



**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY  
GOVERNANCE BOARD  
1101 D Street NE  
Auburn, Washington  
August 10, 2021**

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**GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair David Hill called the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board of Governance Regular Meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

**A. Flag Salute**

Chair Hill led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Roll Call**

Chair David Hill, Member Leanne Guier, Member Claude DaCorsi, Member Kerry Garberding, Member Troy Linnell, Member Lynda Osborn, Member David Storaasli.

Staff members present included Deputy Chief Dave Larberg, Deputy Chief Brad Thompson, Deputy Chief Rick Olson, Legal Counsel Eric Quinn, and Clerk of the Board Stefanie Harper.

**C. Announcements, Proclamations, and Presentations**

1. Deputy Chief Thompson presented to the Board, newly promoted Deputy Chief Rick Olson.

**D. Appointments**

There were no appointments.

**E. Agenda Modifications**

There were no agenda modifications.

**II. PUBLIC HEARINGS, CITIZEN INPUT, AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Public Hearings**

There was no public hearings.

**B. Audience Participation**

There was no audience participation.

**C. Update from IAFF Local #1352**

Vice President Jordan Gustafson of IAFF Local # 1352 spoke to the Board and praised Chief Swearingen and his tenure with the VRFA. VP Gustafson

shared his excitement on the newly promoted Chief, Deputy Chief, Battalion Chiefs and Captains.

VP Gustafson provided an update on the newly passed Law Enforcement bills at the State level and the concern from the Locals perspective. Discussion ensued.

**D. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence for the Board's consideration.

**III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Finance Committee**

Chair Osborn stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and recommends Claims and Payroll for approval by the Board.

**IV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

There were no reports from Board Members.

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Administration**

Deputy Chief Thompson provided an update to the Board regarding the newest members of the VRFA and their progress through the JATC program.

He updated the Board on the next round of recruits who will start on August 23, 2021.

DC Thompson updated on the promotions that have taken place over the last couple of months.

He provided an update on the 2019 Selfless Service Award winner, Sarah Borden, and informed them on the presentation of that award.

DC Thompson provide an update on a VRFA member, Ben Teske, and the special skill set he came with. Ben Teske is on wildland deployment utilizing his helicopter pilot training as a helicopter base manager in Eastern Washington.

He provided an update on the extension of the COVID test site through 2021.

Deputy Chief Larberg provided an update on the Accreditation process.

**VI. CONSENT ITEMS**

*All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Governance Board to be routine and may be approved by one motion.*

**A. Minutes**

1. Minutes of the July 13, 2021 Regular Meeting were reviewed.

**B. Vouchers**

**1. Claims**

Check numbers 209670 through 209743 in the amount of \$517,919.32, and electronic payments in the amount of \$12,118.12 totaling \$530,037.44, dated August 11, 2021.

**2. Payroll**

Payroll check numbers 99664 through 99665 in the amount of \$15,165.09, and electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,059,050.64 for a grand total of \$2,074,215.73 for the period covering July 1, 2021 to July 31, 2021.

There being no further discussion or questions Member Guier moved and Member DaCorsi seconded the approval of the Minutes, Claims and Payroll as presented above.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0**

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**VII. RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS**

**A. Employment Agreement**

CFO Horaski stated at the direction of the Board in a motion made on May 11, 2021 an employment agreement has been negotiated with incoming Fire Chief Brad Thompson. CFO Horaski mentioned this was a budgeted staff position and terms of the contract will have no material effect on VRFA's previously adopted general fund.

There being no further discussion or questions Member Guier moved and Member Storassli seconded the approval the Employment Agreement.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 7-0**

**VI. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

There was no information and/or discussion.

**VII. EXECUTIVE OR CLOSED SESSION**

CFO Horaski requested an executive session with members of the Board, Deputy Chief Thompson, Larberg and Olson, to consider selection of a site or acquisition of real estate, RCW 42.31.10(b). Anticipated that the executive session will last ten minutes and there will not be action at the conclusion.

Chair Hill convened the executive session at 6:11 pm with Board members. The executive session concluded at 6:21 pm and the Board returned to their regular meeting.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021

  
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David E. Hill  
Chair

  
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Stefanie Harper  
Clerk of the Board