

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2026**

Co-Chair Barstow called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at the Fire District Administrative & Operations Center – 1015 39th Ave SE Suite #120 Puyallup, WA 98374 at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Commissioners Bellerive, Buttz, Caverly, Dannat, Estes, Gorder, Holm, Homan, McAfee, Mitchell, Palombi, Samuelsen, and Stringfellow, Chief Morrow, Director Roberts, Deputy Director Kemp, and EA McInnis, Recorder.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call – Director Roberts
- B. Excused Absences: None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Co-Chair Barstow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. CO-CHAIR ELECTIONS

A secondary election was conducted following Co-Chair Holm's decision to decline the position to which he was elected on January 12.

Commissioner Mitchell nominated Commissioner Homan for Co-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Holm. Commissioner Homan accepted the nomination.

Commissioner Caverly nominated Commissioner McAfee for Co-Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Estes. Commissioner McAfee accepted the nomination.

A vote was taken by a show of hands. Commissioner Homan received 11 votes, and Commissioner McAfee received 3 votes. Commissioner Homan was elected to the position of Co-Chair.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Dannat moved and Commissioner Estes seconded to approve the agenda, as presented. **MOTION CARRIED.**

5. OATH OF OFFICE – DISTRICT SECRETARY

Co-Chair Barstow swore-in Director Roberts as the District Secretary.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT SPECIFICALLY ON THE AGENDA)

None.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Board Meeting Minutes of January 12, 2026
- B. Approval of:

Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 63268 to 63345 totaling:	\$	3,331,689.75
GRAND TOTAL	\$	3,331,689.75

Commissioner Holm moved and Commissioner Mitchell seconded to approve the Consent Agenda for Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. **MOTION CARRIED.**

8. STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Legislative Committee

Commissioner Samuelsen reported that the group held its second meeting today. Approximately six to eight members are expected to attend Legislative Day in Olympia on Thursday.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Resolution 26-01 2026 Fee Schedule

Chief Morrow presented Resolution 26-01 to the Board for its second reading. Since the initial reading on December 8, 2025, response fees and class fees were increased to reflect updated rates and the addition of applicable taxes in accordance with Washington State Department of Revenue tax law changes.

Co-Chair Homan moved to approve Resolution 26-01, amending the response fees and labor rates to a total of \$391, revised from \$389. Commissioner Gorder seconded the motion to approve Resolution 26-01, authorizing and establishing fees, charges, and fines for 2026 as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

10. NEW BUSINESS

None.

11. CONSIDERATIONS & REQUESTS

- A. Revisions to Board Policies 3.40, 3.41, and 3.45

Director Washo presented revisions to Board Policies 3.40, 3.41, and 3.45. With Board approval, the revised policies will be brought forward for first reading at the February 9 Board Meeting, unless otherwise directed.

- B. Revisions to Board Policy 3.03

Chief Morrow presented Board Policy 3.03, noting that the policy contains 13 subsections, and advised that, subject to Board approval, 2–3 subsections will be brought forward for Board review beginning at the February 9 Board Meeting.

A consensus vote was taken, and with Board approval, all Board policies listed on this agenda will be moved forward to first reading.

C. Merger Asset Transfers

Director Roberts presented the Merger Asset Transfer request. The Board was asked to authorize the Fire Chief to execute the necessary legal documents to transfer assets from Graham Fire & Rescue and Orting Valley Fire & Rescue into Central Pierce Fire & Rescue.

Commissioner Mitchell moved and Commissioner Gorder seconded, in recognition of the transfer of ownership by operation of law as a result of the merger, to authorize the Fire Chief to execute all deeds, bills of sale, and other documents necessary to transfer the title of real and personal property previously owned by Graham Fire & Rescue into the name of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Commissioner Holm moved and Commissioner Samuelsen seconded, in recognition of the transfer of ownership by operation of law as a result of the merger, to authorize the Fire Chief to execute all deeds, bills of sale, and other documents necessary to transfer the title of real and personal property previously owned by Pierce County Fire District No. 18, also known as Orting Valley Fire & Rescue, into the name of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue. **MOTION CARRIED.**

12. STAFF, FIRE CHIEF, and LOCAL REPORTS

- A. Finance Directorate/Chief Morrow: Chief Morrow reviewed the Finance Directorate Report.
- B. Business Services Directorate/DC Berdan: DC Berdan reviewed the Business Services Directorate Report.
- C. Executive Services Directorate/Director Roberts: Director Roberts reviewed the Executive Services Directorate Report.
- D. Emergency Management Directorate/DC Gibson: DC Gibson reviewed the Emergency Management Directorate Report.
- E. Fire Chief's Report/Chief Morrow: Chief Morrow reviewed the Fire Chief's Report.

13. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Employee Recognition Letters

Co-Chair Barstow appreciated reading the letters of recognition for our staff. Commissioner Caverly recognized M65 D-shift for their assistance following a family member's fall, and Commissioner Samuelsen expressed appreciation for shop personnel and their role in operations.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Stringfellow – Commissioner Stringfellow visited Director Robacker and he's impressed with her progress.

Co-Chair Homan – Co-Chair Homan Recognized Commissioner Holm for his dedication to the District and expressed appreciation for his service and friendship.

Commissioner Holm – Commissioner Holm thanked everyone for their understanding and apologized for any confusion regarding the previous acceptance of the Co-Chair position.

Commissioner Mitchell – Commissioner Mitchell expressed his happiness.

Commissioner Dannat – Commissioner Dannat accompanied Commissioner Buttz to visit Director Robacker. She reported that her spirits are great.

Commissioner Caverly – Commissioner Caverly expressed support for Commissioner Holm's decision and understanding of busy schedules. He requested that events such as graduations and retirements be added to board calendars to ensure attendance and support for staff.

Commissioner Samuelsen – Commissioner Samuelsen commented on the upcoming legislative session, noting thorough preparation and thanked staff for their efforts. He expressed anticipation for the February 27th Pierce County Fire Commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Buttz – Commissioner Buttz encouraged Commissioner Holm to make the best decision for himself and commended all staff for their ongoing great work.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Mitchell moved and Commissioner Dannat seconded to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED**.

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.



Russell T. Barstow
Co-Chair of the Board



Robert L. Homan
Co-Chair of the Board



Sandi Roberts
District Secretary



Erika McInnis
Recorder