

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Spokane County Fire Protection District 10
929 South Garfield Road
Airway Heights WA 99004
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

August 5, 2025

5:00 pm

Commissioner Hester called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Present

Commissioner Gordon Hester, Commissioner Kevin Haughton, Commissioner Evan Lutz, Chief Don Malone, Assistant Chief Andres Steevens, Deputy Chief Nick Henry, and Administrative Director Christine Simmons.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved as mailed.

Consent Agenda

Minutes from the July 1, 2025, meeting were approved as mailed.

Approval of Warrants/EFTs/ACHs processed 07/01/2025 through 07/31/2025 was approved.

Chief's Report

Line of Duty Tragedy

Several members of the department attended the funerals of BC Morrison and BC Harwood.

Call Volume – July 2025

Total Calls in July: 181 (16% increase over July 2024)

Year-to-Date Calls: 1,021 (Tracking 8.5% higher than this time last year)

Breakdown:

- EMS: 86
- Fires: 73 (including 41 Wildland Fires)
- 13 fires occurred on the 4th of July
- Most significant: 55+ acre wildfire in Riverside State Park, which threatened homes—none were lost
- Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA): 14
- Other Calls: 8

Personnel Updates & Training

- Lieutenant vacancy has been posted.
- Conducted Wildland Ready Neighbors surveys before and after a fire in the Indian Bluff Neighborhood—positive feedback received.
- EMT students from Spokane Community College and Providence participated in ride-alongs.
- Multiple fire alarm installations completed.
- Evaluating the use of Six Sigma training to improve and design operational processes, aligning with the strategic planning effort.

Operations & Strategic Initiatives

- Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Odom property is finalized. Timeline for parcel split is 5–7 months. Escrow is open and due diligence has begun.
- District 3 is waiting on additional call volume data to move forward.
- County Hazard Mitigation Plan: Phase 1 complete; now in Phase 2.
- Strategic planning survey scheduled to go out by mid-August.
- New 3-year AMR ambulance contract approved by the Ambulance Service Board.
- DOE Grant amendment submitted for \$170,000 due to air compressor supply chain delays. Final approval expected next month.
- Exploring a liaison between Fire District 10 and Kalispel Tribe using current staff.
- Four wildland-only volunteers being added for the Station 3 area under the single annual academy model.
- Volunteer recruitment tactics being revised.
- L&I Grant (\$21,000) awarded for extrication tool brackets (injury prevention) and particulate hoods (structure fire protection).
- QR code business cards issued to patients/families with resource links.
- Suspected arsonist activity along the Centennial Trail—several wildland fires under investigation.
- Q2 budget tracking on target with minor internal adjustments.

Facility & Infrastructure Updates

- The District is opposing STA's proposed bus stop in front of Station 10-1 (10th Avenue side) due to safety and access concerns. Ongoing discussions are taking place.
- PFOS-related issues at Station 10-5 are being monitored.
- County property values are up, positively impacting district revenue.
- Station and personnel inspections have started to promote pride, ownership, and high facility standards.

Recognition & Engagement

The International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) plans to feature Fire District 10 in early 2026.

Department Expectations

- Embrace a mindset of moving from good to great.
- Reinforce high standards, accountability, and professional growth throughout the organization.

New Business

1. AD Simmons presented the adjusted 2025 budget, noting that the revenue increased due to the omission of the SCIP loan proceeds and the actual December 2024 Spokane County bank balance. Commissioner Hester made a motion to approve the budget as presented; seconded by Commissioner Haughton. Motion carried.
2. Chief Malone presented the request to allow Commissioner Lutz to serve as a Wildland Firefighter. Approval was unanimous. Commissioner Hester made a motion to approve the request as presented; seconded by Commissioner Haughton. Motion carried.

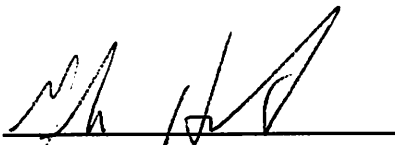
Old Business

Public Comment

Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be held on September 2, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Station 10-1.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 5:25 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hester', is written over a horizontal line.

Gordon Hester, Commissioner

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