



Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Spokane County Fire District 9 was held November 10, 2025, at the district's administrative office at 3801 East Farwell Road, Mead, Washington and via Zoom.

Commissioner Mather called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

Guests Included: Robert Gray and Whitman Spencer.

All in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda**

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

**Revenue Presentation**

Chief Vinci presented the revenue sources for the district's 2026 budget.

Commissioner Mather opened the Public Hearing to review revenue sources for the 2026 expense budget of the district at 6:40 p.m. As no public had requested the opportunity to comment, the Public Hearing was closed by Commissioner Mather at 6:41 p.m.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 2025, AS PRESENTED. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS LISTED ON THE VOUCHER APPROVAL DATED NOVEMBER 10, 2025 BEGINNING WITH WARRANT #115759 THROUGH #115903 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$101,928.38, ALSO TO CERTIFY THE DIRECT PAY TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,281.03, PLUS THE OCTOBER 31, 2025 PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$820,457.09. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.

**Fire Chief Report**

Chief Strong gave a facilities update reviewing the well issues at Station 96. The well pump, pipe



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and wires need to be replaced. The well currently feeds the fire station and community center. The district is considering paying for some the repairs out of this year's budget and the remaining out of 2026's budget. The SCBA Decontamination Washer has arrived, plumbing and electrical contractors have been selected to start installation.

Chief Cecil reviewed Dark Horse Data with the Board, which included 2025 YTD incidents within District 9 and 2025 YTD incidents the district responded to outside of the district. Turnout times and areas for improvement are now being displayed on the smart boards in each station. Dark Horse can pinpoint locations, stations, turnout times, and unit hour utilization. The goal is to educate personnel, the Board and residents about the districts work and area of improvements. Shot clock timers will be placed in station bays to show call time and response times.

Chief Vinci presented Chief Bleeker's Inspection Report. September had 51 inspections followed by 88 in October. Chief Bleeker will present the pre-plan program at the next meeting.

Chief Vinci let the Board know we have received 308 applications for our Entry Level EMT/Paramedic and Lateral Paramedic positions. Interviews are scheduled for December 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup> at the First Church of the Nazarene. Candidates will go through two panels and a Chiefs panel if they meet a threshold. Candidates were narrowed down based on NTN scores.

Spokane County presented the comprehensive plan to the Inland Empire Chiefs, which addressed a population increase of 100K new residents in Spokane County over 20 years with a plan to build 7,000 new housing units. This is a significant impact on District 9 with increased density for Nine Mile and Bigelow Gulch. A Spokane County planner will be giving a presentation at the next Board meeting.

Chief Jeffries presented a report including sick leave, PFML and related data showing number of shifts of sick leave used, number of personnel who utilized light duty and number of hours of personnel on light duty. The number of employees who used more than seven shifts of leave was also analyzed. Overtime dashboards were also sent out to the Commissioners for their review. A conversation about these dashboards will occur at the next meeting.

### **Old Business**

- a) None

### **New Business**

- a) Commissioner Bennett moved TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRE CHIEF TO SIGN THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR LEGAL SERVICES WITH ERIC T. QUINN FOR 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.



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At 7:25 Division Chief Strong, Finance Manger Heaton and all guests were removed from the meeting for the executive session.

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Mather announced at 7:30 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).

At 8:00 p.m. the executive session was extended for an additional 10 minutes.

Commissioner Mather called the meeting back to order at 8:08 p.m.

With no further business, Commissioner Mather adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison M. Sargent  
District Secretary

APPROVED:

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*Chairman Gregory M. Anderson*