SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 5
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 11, 2026; 6:00p.m.
District Office, 17217 W Four Mound Rd, Nine Mile Falls

Members Present: Bonita Cobb, Brian Scott, Dave Alvarado
District Secretary: Bethany McCann
Guests: Dusting Hofer, Clifford Gross, Larry & Isla Durheim, Julie Clair, Gary Pietz, Bill Lynch, Ashley Leghult, Isah Leghult, Ken Sylvester, Jeff Valkey, Camie Broch, Robert Barns, Bruce Greg, Randy Durheim
Fire Chief: Scott Lynch
Time Meeting Began: 6:00 pm
Flag Salute: Led by Julie

Approve JULY 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Brian and Seconded by Dave to approve July Minutes. It was approved unanimously.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed by the Commissioners.
There were no questions at this time.

Expenses presented for review.

August 2026 Expenses reviewed	AP2986-2993	$	30,929.49
August 2026 Payroll reviewed	PR1948	$	1,401.11
Total August 2026 Expenses		$	32,330.60

Bonita made a motion to accept expenses, Dave seconded and passed unanimously. Commissioners signed the Certifications for Accounts Payable and Payroll Vouchers to be submitted to the Spokane County Treasurer.

Secretary's Report:
Dave would like to see if we can find a way to figure out if sending out newsletters would be more beneficial bi-annually vs quarterly. It would be hard to track but Bethany will try and find a way to poll the community and see what they like. Gaurdian Occupational Health does pre-employment physicals and is about half of what we are currently paying, including doing a drug screening. Brian made a motion to start an account and try them. Dave seconded, Motion Passed unanimously.

Correspondence:
None
F**ire Chief's Report:** Chief Scott Lynch

1) **Volunteer Status:** One new support person, will plan on doing interview this week
2) **Station Status:** None
3) **Truck/Equip Status:** B53 Slack adjuster broke, Dustin was able to fix. Command 2 batteries were bad, Mason has already replaced them.
4) **Training Status:** Drafting & Pumps operations, Master streams & drafting was cancelled to clean and restock trucks from fires. CPR/AED/Lucas training
5) **Other:** Scott picked up some hose fittings and pump packing for T51 & A52. Brian was wondering if Homeshield has done weed and pest control and yes they have. No new information on the thermal imaging cameras

Final

Committee Reports

- **Brian Scott:** None
- **Dave Alvarado:** None
- **Bonita Cobb:** None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was a lot of concern from the residents on why district 5 was not out on the autumn ln fire. One resident specifically asked if Autumn Ln fire was part of district 5 and did we get called? Scott said we were never paged out so we did not go. Dave explained how we get called out and the point of mutual aid.. Some of the residents were out on the fire at 11 am and never got help from any passing fire personnel, they believe it was DNR but unsure of truck numbers, or see district 5 units until the next day. The residents questioned the Assistant Chief why some personnel went to the south side of the district when not paged out but not the one in our back yard. There was a heated argument saying the Fire Chief works for the whole board not just one commissioner, the board governs collectively Scott got upset with the situation and threw his pager on the table, informing Dave that he will not work until you get rid of her, pointing at Bonita. Scott was asked to leave the command rig at the station, not sure if it was taken home to get any personal items out but it was in the parking lot at the end of the meeting.The residents went on the ask what is going to happen in the future to make sure district 5 does not have trucks sitting in the station while property in the district is threatened, Dave suggested possibly self-paging ourselves out. There needs to be work on communication between dispatch and other fire districts, at this time we do not know where the miss communication that district 5 did not get paged out came from. There was questions on why there was a dispatch saying that 520 was out of district/state. Bonita stated that she was able to get through to dispatch but did not say she was 520. Bethany will be calling dispatch and trying to see what happened. Ashley said her family did come in and ask for access to water for fighting the fire and they were denied multiple times by personnel that were at the station. Bruce brought up the option of possible annexation into other districts, the north part go with district 9 and south with district 10, that would be a vote of the people if that happens. The residents suggested in the next newsletter that we ask if there are any water resources in the area that the residents are ok with the fire department using for extra water and having a list at the fire district to use. Also having a list of possible residents that have their own equipment that can be used to back up the fire department. Residents also asked if it was possible to have tools, not the trucks, open for the public to be able to use? That is questionable but the commissioners can talk about it. Jeff is an attorney and he has concerns that we do not have the correct person to run the department. He has had his fair share of people coming after him and he didn't believe anyone was be belligerent towards any one person and for the chief to act the way he did was wrong in his opinion. You need someone who can take criticism and learn from any mistakes that are made.
The board did go into executive session to talk about what the immediate plan is regarding the Fire Chief Position.
The next regular meeting will be September 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

With no further business a motion was made by Bonita to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. It was seconded by Dave and passed unanimously.

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Spokane County Fire District 5 Chairperson

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Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner

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Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner

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Attest: Spokane County Fire 5 District Secretary