



Regular Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Spokane County Fire District 9 was held September 9, 2025, at the district's administrative office at 3801 East Farwell Road, Mead, Washington and via Zoom.

Chairman Gregory M. Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Members present were Chairman Gregory M. Anderson, Commissioner Brian A. Mather, Commissioner James E. Bennett, Fire Chief Matthew T. Vinci, District Secretary Allison M. Sargent, Assistant Chief Nathan P. Jeffries, Assistant Chief Douglas M. Bleeker, Assistant Chief Daniel W. Cecil, and Division Chief Douglas G. Strong.

Guests in Attendance: Captain Randy Meck, Lieutenant Whit Spencer, and Robert Gray.

All in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AS IS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.

Public Comments

No comments were received.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Commissioner Mather moved TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 26 AS PRESENTED. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Mather moved TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS LISTED ON THE VOUCHER APPROVAL DATED SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, BEGINNING WITH WARRANT #115607 THROUGH #115638 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,795.24 ALSO TO CERTIFY THE DIRECT PAY TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$117,031.06, PLUS THE AUGUST 29, 2025 PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$869,643.61. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett and unanimously approved.

Chief Reports

Chief Bleeker let the Board know that prevention has done 49 fire inspections in the last 30 days, exceeding the goal of 45. He discussed the many new construction properties within the district. Fire Investigators meeting continue to happy monthly with all fire investigators in the County. Activity on Boulder Beach has stopped after an arrest was made by City Police.



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Chief Vinci gave an update on the Trauma Council Meeting that took place earlier today where the white paper was presented by multiple chiefs. A Special Meeting for the min/max assessment is scheduled for September 22nd to move forward with increasing the number of transport licenses in Spokane County. The entire process is expected to be completed by mid-January.

Progress is being made for the ambulance change orders. Chief Vinci and Chief Strong will finalize mechanical and change order items this week with Horton.

A job fair is scheduled tomorrow, September 17th for potential applicants. So far there have been 80 applications submitted. Several candidates are waiting to take their CPAT before applying. There will be a CPAT test in Spokane at the end of the month and we anticipate many more applications after that.

The district was awarded a \$39,726 grant from the Gary Sinise Foundation to purchase a SCBA decontamination unit. Chief Cecil and Captain Bault recently visited District 10 to observe their unit in operation. The grant covers 100% of the unit cost, but not the installation. The unit could be a regional resource for academies and other departments.

Internal meetings have been scheduled with divisions over the next two weeks. A meeting about budget and revenue will also be held with the Local. Proposed dates to review the budget will be October 14th for a first review, October 28th for a final review, public hearing on November 10th and final board approval on November 25th if not approved on November 10th. The budget must be submitted to the county by November 30th.

SREC is moving into the backup center between now and the end of the year with 20-25 employees working 24/7. There is currently no interlocal agreement in place for SREC's use of the space. SPD's agreement expired in 2020, so they have also been operating in the backup center without one. Legal advises entering into agreements with both agencies and charging expenses proportionally. The city is requesting space for SPD and SFD for a backup center.

Chiefs have been working with Darkhorse to build out a dashboard for accessing specific data sets. This will be available for the Board to review at a future meeting. The data sets contain information on simultaneous calls, auto aid given/received, response times and a breakdown of stations.

A request was made to meet with county engineers at Station 94 to discuss the intersection of Jensen and Bigelow Gulch. Chief Strong is researching options for warning devices on Bigelow that can be activated from 94, such as blinking red flights. Grants may also be available for this project.



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Commissioner Mather asked for an update on our new website. There is a meeting with Bizi Creative this week to review to website development. There will be a link provided after that we will share with the Board for their feedback.

Old Business

- a) none

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New Business

- a) Chief Vinci reviewed the July 2025 Financial Report with the Board.
- b) Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE SOP 926 MENTAL HEALTH AND PEER SUPPORT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.
- c) Commissioner Bennett moved TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 25-9 AUTHORIZING THE FIRE CHIEF TO SURPLUS EQUIPMENT BY AUCTION OR SALE AND ESTABLISH A MINIMUM SALE PRICE FOR THE EQUIPMENT AS DEEMED NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE INTEREST OF THE DISTRICT. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.
- d) District Secretary Sargent presented the BVFF 2024 Annual Pension Participation Certification Form to Chief Vinci and Chairman Anderson for signatures.

Executive Session

Chairman Anderson announced at 7:27 p.m. that the Board was going into a 30-minute Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

Chairman Anderson called the meeting back to order at 7:51 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison M. Sargent
District Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman Gregory M. Anderson

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