



Regular Meeting Minutes
September 23, 2025

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Spokane County Fire District 9 was held September 23, 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, Division Chief Bobby J. Shindelar and Division Chief Douglas G. Strong.

Guests in Attendance: Jon Keller, Brock Walker, Ryan Loncosty, Nic Pluskota and Andrew Hoogstad.

All in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

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

Public Comments

No comments were received.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Commissioner Mather moved TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, AS PRESENTED. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS LISTED ON THE VOUCHER APPROVAL DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 2025, BEGINNING WITH WARRANT #115643 THROUGH #115664 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$47,937.77 ALSO TO CERTIFY THE DIRECT PAY TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,050.47, PLUS THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2025 PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$598,798.01. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mather and unanimously approved.

Chief Reports

Chief Strong reported that pump testing of all engines and aerials has started and should be completed by next Wednesday.



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Chief Jeffries gave an updated on the UDS Physicals that were conducted for the second time this year, including volunteers for the first time. A total of 42 personnel from District 9 participated in the physicals which included ultrasounds of solid organs, carotid arteries, aorta and heart to check for cancer or cardiac issues. The cost of these physicals are covered by the IAFF Trust. Feedback on the UDS physicals has been very positive. UDS will return in January for another round of testing and the Commissioners may participate if they would like.

We currently have 94 entry level EMT applications and 6 entry level paramedic applications. A job fair was held last week at Union Stadium where attendees interacted with line personnel and on-duty crews. The goal is to have a 50/50 split between EMTs and Paramedics among the new hires. Lateral transfers have not yet been considered however a decision on opening for a limited number of laterals will be made in the next week or two. Regardless all new recruits will go through the academy, even entry levels.

Teams and Outlook training has been completed for all line personnel, admin and shop personnel. Training was conducted online by an instructor from North Idaho College. A survey will be sent out to identify remaining needs and desired follow up training. SharePoint training is yet to be scheduled.

Chief Vinci recognized firefighters Matthew Best, Sam McKoon, John Mayr and Chief Cecil for a call they recently responded to. On Saturday Best, and Cecil were honored by Shriners in person. Plaques for McKoon and Mayr will be presented at a later date by Chief Vinci.

The Spokane County Trauma Council approved increasing the min/max for transport licenses in District 9's response area by one. The district can respond anywhere in the county, but the license has to be assigned to a trauma response area. Ambulance transport will need to be added to mutual aid agreements. Members of the District plan to attend the November 18th meeting.

Horton Change orders for the ambulances are still being worked on and waiting for final prices per unit, as the original change orders have come down in price.

Budget development for 2026 is ongoing, with a draft budget to be presented at the first meeting in October. Every division has been meeting to work on the budget. The team is looking to consolidate IT, utilities, training, and travel to find efficiencies.

Due to Spokane Fire leaving SREC on January 1, SREC user fees have increased. District 9 will see an increase of \$140,000. There is a proposal to use one-time reserve funds to lower user fees.

An RFP is out for choosing a facilitator for the districts strategic planning. One proposal has been received so far. The deadline is October 10th. The goal is to have a final plan presented to the board at the end of March.



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Old Business

- a) none

New Business

- a) none

Executive Session

Chairman Anderson announced at 7:15 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 7:18 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison M. Sargent
District Secretary

APPROVED:

Chairman Gregory M. Anderson