



**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY  
GOVERNANCE BOARD  
1101 D Street NE  
Auburn, Washington  
September 13, 2022**

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**GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Nancy Backus called the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board of Governance Regular Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

**A. Flag Salute**

Vice Chair Backus led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**B. Roll Call**

Chair David Hill (Excused), Vice Chair Nancy Backus, Member Leanne Guier, Member Robyn Mulenga, Member Kerry Garberding, Member Troy Linnell, Member Lynda Osborn, Member Vic Kave, Member Larry Brown.

Staff members present included Chief Brad Thompson, Deputy Chief Tim Day, Deputy Chief Rick Olson, CFO Mark Horaski, Legal Counsel Joe Quinn, and Clerk of the Board Stefanie Harper.

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

a. Chief Thompson presented David Storaasli with an award for his years of service on the Board of Governance and Finance Committee.

b. Chief Thompson provide an update to the Board on the vaccine mandate. Chief stated the mandate will end October 31<sup>st</sup> per the Governor. This announcement just came out and there are several steps we must navigate, and we will be meeting with Dr. Rhea soon. More information to come on next steps.

**D. Appointments**

a. Chief Thompson introduced Michelle Roy to the Board. Michelle Roy is the Data Analyst and comes from an extensive background in records and data. Michelle spoke to the Board and expressed her excitement to be a part of the VRFA team.

b. Chief Thompson introduced Jason Herman, Battalion Chief. Jason was recently promoted to the BC position and has been with the VRFA for 24 years. BC Herman thanked the Board for their support and looks forward to serving in his new role.

c. Chief Thompson introduced Colton Fogelberg, Captain. Colton was recently promoted to the Captain position and has been with the VRFA 9

years. Captain Fogelberg thanked the Board for the opportunity and looks forward to his new responsibilities.

**E. Agenda Modifications**

There were no agenda modifications.

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

**A. Public Hearings**

There were no public hearings.

**B. Audience Participation**

Dean McAuley addressed the Board and sated the following:

- Fill the Boot will be October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Outlet Collection
- 5k Run/Walk will be September 17<sup>th</sup> on the Orting Trail for the Tunnel to Towers
- Paramount is releasing a movie on September 27<sup>th</sup> on the Las Vegas Shooting
- Mr. McAuley spoke on FF mental health

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

Vice President Jordan Gustafson addressed the Board regarding the change in the vaccine mandate. He stated he hoped those unvaccinated members would be coming back soon.

**D. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence submitted prior to the meeting.

**III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Finance Committee**

Member Backus stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and recommends Claims and Payroll.

**IV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Member Brown addressed the Board and stated it was an honor to serve on the Board and serve the community and members of the VRFA. He thanked Mr. McAuley for having the courage to talk about mental health.

Member Guier addressed the Board and thanked VRFA for helping her daughter remove her wedding ring.

Member Osborn addressed the Board and expressed her gratitude to the VRFA crews for their help recent call to her home.

Member Kave addressed the Chair of the Board regarding a request he made for an agenda item. Vice Chair Backus responded, and discussion ensued.

Vic Chair Backus provided an update on a recent trip she took with the City of Auburn Police Chief, Valley Comm, the City of Kent's Mayor and Police Chief and other members of the local communities. They toured a new program where Police, Fire, and 911 Call Receivers work together in a crisis call center with Mental Health Professionals, who are available 24/7. She indicated that she will be learning more on this program and would like the VRFA to be involved in helping bring those resources to Auburn. More information to come about this program.

**V. STAFF REPORTS**

**A. Administration**

Chief Thompson addressed the Board and provided the following update:

We have selected an architectural firm and we are in the final stages of the contract for services.

Tiller training is ahead of schedule, and we are working to put it in service as quickly and safely as possible.

13 recruits are in their 4<sup>th</sup> week of the academy and are all performing great.

An additional Social Worker will be joining the VRFA October 1<sup>st</sup>.

An Administrative Assistant will be joining the VRFA October 1<sup>st</sup> as well.

We are working on an interactive org chart for members to use as they work towards promoting.

Provided an update on our Social Media platforms and recent posts by our PIOs.

**VI. CONSENT ITMES**

*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 August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting.**

**B. Vouchers**

- 1. Claims**

Check numbers 210609 through 210678 in the amount of \$754,767.65, and electronic payments in the amount of \$12,650.00 totaling \$767,417.65, dated September 14, 2022.

**2. Payroll**

Payroll check numbers 99688 and 21208 in the amount of \$11,528.89, and electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$1,817,777.10 for a grand total of \$1,829,305.99 for the period covering August 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022.

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

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0**

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**VII. RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS**

A. Adoption of the Special Meetings Calendar – CFO Horaski stated this was an outline for the 2022 Special Meetings needed regarding the 2023 budget.

There being no further discussion or questions Member Guier moved and Member Garberding seconded the adoption of the Special Meetings Calendar .

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0**

**VI. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**

There was no information/discussion.

**VII. EXECUTIVE OR CLOSED SESSION**

There was no executive or closed session.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022

  
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Nancy Backus  
Vice - Chair

  
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Stefanie Harper  
Clerk of the Board