

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

September 2, 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 Jon Hanke, and Administrative Director Christine Simmons.

**Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved as mailed.

**Consent Agenda**

Minutes from the August 5, 2025, meeting were approved as mailed.

Approval of Warrants/EFTs/ACHs processed 08/01/2025 through 08/31/2025 was approved.

**Chief's Report**

**Line of Duty Tragedy**

Sgt. Salas – Spokane County Sheriff's Office

Apparatus participated in the funeral procession; three administrative staff attended the funeral.

**Call Volume – August 2025**

Total Calls in August: 204 (35% increase over August 2024) — Highest monthly total in District history.

Year-to-Date Calls: 1,263 (Tracking 15.5% higher than this time last year)

Breakdown:

- EMS: 123
- Fires: 49 (including 24 Wildland Fires)
- Crews have been taking prompt and proactive suppression actions to ensure small fires remain contained and do not escalate into larger incidents.
- Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA): 19
- Other Calls: 13

**Personnel Updates & Training**

- Lieutenant vacancy closes this month — full day of evaluations scheduled.
- New member wildland training completed.
- EMT students from Spokane Community College and Providence participated in ride-alongs.
- Commissioners Conference scheduled for October 22–25.

**Operations & Strategic Initiatives**

- Station 2 update — in escrow; Odom is working on the property split.
- Wall of Valor participation included several attendees and two apparatus in the procession.
- Strategic planning survey sent to members, commissioners, and the public.
- Three members deployed to fires in the region.

- Received \$100,000 of the \$172,000 requested through the Department of Ecology grant.
- Awarded a DNR grant of \$17,200.
- Propane vehicle prop (ordered earlier this year) is now in service.
- Engines continue to experience mechanical issues (e.g., EGR coolers).
- Suspected arsonist activity slowed in August — multi-agency task force remains active.
- SOPs to be presented next month on vacation buyout for administrative staff. Sick leave accumulation will be adjusted to match the union contract for administrative staff. This includes adopting the accrual rate, usage, and accumulation rules currently provided to career firefighters, ensuring parity across the organization and alignment with the collective bargaining agreement.
- Ongoing meeting with Union.

#### Facility & Infrastructure Updates

Meeting scheduled with STA on September 3 to review proposed bus stop location and discuss safety/access concerns.

#### Department Expectations

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

#### New Business

#### Old Business

#### Public Comment

#### Adjournment

The next regular meeting will be held on October 7, 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 5:13 pm.



Gordon Hester, Commissioner

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