SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 5
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 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: See sign in sheet (attached)
Fire Chief(interim): Dustin Hofer
Time Meeting Began: 6:00 pm
Flag Salute: Led by Dave

Approve AUGUST 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Dave and Seconded by Brian to approve August 11th Minutes. It was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Dave to approve August 14th Minutes. It was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Bonita and seconded by Brian to approve August 19th Minutes. It was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Dave and seconded by Brian to approve August 20th Minutes. It was approved unanimously. A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Dave to approve August 25th 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.

September 2026 Expenses reviewed	AP2994-3004	$	8,074.62
September 2026 Payroll reviewed	PR1949-1971	$	7,732.57
Total September 2026 Expenses		$	15,807.19

Brian 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:
Bethany is working on the newsletter hasn't been able to get it completed yet. The website should be up to date as of the meeting. The SCFCA meeting is this Thursday at District 4. Bethany was able to talk with Dispatch about the dispatch information on Aug 1 and 2nd. Some major points are that the "520 is out of state" was a mistake on dispatches end, not anyone at the fire department. Dispatch also said if the department is planning on having people staged/ ready to respond on any high fire risk days to call before hand and let dispatch know. When there is a lot of radio traffic, it is easier to get a phone call into dispatch (not 911). It will ring until someone picks up. Bethany had a couple questions for what apparatuses responded to some of the calls that Dustin answered.

Correspondence:
Snure law rate is increasing in 2027. The WFCA Conference is Oct 21-24, Brian is unable to attend, all others will be registered to attend.

F**ire Chief's Report:** Interim Chief Dustin Hoffer

1) **Volunteer Status:** as of 8/4/26 Mike Flint is interim assistant Chief and John Dean is St 52 Capt. The EMS personnel would like access to reporting system to input/sign any medical call correspondence. Brian made a motion to get training for ERS for any user that need/want it. Bonita seconded, motion

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passed unanimously. The officers made a draft policy for commissioners participation as firefighter- the commissioners will review and talk more about it next meeting. Dustin would like to realign assignment numbers for the volunteers, 501,502, ect. It was suggested to do this when the radios get reprogramed in a couple months so it isn't extra work for SRECS. Officers would like access to IC Emails and meetings which they will get added to once they start going to the meetings.

2) **Station Status:** Public Water Acccess Policy- the commissioners received a draft from the officers and will review it- possible add to our policies and procedures.
3) **Truck/Equip Status:** The logos and numbers need to be put on T51 and T52- Bethany will get those ordered and done. There are not supposed to be in service until this is complete. Officers would like access to page out fire trainings. Bethany will give EMS Coord, Training officer, and Interim Chief access. Dustin would like to complete a full inventory and location status of all in-service and out of service apparatus. Asked if he could relocate command 501 to the Dean's resident. Dave made a motion that as interim Chief he had the right to move the vehicles. Brain Seconded, motion passed unanimously. B53 chainsaw is getting fixed.
4) **Training Status:** Master Streams & Drafting, CPR/AED/LUCAS, EVIP's Bi Annual Driving, Officers Drill
5) **Other:** A medical app call Handtevy that has all the SOP's for the Spokane county EMS, They need some more information that Bethany and Leah will gather and get to them.

Committee Reports

- **Brian Scott:** Tom Williams reached out and asked about doing a hiring board for the new Fire Chief. This would help with keeping any personal bises out of process and not have to do interviews at a public meeting. The board would have at least three people with Tom being the lead. Brian made a motion to accept the proposal and move on with the hiring process, Dave seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Bethany will update the requirements for the hiring board and give to Tom Willimans.
- **Dave Alvarado:** Dave made a motion to keep Dustin in as interim chief. Dustin said he is fine with that. Bonita and Brian wanted to talk to him in an executive session before continuing. There was a question on where the money goes from the silent auction at the awards banquet, This goes into a fund that is held by the volunteers, Greg Lucht is currently the one on the account. None of the funds go through the fire district or used for any district expense. The volunteers decide what happened with the money.
- **Bonita Cobb:** None

OLD BUSINESS: Bethany was able to get ahold of Allaince to come look at updating the locks for the doors. Bonita mad a motion to have them come out Brian seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: It was suggested to get a facebook page for the fire district-Lexi said she could help. Carol asked what a run card is- Joe explained that it is who gets dispatched out for a call and when. The neighboring districts are on our run cards but District 5 is not on District 9's cards. Each district sets up their own cards and informs dispatch. Rich asked if the media can just show up like it did last meeting and yes with it being a public meeting anyone can show up or video what is happening. Carol Lynch asked again about the money from the awards banquet and it was explained that the money goes to the volunteers. Steve Ryan wants an update on the communication with legal council, they have been in communication but no recommendations yet. He advised that the process wasn't followed for the firing of the Chief, the commissioners should continue with caution. Dolly asked if there can be more public education outreach, there is a sever underfunding that education could help get people informed about how they can help. The Chief does have access to inhouse paging to communicate with all volunteers. It was mentioned that if he went to the fire that the district could have been assigned to a different part to the fire and not been in our district anyway. What does the repair look

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like for the volunteers? It's hard to say, have to start moving forward and create resolutions for any problems. Lexi asked if anyone has said thank you, everyone can throw blame but after everything is said and done it is all volunteers and we appreciate everything they do. How often is the underground tank tested on Johannson Rd? It should be checked yearly but none of the officers know if it has been done recently. If there are any residents that have a water resource Carrie will be happy to keep a list and distribute it, Sign up information will be on the door. If anyone knows of grants the fire department will gladly take the help.

The board did go into executive session at 9:16 pm talk with Dustin about staying in as Interim Fire Chief. Session ended at 9:19 and Dustin will stay as Interim Fire Chief.

The next regular meeting will be October 13, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

With no further business a motion was made by Brian to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m. It was seconded by Bontia and passed unanimously.

_____	_____
Spokane County Fire District 5 Chairperson	Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner
_____	_____
Spokane County Fire District 5 Commissioner	***Attest:*** Spokane County Fire 5 District Secretary

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