

Regular Commissioners Meeting
November 19, 2025

PRESENT

Commissioners: Dave Lohman, Kirk Damon, Tom Perry

Chiefs: Steve Riggs, Tom Miller

Secretary: Sarah Smith

Absent: Chief John Leander

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Motion made and approved to accept the October 15, 2025, minutes as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Tom Pasma, local resident and volunteer firefighter attended to share information about very successful food distribution event that took place at Blanchard Hall on November 16. Pasma shared statistics of considerable food needs in this zip code. The group plans to continue these distribution events. Pasma suggested the District 5 volunteers participate in delivering/distributing at these events. Discussion of parameters for volunteers engaging in events. Commissioners approved of volunteer activity, asserting the final say is with the Chiefs. Pasma will communicate directly with Chiefs.

OLD BUSINESS

1. New software – Adrian Mintz returns to present information about preparing for NERIS reporting requirements and necessary compatible software. See enclosed documents. Discussion of quotes from ESO and Image Trend, of impending complexity of rollout of NERIS on 1/1/2026. NERIS has a manual entry option, but there is no CAD interface to supply dispatch data. Discussion of future reporting requirements, which are still unclear, vis fire incidents vs all incidents. Discussion of migration of old Emergency Reporting data to ESO, of how input tasks will move to responding volunteers, modifying SOGs. Adrian has been developing a crosswalk process, and data storage. Adrian will provide suggestions for exporting data and transitioning at next month's meeting.

Commissioners moved and seconded to purchase ESO software as quoted.

2. Samish Island BESS noise complaint: Chief Miller updated that vendor visited to quote a HVAC system; likely solution. Noise engineer will test after that. Skagit zoning noise compliance officer has been looped in.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Secretary/Treasurer's Report:** There was a beginning cash balance of \$380,181.35. We had a collective cash increase of \$145,915.31, and a collective cash decrease of \$9,077.65 leaving a balance of \$517,019.01. The reserve fund remains the same at \$220,000.
2. **Budget Meeting:** Line-by-line discussion of 2026 expenses.

Commissioners moved and seconded to pass the 2026 budget. Budget includes increase of secretary wage to \$35/hour.

Approved.

Commissioners moved and seconded Resolution 2025-3 to accept the 1% increase in levy amount.

Approved.

Commissioners moved and seconded Resolution 2025-2 to accept the auditors services for 2026.

Approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Skagit County Assessor 2026 property tax levy info

Skagit County Auditor junior taxing district accounts payable info

Department of Natural Resources forest land assessment invoice

CHIEFS REPORTS

Chief Miller: Participated in relay supply HUB. Did fit testing. LN Curtis out to fit 4 firefighters. 2 going to South Skagit Academy. District 3 is doing FF1 and FF2 consecutively, which is why program goes thru May; Samish doesn't need FF2 so will just participate thru FF1 program. SCBA bottles being tested.

Chief Riggs: SCBA bottles maintenance done. Airstation annual service completed. Air bottles for air station are expired. Will test before holidays are complete. Sending 1 volunteer to South Skagit Academy. \$1400 tuition. Still discussing with other chiefs about hosting an academy in District #5. Long-serving volunteer David Gilmore retiring at end of year. HUB drill – relay supply. OTEP next Monday. Heading to Key Peninsula to look at the Timberwolf type 3 engine, mfr by Rosenbauer. Skagit Chiefs Assn re-instating training officers assn, working group for developing training guides, working towards county training consortium. Our WSRB should be coming soon. Bayview received a 5, w/agreement of increasing radius based on hydrant or tender credit, leading to our possible interest in improving our district's tender credit. Chief will present a solid cost of equipping 522/old 512.

Chief Leander: absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GOOD OF THE ORDER: December 8th is District Holiday party hosted at Edison station. Allen does salads, Samish does desserts, Edison does mains.

AUDIT OF VOUCHERS

Proceeded with the audit of the vouchers and paying bills. Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve the utility voucher dated November 5, 2025, in the amount of \$1,537.12 and submitted on November 6, 2025. Motion made, seconded, and passed to approve all expenses on the voucher dated November 19, 2025 in the amount of \$16,391.56.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30: pm.

Tom Perry, Chairman

Kirk Damon, Commissioner

David Lohman, Commissioner

Sarah Smith, Secretary