

**WELLINGTON COMMUNITY FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD MINUTES  
October 4, 2023  
REGULAR MEETING**

**I. Pledge of Allegiance 7:11 p.m.**

**Call to Order by Fred Pitts-President**

**Roll Call:** The following members were present:

Brighton Twp. Craig Norton    Wellington Twp. Fred Pitts    Penfield Twp. Eric Flynn  
Huntington Twp. Walter Rollin    Pittsfield Twp. Mark Deidrick    Village of Wellington Gene  
Hartman  
Fiscal Officer Poling

**Others Present:** Chief Wetherbee    A/C Pitts    A/C Regal    Lt Fox  
Lt. Hamer    Kim Meyers    Lt. Knapp    Lt. Barlow    FF Burgos    Lt Barlow

**II. Approval of Minutes:**

Motion made by Eric Flynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Walter Rollin to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. All in favor.

**II. Approval of Financial Report:**

Motion made by Mark Deidrick, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gene Hartman to approve Financial Report as presented to the board. All in favor.

**III. Approval of Expenses:**

Motion set forth by Eric Flynn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Walter Rollin to approve current month expenses as presented. All in favor.

**V. Department Report:**

Chief Wetherbee submitted and went over his monthly report.

A/C Pitts submitted and went over his monthly report.

**VI. Committee Reports:**

**Finance-** Motion by Craig Norton, second by Eric Flynn to accept the 2024 Amounts and Rates as prepared by the County. **Resolution# 01-10042023** Roll Call: Norton, yes; Rollin, yes; Flynn, yes; Deidrick, yes; Pitts, yes; Hartman, yes.

Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Craig Norton to accept the 2024 Budget as corrected by the County. FO Poling reported that the 2023 carryover number needed corrected due to the last amended certificate. **Resolution 02-10042023** Norton, yes; Rollin, yes; Flynn, yes; Deidrick, yes; Pitts, yes; Hartman, yes.

**House Numbering- 5**

**Personnel:** Motion by Eric Flynn, second by Craig Norton to promote FF Tripp from F5 to F5-10 due to being with the department for 10 years. This adds \$1 to his hourly pay. All in favor. Chief Wetherbee reported that the FF classes are complete or underway that were approved at the last Board Meeting.

Motion to enter into executive session for personnel at 7:50pm by Mark Deidrick, second by Walter Rollin. Roll Call: Norton, yes; Rollin, yes; Flynn, yes; Deidrick, yes; Pitts, yes; Hartman, yes.  
Motion to reenter regular session at 7:57pm by Craig Norton, second by Walter Rollin. Roll Call: Norton, yes; Rollin, yes; Flynn, yes; Deidrick, yes; Pitts, yes; Hartman, yes.  
Fred Pitts announced no decision.

**Old Business:** Chief Wetherbee reported the transition to Tyler New World continues with A/C Pitts being the lead and working with the county and IT. Chief Wetherbee reported that he continues to wait for the AFG announcement of grant award. Chief Wetherbee reported that the next grant cycle is coming and he will apply for a new Fire Engine or Cascade System as a District, not a joint effort. Chief Wetherbee reports that he continues to consider changing the capital spending for 2023 to the 2024 expenses of pagers and turn out gear instead of the truck refurb project of 154 planned. Chief Wetherbee reports that the Radios are in and Cleveland Communications has them, and are working on programing. Chief Wetherbee continues to work with Cleveland Communications on the Radio Agreement, and is hoping to have it ready to sign at the November board meeting.

**New Business:** Chief Wetherbee reports that he attended the Eclipse Planning Meeting for the April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 event, and as a brief update reported that the estimates are 10x the population of Lorain County coming to Lorain County for the event. Chief Wetherbee reported that the Fire Association has a fundraiser coming up as well as the Chili Cookoff November 4<sup>th</sup>. Mark Deidrick reported that the Fairgrounds was ready to store the Smokehouse; A/C Pitts reports that is has a few uses this month with Fire Safety Month.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Eric Flynn, second by Gene Hartman to adjourn at 8:21pm. All in favor.

**Next meeting is Wednesday, November 1, 2023 @ 7 pm.**

President Mark Deidrick Fiscal Officer Suzanne Soling  
Approved 11/1/2023



award. Chief Wetherbee reports that he attended the Eclipse Planning Meeting for the April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 event November 3<sup>rd</sup> and offered for any board member to attend with him. Chief Wetherbee shared that there would be a Large Event evacuation training in Medina that he plans to attend. The radios should be arriving soon, as they finalize the programing; he is encouraging the Board to wait to sign the agreement with Cleveland Communications until the County makes their decision between E.F Johnson or Motorola at their December meeting.

**New Business:** Chief Wetherbee reported being contacted by CommLink regarding needing an address for a Tower Location; A/C Pitts will assist with numbering. The Firemen's Association is having their Chili Cook-off to benefit Well Help November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Eagles; November 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the Annual Fish Fry; and January 27<sup>th</sup> is the Banquet and Awards Night for the District.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Eric Flynn, second by Gene Hartman to adjourn at 8:21pm. All in favor.  
Next meeting is Wednesday, December 6, 2023 @ 7 pm.

President Fred Pitts Fiscal Officer Sarah Poling  
Approved 12/6/23



yes. Motion to re enter into regular session at 8:18pm. Norton, yes; Rollin, yes; Flynn, yes; Diedrick, yes; Pitts, yes; Hartman, yes. Chair Fred Pitts announced no action at this time.

**Old Business:** Chief Wetherbee reported that the radios had arrived and needed programmed before they could be put into service. He is going to have them programmed as VHF, and later when it is available the District will have to pay for them to be programmed with high band as well. Chief Wetherbee reported that the County is going with Marcs, and tower locations have already been secured. Chief Wetherbee reported that the Southwest of Lorain County is meeting to put together a plan for the Eclipse, due to the County putting the majority of focus into the Northern part of the County. Chief Wetherbee reported that he is moving the truck refurb to 2024; his placing an order for 9 sets of Turn Out Gear \$34,000; Waiting for the order from Richland County Uniforms \$8,500; placing an order for dual band pagers \$24,000. Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Eric Flynn to create needed purchase orders for capital spending in 2023 not to exceed \$85,000. All in favor. Walter Rollin and Gene Hartman inquired about the value of the current pagers for resale. A/C Pitts will look at their life and value. Chief Wetherbee and A/C Pitts reported that the LMRE People's Fund Grant and the Eagles were both able to purchase RIT Packs for the District with grant funds. Wellington Women's League gave a donation towards hose. Chief Wetherbee is submitting for a Training Grant, and A/C Pitts is submitting for extrication equipment through a BWC grant. Chief Wetherbee reports that he plans to submit to AFG for an air compressor in the new year.

**New Business:** Chief Wetherbee reported that they have an ISO Audit beginning Friday, and the District will be assisting with ringing the Salvation Army Bell this holiday season. Gene Hartman acknowledged the article that was in the Chronicle with positive feedback for their participation. Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Craig Norton to increase Chief Wetherbee's wages by 5% January 1, 2024. All in favor. Chief Wetherbee thanked the Board. Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Eric Flynn to increase A/C Pitts wages by 5% January 1, 2024. All in favor. A/C Pitts thanked the Board. Motion by Gene Hartman, second by Craig Norton to increase FO Poling's wages by 5% as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. All in favor. FO Poling thanked the Board. Chief Wetherbee thanked Mark Diedrick for serving on the Wellington Community Fire District Board for 27 years. Mark Diedrick noted that the District had progressed since he began and it was an honor to serve on the board. January 27<sup>th</sup> is the Banquet and Awards Night for the District. Chief Wetherbee reported that at the January 2024 meeting the roster will be presented for approval, committee appointment will be made, legal counsel and medical director will be appointed.

**Adjourn:** Motion made by Craig Norton, second by Eric Flynn to adjourn at 9:07pm. All in favor.

**Next meeting is Wednesday, January 3, 2024 @ 7 pm.**

President Fred Pitts

Fiscal Officer Sarah Poling  
Approved 1/3/2024