

# **Fire District 3**

*“more than fire...”*

## **BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

### **Minutes**

April 22, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm at Station 35 and online via Teams: [Teams meeting](#)

**Present:** Commissioner’s Shane Bowman, Jon Couture, Dean Thornberry, FC Drone, AC Smith, DC Mansfield, DC Blomdahl, Station 35 crew, and (1) citizen.

#### **Call to Order 18:05**

**Correspondence** - Fire Chief Drone provided an overview of a letter sent to the Battle Ground City Council regarding proposed RV parking code amendments, highlighting fire safety concerns related to inadequate setbacks, increased exposure risks, and the potential for an unlimited number of RVs on a single property.

A thank-you letter was received from the Vancouver Fire Department for coverage provided during a funeral.

#### **Public Comment- None**

**Consent Agenda** - A motion was by commissioner Bowman to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Couture, all were in favor of accepting the Consent Agenda. Passed 3–0.

All items listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a commissioner requests specific item(s) be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion prior to the time Commission votes on the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda

A. Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2026	
B. Investments in Fund 6204	\$ 4,267,111.64
C. Cash in Fund 6204	\$ 78,932.91
D. Bond Fund 6225	\$ 28,717.09
E. FD3 Impact Fees 6204i	\$ 1,702,613.73
F. Transmittal FD304222026	\$ 298,678.31
G. Payroll FD3 04/25/2026	\$ 428,087.93

#### **Old Business**

- Used Ambulance – DC Blomdahl provided an overview of a used ambulance, packets in the folders, \$15K used ambulance from the Camas/Washougal Fire Department, ready by November, reglidable.
- FC Drone provided a second review of ambulance billing rates, including NCEMS and 10 rate comparisons, identifying a \$1,000 cost and a \$1,600 rate aligning with partners under AMR rates to allow for unknowns; Commissioner Bowman questioned transport perception and messaging regarding why the District would not transport versus AMR, with emphasis on explaining the “why”; FC Drone stated rates would be revisited at year end with a goal of cost neutrality without an EMS levy; Commissioner Thornberry questioned break-even numbers, mileage discrepancies, and how the District developed the figures; EMS 31/Walizer elaborated; a \$10–\$25 buffer was included in cost recovery; FC Drone noted rates are submitted to the state annually and that there were approximately 38 transport opportunities last year (2–4 per month), modeled after Cowlitz GMT rates with no EMS levy; FC Drone indicated a motion was needed and could be brought back as a resolution; Commissioner Bowman made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Couture, passed 3–0.

**New Business**

- Station 35 Workout Area – FC Drone provided an overview of the SIP and Station 35 status, including alternatives for a workout area remodel utilizing a back storage area, building plan overview, and an estimated cost of \$7,500 including labor and permits, with use of FD3 SMEs (contractors) and consideration of future ideas; Commissioner Thornberry stated it was a good idea to get crews out; FC Drone noted it is not budgeted and is requesting state capital improvement funding; Commissioner Bowman made a motion to accept the workout room remodel and explore state capital improvement funding options, seconded by Commissioner Couture, all in favor, 3–0.
- Apparatus Funding Amendment – FC Drone identified the need for a board decision to not limit the allocation of mobilization revenue to the apparatus fund to provide more financial flexibility; discussion followed. Commissioner Bowman made a motion to move mobilization revenue to the apparatus fund, seconded by Commissioner Couture, all in favor, 3–0, motion passed
- BC Retirement – BC O'Brien set to retire May 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Executive Session Needed, 20 Minutes:**

In session 18:33

Out of session 18:54, No action taken.

RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) and (d) to discuss facilities funding strategy.

**Meeting Schedule**

- Wednesday, May 13, 2026, Station 31 18:00 hrs. Board Meeting
- Wednesday, May 27, 2026, Station 31 18:00 hrs. Board Meeting

**Adjournment:** 18:54

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Fire Commissioner Jon Couture

  
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Fire Commissioner Dean Thornberry

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Fire Commissioner Shane Bowman

  
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Fire Chief Chris Drone