

WILLIAMS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Special Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2024

Called to order: 10:01am

Roll Call:

Board Members Present

Position 1 – Heather Glass
Position 2 – Brian Barton
Position 3 – Claudia Pratt
Position 4 – Bill Ertel
Position 5 – David Applegate

Williams Staff Present

Interim Fire Chief & Captain – Nicco Holt
Administrative Assistant – Jennifer Vetter
Fire Marshal Jon Scaroni
Firefighter Devin Brennan
Lieutenant Oskar Sundell
Firefighter Heather Sundell
Firefighter Ash Martell
Firefighter KC Welch

Community Members Present:

Belinda Northrup, Community Member, Support Team
Karen Rogers, Community Member, Support Team
Allison Cleveland, Community Member, Support Team
Wilma Hyde, Community Member

Zoom Attendees:

Charles HooperLee, Volunteer Firefighter

Fire Chief Hiring Process:

Board Chair Heather Glass stated that some staff and volunteers have asked to have input in the hiring process and it is important for the board to get the best candidate and make every effort to create a well rounded panel that is unbiased. She believes that the Board would like to hear from all the staff and volunteers.

- A motion to approve the email drafted by Gordon Sletmoe, SDAO Senior Consultant, was made by Claudia Pratt, to send out to volunteers, staff, candidates, and panelists. The motion was seconded by Brian Barton.
 - Heather Glass – Aye
 - Brian Barton – Aye
 - Claudia Pratt – Aye
 - Bill Ertel – Aye
 - David Applegate – Aye

Discussion: None.

- Motion passed unanimously

Other Discussion: Board Chair Heather Glass stated that the emails are due to him by Saturday at 5pm. Board Member Claudia Pratt expressed that she is confused and people want to talk now. Board Chair Heather Glass stated that the people who wish to have input need to follow the rules and submit their input to Gordon. Board Member Bill Ertel confirmed this and continued to explain that this is an opportunity for members to participate in the process where a direct communication can be made to the consultant which is confidential and outside of the Board.

Ash Martell was under the impression that she could come and speak today. Board Member Claudia Pratt stated her level of confusion as she thought that people would come and speak today. Board Member Bill Ertel stated that the process is to alleviate bias. Gordon will share the information with the Board after he compiles the information received. The letter will go to staff, volunteers, candidates, panelists.

Candidates are announced as Jenny Vetter and Nicco Holt.

Board Chair Heather Glass stated that this procedure is not normal, however, she reached out to the consultant for this process. Support Team members are volunteers, although Board Chair Heather Glass will verify indeed that the Support Team volunteers of the fire department members as well. Board Member Claudia Pratt asked for a definition of a stake holder. Wilma Hyde asked if she is considered a stake holder. Board Chair Heather Glass stated that Wilma Hyde is welcome to send a letter.

Board Member Claudia Pratt inquired if the public can watch the process or is it a closed meeting. Board Chair Heather Glass stated that the process is closed to the public. The discussion will be in executive session and the decision will be announced openly at the appropriate time.

Karen Rogers inquired if the list of panelists will be kept private and Board Chair Heather Glass stated yes as to keep people from attempting to influence them, that the panelists are supposed to remain anonymous.

A motion to adjourn was made by Brian Barton was seconded by Bill Ertel.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:17am

Respectfully,

Heather Glass, Board Chair