

Special Board of Governance Meeting Minutes Valley Regional Fire Authority



Meeting Date: October 29, 2024
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: 1101 D St NE, Auburn, WA 98002

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Backus called the Valley Regional Fire Authority Special Board of Governance Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A. Flag Salute

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

B. Roll Call

Chair Nancy Backus, Vice Chair Troy Linnell, Member Vic Kave, Member Kerry Garberding, Member Lynda Osborn (excused), Member Tracy Taylor, Member Larry Brown (excused), Member Bill Thomas, Member Eric Peterson, and Alternate Hanan Amer.

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

II. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

A. Presentation of Preliminary Budgets

CFO Horaski presented VRFA's preliminary 2025 budgets, highlighting that in 2024 the VRFA secured a grant to expand the CARES team, hired a capital facilities project manager, and successfully renewed the Battalion Chiefs labor agreement. Voters approved the Fire Services Benefit Charge for the next 10 years, and the facilities bond issue is expected to be finalized by year-end. To align financial reserves with board policy, significant one-time expenditures were completed in 2024, with a temporary reduction in the FBC rate. For 2025, the rate will return to 41.02%, and the general fund is projected to end with a \$13.4 million balance, slightly above the required 33.3%. Detailed budget information was provided to the Board, prompting further discussion.

III. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Dated this 12th day of November 2024

Nancy Backus
Nancy Backus
Chair

S. Harper
Stefanie Harper
Clerk of the Board