

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

West Metro Fire Protection District
Civil Service Committee Meeting
July 9, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District Civil Service Committee was called to order by President Kim Brewer at 6:00 p.m. This meeting was held in accordance with the applicable statutes of the state of Colorado, at West Metro Fire Protection District’s Administrative Office Building, at 433 South Allison Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado, and available remotely via Teams.

II. ROLL CALL

President Kim Brewer	Present
Vice President Susan Emsbo	Absent - Excused
Member Christina Cosentini	Present
Member Christopher Holm	Absent
Member Leo Johnson	Present
Member Jim Roos	Present
Member Danny Turney	Present
Member Peggy Valdez	Present
Board Liaison Don Sherman	Present

Also present were Fire Chief Don Lombardi; Division Chief Doug Hutchinson; Lieutenant Jon Beattie representing IAFF Local 1309; and, Ms. Kara Urland as recording secretary.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: It was moved by Leo Johnson and seconded by Danny Turney to accept the agenda for the regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District Civil Service Committee of July 9, 2024, as amended. The amendment corrects New Business item A. to request the certification of the top four names from the eligibility register for the rank of Lieutenant, rather than the two names as originally presented. Additionally, the amendment includes a request to certify the top six names from the eligibility register for the rank of Engineer, instead of the four names as originally presented. The motion was voted upon and carried.

V. REVIEW OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Don Sherman and seconded by Leo Johnson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Civil Service Committee dated May 14, 2024, as amended. The amendment corrects item XIV. A. to reflect 2024 3rd Grade Firefighter Promotional Exam (23-02) instead of (24-02). Additionally, the amendment corrects the Motion reference from (24-02) to (23-02). The motion was voted upon and carried.

VI. UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN 2024 – STRATEGIC PLAN SPT PRESENTATION

Strategic Plan – Revised Edition 2024: Division Chief Todd Heinl, Captain Andy Jensen, Firefighter Lakota Beckhorn, Firefighter Michael Worcester, Erin Bravo, and Melanie McConnell, presented updates to the 2024 edition of the Strategic Plan.

VII. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF – Fire Chief Don Lombardi

Firefighter/Paramedic Lakota Beckhorn presented to the committee on the 2024 Camp Ember. This year, Camp Ember was a success once again, with 16 teenage girls completing the four-day, three-night immersive fire-based camp. Firefighter/Paramedic Lakota Beckhorn, along with other female firefighters from West Metro, Arvada, and South Metro fire agencies, provided the training and leadership for the camp.

Chief Lombardi discussed a new board policy regarding public comments at regular and special board meetings. He proposed that the committee review this policy to determine whether it should adopt a similar approach for handling public comments.

The 2025 budget development process has commenced. Chief Lombardi highlighted potential challenges for the District due to Senate Bill 233 (SB24-233) and Proposed Initiative #50, expected to appear on the fall ballot, which could adversely affect District revenues. This uncertainty poses significant challenges to the District's budget planning.

VIII. REPORT OF THE TRAINING CHIEF – Division Chief Hutchinson

Active threat training is currently underway with participation from pertinent law enforcement and fire agencies in the area.

Class A structure fire training has been highly active over the past three weeks, focusing on live burn exercises. Each crew has had the opportunity to undergo this training at least once.

Hazmat multi-company drills are scheduled over the next few weeks, allowing crews to receive training in hazmat procedures.

IX. REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL – Cathy Tallerico, Esq.

None.

X. REPORT OF BOARD LIAISON – Secretary Don Sherman

Mr. Don Sherman reported on the June 18, 2024 board meeting. The next board meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2024.

XI. REPORT OF THE UNION – Lieutenant Jon Beattie

The Annual Colorado Professional Fire Fighters conference took place from June 24th to 26th, 2024. The main topics of discussion at the conference were SB24-233 and Proposed Initiative #50.

Front Line Mobile Health has been a valuable addition to the District, providing comprehensive annual physicals, which include ultrasound screenings, cardiovascular assessments, blood work, and more. The process typically takes about three hours to complete. Following the receipt of test results, firefighters meet with a physician assistant for a personalized consultation. Feedback from the firefighters has been overwhelmingly positive.

XII. REPORT OF THE RCS COMMITTEE – Lieutenant Jon Beattie

A comprehensive report on the new hire process for the firefighter academy was presented. Thanks to marketing efforts and work from the Public Information Officer (PIO), the District received 912 applications. From these, 18 recruits have been selected to commence the Fall Academy on August 1, 2024. The District is also actively hiring for the Spring 2025 Academy. As part of the next hiring process, the Physical Agility Testing (PAT) is currently underway and scheduled to conclude on August 13, 2024.

XIII. FINANCIAL REPORT – Division Chief Doug Hutchinson

A. Budget Review

Chief Hutchinson reviewed the 2024 year-to-date budget.

XIV. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2024 Lieutenant Promotional Exam

Analysis review and initial development of exercise assignments are currently in progress. The candidate orientation packet is scheduled to be available on the Resource Hub on July 15, 2024. The application deadline is Wednesday, August 7, 2024, with the written examination scheduled for September 10, 2024.

- B. 2024 3rd Grade Firefighter Promotional Exam (23-02)

The application deadline is fast approaching on Wednesday, August 7, 2024 with the examination scheduled for September 18, 2024.

XVI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Certify the Top Four Names from the Eligibility Register for the Rank of Lieutenant and the Top Six Names from the Eligibility Register for the rank of Engineer

MOTION: It was moved by Leo Johnson and seconded by Danny Turney to certify the top four names from the eligibility register for the rank of Lieutenant, and to certify the top six names from the eligibility register for the rank of Engineer, as amended and stated in the adoption of the agenda. The motion was voted upon and carried.

XVII. OTHER MATTERS

- A. August 20, 2024 Annual Summer Picnic

XVIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to be presented it was moved by Leo Johnson and seconded by Danny Turney to adjourn the regular meeting of the West Metro Fire Protection District Civil Service Committee. The motion was voted upon and carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Recording Secretary: /s/s/ Kara Urland
/s/ Kim Brewer