

# CLALLAM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 6

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

## Monthly Commissioner Meeting Minutes

**April 8, 2025**

**Meeting convened** on April 8, 2025, at 3:00, 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; Chief Scott Swagerty; Lt. Andrew Chapman

**Other Attendees** – none

**Changes/Additions to Agenda** – None

**Minutes** – Minutes of the March 11, 2025, meeting were read, approved, and signed by the commissioners.

### Secretary's Report

1. **Cost Recovery Updates.** Aleilah presented information on 2024 claims and current status of outstanding claims. Currently, payments have been received for 43% of the 2024 claims filed. The outstanding claims include one party who is making monthly payments. Completion of these payments raises the payments received to 62% of claims filed. Collection of the remaining claims is ongoing.
2. **Annual Coastal Clean Up.** Aleilah reported that the National Park Service Annual Coastal Clean Up is scheduled for April 19, 2025. Olympic National Park has reserved use of the fire hall for that day.

### Financial Report

1. **Financial Statement.** The March 2025 financial statement was reviewed and approved by all three commissioners. A new BARS code for stipends has been added to the financial statements.

Commissioner Keen expressed concern over expenses to date. As expenses continue to increase, the district needs to find new revenue options including the possibility of a levy lift. It was agreed a conversation with District 1 and La Push Fire Department would be beneficial to all.

2. **Claims Payment Request.** 25 warrants totaling \$4,515.10 were requested on the Claims Payment Request form dated 04/08/2025 as follows:
  - \$4.90 for office supplies;
  - \$60.98 for operating supplies;
  - \$433.93 for fuel;
  - \$1,450.00 for organizational support services;
  - \$150.00 for employment webinar training;

- \$347.42 for utilities (3 warrants);
- \$867.87 for E61 repairs and fire extinguisher maintenance (2 warrants); and
- \$1,200.00 for 2025 Q1 stipends (15 warrants).

Commissioner Keen 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 03/10/2025 through 04/07/2025 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 recent calls included responding to a structure fire, roll over, recreation fire concern, and a beach rescue.
2. **Training.** Chief reported that District 6 continues to train weekly with District 1. Recent training included Stop the Bleed, live fire at the Anderson homestead, and an EVIP refresher. There will be Traffic Incident Management training in April (Port Angeles) and June 7<sup>th</sup> (Forks). Three District 6 crew members will be attending. Two crew members will be attending Critical Incident Stress Management May 13-25, in Sequim.
3. **Equipment/Mechanic.** Engine 61 needed additional repairs and Rescue 61 needed new fittings for the water pump.
4. **Other.** None.

### **Commissioner's Report – Commissioner Keen**

1. **Radio Communications** - No recent news on the PNSN proposal for Signal Hill.
2. **Emergency Preparedness – West End Area Meeting.** Location: Forks Congregational Church.
  - Clallam Wildfire Protection Plan: Grant funding for the facilitators is still on hold. They are still seeking alternate sources.
  - Clallam County Hazard Mitigation Plan: As previously reported, it was submitted to FEMA for approval. However, the future role of FEMA in approving such plans is now in question. A "hard reset" of FEMA may include moving emergency management responsibilities to State and local agencies with FEMA responding only to "truly large" events.
  - New Position: CCEM's new hire is in the final stages of the required vetting process. He's former military, currently employed by California Emergency Management and is working towards a master's degree in emergency management.

- CEPA (Community Emergency Preparedness Assessment): The face-to-face meeting will happen in Port Angeles sometime in May, most likely on a Tuesday. Attending in person is preferred, but Teams is an option. Lunch will be included for attendees. The purpose of the meeting is to identify gaps in preparedness at the local level. All future grant requests going through the State will be evaluated based upon their inclusion in the CEPA.
- Tsunami Workshop: CCEM employees recently attended a day-long presentation of expected fatalities, building damage, and rebuilding costs based upon last year's updated DNR tsunami projections. The conclusions are sobering.

The presentation emphasized being alert to the difference between an Alaskan earthquake tsunami, during which the ocean will suddenly rise with no prior warning, and a Cascadia event tsunami, during which the ocean initially pulls back.

Washington Emergency Management has a guide for how to turn on emergency notifications for iPhone and Android users at <https://mil.wa.gov/alerts#WEA>

- 2025 Exercise: The Coast Guard and CCEM will have joint exercises for Shake Out on October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Lit Dudley, WSDOT Emergency Manager, was on vacation and not on this month's call.

### 3. Other

- I've submitted a request to CCEM for a conex to be placed at UIL and for 10 drysuits for our Swiftwater Rescue Crew.
- DNR Olympic Region will be holding a fire district summit April 22, 2025, in Forks at the Olympic Region Conference Center, 411 Tillicum Lane, from 10am to 3pm.
- Annual Report due by Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>

### Commissioner Horton Report

The RAC meeting on 3/17/2025 had three items on the agenda:

1. DNR presentation on how SEPA (State Environmental Policy Act) and other state and federal regulations influence their timber sales process.
2. Legal discussion regarding DNR's "undivided loyalty regarding county trust lands".
3. Discussion of the PILT revenue sharing proposal made by FD2.

In addition, County Commissioner Johnson made a presentation during the initial public comment period on a draft proviso the legislature is working on that would direct appropriations from the Natural Climate Solutions Account they created in 2021. The draft is based on a total requested appropriation of \$44 million which could be re-scaled at lesser appropriations:

\$20.1 million for replacement lands serving encumbered counties

\$13.4 million for structurally complex forest conservation

\$10 million for commercial thinning projects

\$500,000 for administration

The proposal also requires concurrence among the “legislative authority of the county” and the Board of Natural Resources for land acquisition and conservation. Commissioner Johnson described this as a work-in-progress. He is involved and will keep us informed.

### **Agenda Items**

1. DNR presentations are always informative as was this one on SEPA and other environmental rules.
2. The county prosecutor's office is reviewing the issue brought forward by Jim Buck, they have made no findings as yet. Commissioner Johnson and Chair Beauvais are seeking to schedule an in-person meeting with the new Commissioner of Public Lands to discuss this and other issues relevant to income from DNR-managed county lands.
3. The commissioners from FD2 made a written proposal to the Clallam County Commissioners that the county share PILT revenues with their district based on actual responses in ONP and DNR billable rates. They requested \$25,759 for services provided in 2024. Lead commissioner Keith Cortner expressed surprise that it was on the RAC agenda as they made their proposal directly to the county commissioners. County Commissioner Johnson put it on the RAC agenda - he said “no other county shares with the juniors” and that he must check with attorneys to see if it is allowed under PILT. He also added that the county struggles to find enough revenue to meet its requirements and that county sheriffs, etc. respond to calls in ONP as well. Depending on the attorneys’ findings, the RAC may discuss this further.

### **Other Reports – None**

### **Old Business**

1. **DNR Surplus Update.** Chief Swagerty reported that the deck will be delivered April 30, 2025.
2. **Smoke Alarm Distribution.** Chief Swagerty reported he will train crew members to do the installations, beginning this summer.
3. **DNR Red Card Submittal.** Chief Swagerty reported completing the forms is in process. Purchase of PPE through DNR Wildland Fire is also in process.
4. **NFIRS Transition to NERIS.** Aleilah shared that she is in contact with the State Fire Marshall’s office. Initial preparation for the transition is in progress. She will work with

Chief Swagerty to complete the remaining elements needed to be ready for the transition.

District 6 rollout will begin in October 2025. The new system will allow the district to “capture more detailed incident types, on scene actions, and timestamps associated with incident milestones, providing a richer story around departmental response, including capturing critical post-arrival actions and mutual and automatic aid response.” The new system will also allow reporting of community events, home visits, and other elements that focus on emergency prevention and mitigation. The system will interface will interact with CAD systems though it is unknown at this time whether the District will be able to pull data directly from Dispatch or if the new system interacts with the current system used by the District.

**New Business – None**

**Announcements – None**

**Next Meeting – May 13, 2025, 3:00 pm**

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Read and approved on May 13, 2025, by:

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Commissioner Chip Keen

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Commissioner Scott Horton

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Commissioner Tom Rosmond

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District Secretary Aleilah P Lawson