

CLALLAM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 6

7810 La Push Road • PO Box 2385 • Forks, WA 98331

Monthly Commissioner Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2024

Meeting convened on December 9, 2024, at 1:30, at Three Rivers Fire Hall, by Commissioner Chip Keen.

Commissioners Present – Chip Keen; Tom Rosmond; and Scott Horton

Officers Present – Aleilah P Lawson, District Secretary; Scott Swagerty, Chief

Other Attendees – none

Changes/Additions to Agenda – Old Business, item 3 added, 3 Rivers Auxiliary update

Minutes – Minutes of the November 11, 2024, meeting were read, approved, and signed by the commissioners.

Secretary's Report

1. **2024 AFG update.** Aleilah reported that the 2024 application is in process. It will be submitted by the 12/20/2024 due date.

Financial Report

1. **Financial Statement.** The November 2024 financial statement was reviewed and approved by all three commissioners.
2. **Claims Payment Request.** 8 warrants totaling \$2,551.36 were requested on the Claims Payment Request form dated 12/09/2024 as follows:
 - \$410.66 for fuel (1 warrant);
 - \$110.00 for payroll administration fees (1 warrant);
 - \$1,450.00 for organizational support (1 warrant);
 - \$69.98 for Class B uniforms (1 warrant);
 - \$73.80 for website update (1 warrant) (reimbursed elsewhere);
 - \$436.92 for utilities, including phone & internet (3 warrants);

Commissioner Horton moved to approve the request. Commissioner Rosmond seconded the motion. The motion was approved and the Claims Payment Request was signed.

3. Chief Swagerty's timesheet covering the period of 11/11/2024 through 12/08/2024 was approved and signed by Lead Commissioner Keen. A Payroll Certification was approved and signed by the commissioners for submission to the county for processing.

Chief's Report

1. **Incidents/Calls.** Chief Swagerty reported that the number of calls has continued to slow down over the last month. Forks EMS has been shorthanded so FD06 provided mutual aid support.
2. **Training.** Chief reported a new training module from PUD which includes a home electrical training class and a series of do's and don'ts videos including downed power line safety. The crew is also catching up on CPR and AED certifications.

3. **Equipment/Mechanic.** Nothing to report.
4. **Other.** Commissioner Keen asked if there was new information about District 6 contracting with La Push Fire Department in 2025. Chief Swaggerty reported that is planned for October 2025. Chief is meeting with District 1 and La Push Police Chief to discuss soon.

Chief also reported that District 1 is now offering EMS services. Once training is completed, District 6 will be available for EMS services as well

Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Keen

1. **Radio Communications**

Clallam County ARES held a practice emergency exercise on November 23rd that I participated in.

2. **Emergency Preparedness – West End Area Meeting**

The November West End meeting fell on Thanksgiving, so it was combined with the North Coast meeting on November 13th. I attended in person so that I could help Ed Bowen install a weather station at the Sekiu airport and meet Rick, the Chief of CCFD5. I asked Rick for his help in contacting Heather to ask for a copy of her successful SCBA grant proposal from a few years ago. He said he'd get in touch with her and find out if it's available. I've not heard back from him in spite of following up with several phone messages and an email.

The Steering Committee for the county's wildfire protection plan has been formed and is currently meeting with no West End representation.

The December Area Meeting will again be combined with the North Coast group due to the Christmas holidays.

3. **Other**

The updated Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (MJHMP) has been submitted to the Steering Committee members for review. The four items I asked to have added to the City of Fork Annex to the plan have now been included. Based upon numbers presented by Mickey Cassar at his "What Are Earthquakes ..." ONRC presentation, and with Tom Rosmond's help, I've submitted a request to adjust the probability of a Deep Slab Earthquake occurrence upward from 1.76 to 2.00. The Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Survey Report portion of the Plan will be completed by the end of this month. The full plan will be finalized in 2025 Q1. There will be an open house and public comment period in Q2. The Plan is expected to be adopted by the County Commissioners in Q3.

I've submitted our district's entity registration renewal to SAM.gov.

Commissioner Horton Report – 11/18/2024 Revenue Advisory Committee meeting

There were six items on the agenda, they were discussed in the following order:

1. Encumbered lands update from Commissioner Johnson - The five counties that are slated to receive revenue from the replacement lands purchase are currently "3 to 2" in favor of proportional

allocation but the two most severely timber dependent counties probably need more.

Complications include how to handle future replacement lands and changing levy rates. They want to come to an agreement this year.

2. DNR 3rd quarter report - \$2.67 million to Clallam Co. in 3rd Q 2024, receipts are generally higher in this quarter while Q4 is generally lower. About \$4 million to date in 2024 and ~\$9.8 million under contract.
3. Arrearage discussion from DNR - Statutory definition and policy: beginning 7/1/1979 for each "sustainable harvest unit" arrearage = "promised" - "delivered"; BNR policy "The Board of Natural Resources will consider the analysis and adopt a course of action to address the decadal arrearage that is in the best interest of the trusts."

Some arrearage statistics and causes: Capitol Forest 58 mmbf; other "big timber counties" 93 mmbf of which 48 mmbf are Clallam Co.; Skamania and Wahkiakum 28 mmbf; OESF 149 mmbf. State forestlands, i.e., "county lands", arrearages are due to "older forests, 2,000-acre project, carbon project" (WA legislature CCA funding), and marbled murrelet; OESF arrearages due to "Settlement agreement 1:1" and staffing shortages.

4. Letter to DNR Board of Natural Resources in support of 2 sales in eastern Clallam Co. for the December meeting. Chair Beauvais had questions about acres removed under DNR's "old growth policy" - there was some confusion about this, I can clarify. Last month's sales were approved.
5. Title III funding - Diane Harvey from Clallam Co. presented an overview of this federal funding source that can support firefighting at the county level. It is for Forest Service lands only, not National Park. The county has about \$156,000 on account from these funds that has accumulated over 10+ years and the RAC can engage a process to decide how to use them. Must be done by next year as the program is likely to expire. Not meaningful to FD6 as we have no Forest Service in our district.
6. Legal discussion on Clallam Co. "state forestlands" - Continuing last month's presentation by Jim Buck on the legal status of these lands, the BOCC needs to decide whether to seek legal advice on the county's standing. Then if the finding is there are grounds to pursue a case, JB suggests our county pursue this alone with the help of a national level foundation. More to follow on this at future RAC meetings.

Other Reports – None

Old Business

1. **DNR Surplus Update** – Chief Swagerty reported that DNR has received our information and will get back to us in the next few weeks.
2. **Smoke Alarm Distribution** – Chief Swagerty reported that planning is in the works.
3. **3 Rivers Auxiliary Update** – The need for a community member point person was discussed. Chief Swagerty will speak with Maria Soha to see if she would like to be involved in getting the auxiliary started. Aleilah will provide organizational support for establishing bylaws, articles of incorporation, annual budget, and other items needed for 501(c)3 status. A community chili feed was suggested as a good way to promote the auxiliary.

New Business

- 1. Community Wildfire Defense Grant opportunity.** Commissioner Keen shared information about a new grant opportunity for at-risk communities in wildfire hazard areas. It was noted that the updated Clallam County Wildfire Protection Plan that specifically includes District 6 needs to be in place before the district will be eligible to apply for wildfire defense funding.

Announcements – none

Next Meeting – January 13, 2025, 1:30 pm

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 pm.

Read and approved on January 13, 2024, by:

Commissioner Chip Keen

Commissioner Scott Horton

Commissioner Tom Rosmond

District Secretary Aleilah P Lawson