systems

XIV. Conclude: Meeting adjourned June 18, 2026 at 11:49am

Attested: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Lu" followed by a stylized name, written over a horizontal line.