



Regular Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Spokane County Fire District 9 was held April 14, 2026, at the district's administrative office at 3801 East Farwell Road, Mead, Washington and via Zoom.

Chairman Brian Mather called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Members present were Chairman Brian Mather, Commissioner Greg Anderson, Commissioner Jim Bennett, Fire Chief Matthew Vinci, District Secretary Allison Sargent, Assistant Chief Nathan Jeffries, Assistant Chief Dan Cecil, Assistant Chief Doug Bleeker and Division Chief Doug Strong.

Guests in Attendance: Dan Walsh, Able Fisher, Matt Von Steuben, Randy Meck, Station 92 & Station 91.

All in attendance joined the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the Agenda

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS IS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously approved.

Public Comments

No comments were received.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 24, AS PRESENTED. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously approved.

Commissioner Bennett moved TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS LISTED ON THE VOUCHER APPROVAL DATED APRIL 14, 2026, BEGINNING WITH WARRANT #116141 THROUGH #116190 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$295,651.08 ALSO TO CERTIFY THE DIRECT PAY TRANSFERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$44,981.59, PLUS THE MARCH 31, 2026, PAYROLL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,007,894.41. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Anderson and unanimously approved.

Chief Reports

Chief Bleeker let the Board know prevention did 46 inspections last month and 2 fire investigations so far this year. They continue to work with the Mead SD on public education and provide support during their school lockdown and fire drills. He discussed new construction within the district as well as pre-fire plans, which they are currently working on.



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Chief Strong provided an update on ambulances. The goal is to have ambulances in the stations by May 11th for crew practice. One ambulance is currently in the body shop for pain touch ups. Unit number four is expected to arrive in the next few weeks. Vinci let the Board know he is actively seeking unit number five as a back up ambulance.

Vinci recently had a meeting with AMR to discuss capacity in District 9 and AMR's concerns about patient responses. Vinci clarified the district's deployment model and District 4s involvement. AMR offered suggestions for support which Vinci declined at this time. Details on Border calls are still being worked out and will be discussed at a future Board meeting.

Supply reimbursement from the AMR was discussed at the last ASB meeting and District 9 will be receiving a check for supplies.

A promotion ceremony will be held at Station 92 at 4:00 pm on Thursday May 14th. One Lieutenant has been promoted, and others will be interviewed next week.

Staff will attend a hearing with the WA State Transportation Commissioner in Walla Walla next week. The hearing is to name the 395 bridge in memory of Lt. Cody Traber. The resolution is expected to pass, then signs will be made and installed.

A new response area around Station 99 is being built by CREC to give reciprocity to the city of Spokane in district 9. Auto Aid into Stevens County is also being changed. Engine 93 has responded to many low-acuity calls, which was not the intended setup. E93 will respond to ALS, fires and significant incidents, remaining in District 9 for our own incidents. Once Ambulance 93 is there it will assist Stevens County if needed.

Chief Jeffries reviewed the dashboard provided by Dark Horse showing incident counts with the City and Stevens County.

Old Business

- a) Commissioner Mather let the discussion on plans moving forward for the potential November Ballot. The PR team needs six months' notice to prepare for ballot initiatives. This also allows for enough time to dedicate to educating the public on the bond and lid lift by November. Vinci discussed hiring a company to develop marketing and education materials and to guide us on campaign and ballot language. He is currently in communication with two companies to do so. The district's final strategic plan is expected to be done in April, this will help determine timing for passing resolutions for both the lid lift and bond. The Board is all in agreement to run the lid lift and bond on the same ballot for November.



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New Business

- a) Commissioner Anderson moved TO ADOPT THE BLS, ALS-1, ALS-2 AND MILEAGE RATES AS PROPOSED BY THE FIRE CHIEF FOR 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett and unanimously approved.

Executive Session

Attorney Eric Quinn joined the meeting via zoom for the executive sessions, everyone else was removed from the meeting except for Chief Vinci and Assistant Chief Jeffries.

Chairman Mather announced at 7:43 p.m. that the Board was going into a 15-minute Executive Session to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g).

Chairman Mather called the meeting back to order at 7:51 p.m.


Chairman Mather announced at 7:52 p.m. that the Board was going into a 15-minute executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

At 8:07 p.m. the Executive Session was extended for an additional 15 minutes.

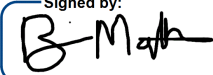
Chairman Mather called the meeting back to order at 8:21 p.m.

With no further business, Chairman Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:

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 Allison M. Sargent
 District Secretary

APPROVED:

Signed by:

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 Chairman Brian A. Mather