MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 25, 2026 MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire District No. 2 was held on August 25, 2026, at Headquarters Station 28, commencing at 5:00 p.m., pursuant to proper notice. District officials in attendance, either in person or via Microsoft Teams were Commissioners Chris Elwell, Mike Ziegler and Robert Lawson, Fire Chief Jason Gay, Assistant Chiefs (AC) Wayne Metz, Tim Zimnisky, and Ray Desmarais, Finance Manager Charles Chen, and Acting District Secretary Joseph Quinn, and several others as reflected on the attached attendance roster.

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE.** Chair Elwell called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. **AGENDA APPROVAL.** The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

III. **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A motion was made to authorize Chief Gay to promote Matt Ready to a permanent Captain position. The start date for the position is September 1, 2026 with a probationary period of twelve months. This promotion is from the 2025-2027 Captain Promotion List. The motion carried unanimously.

- A motion was made to authorize Chief Gay to promote Will Spruill to a permanent Battalion Chief position. The start date for the position is September 1, 2026 with a probationary period of twelve months. This promotion is from the 2024-2026 Battalion Chief Promotion List. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. **PRESENTATIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Presentations.
Pinning Ceremonies were held for Matt Ready and Will Spruill, including the Pinning, administration of the Oath by Commissioner Elwell, and a Warrant plaque presented to each officer by Chief Gay. Each of the officers thanked the Board, the Chief, and their families. After these presentations, the meeting was adjourned for 15 minutes, concluding at 5:33 p.m.

Announcements.
When the Board reconvened at 5:33 p.m. the following announcements were made:

- September 15-17: King County Fire Chiefs Association 2026 Leadership Summit at the Suquamish Clearwater Casino Resort;
- October 21-24: WFCA Annual Conference at the Davenport Grand in Spokane;
- December 7-9: Fire Law: Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) for fire departments at the Brightwater Center in Woodinville.

V. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** There was none.

VI. **CORRESPONDENCE.** There was none.

VII. **I.A.F.F. LOCAL 1461 COMMENTS.** There were none.

VIII. **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS.** Chief Gay delivered the chief's report as follows:

OPERATIONAL UPDATE:

Chief Metz said six Captains took the IC Course for acting Battalion Chiefs, through the Training Consortium. There will be a BC test on September 22, 2026. There was a working fire in Normandy Park and Captain Will Spruill and his shift were first in. The fire was started in some whisky casks used as planters and an ash tray. It was smoking on Saturday and by Monday there was a deck fire that was spreading into the attic. It was a good stop. Chief Metz added that we have had 8,051 calls to date, which is about the same as in 2025 to this date. Chief Gay noted that AC Metz has only one more board meeting before his retirement.

FIRE PREVENTION UPDATE:

No report. AC Desmarais will report at a later time.

FACILITIES:

The Station 18 Extractor and dryer have been installed and placed in service already. Station 28 has an HVAC issue dealing with a failed support. Two companies have been contacted to fix the issue, one to disconnect the unit and lift it up for support repair and the second company to repair the support and roof membrane. Total cost: about $26,000 with the work to be completed by mid-September. At Station 29, we have had the parking lot re-striped. We are addressing the need for improvements to the landscaping there too.

EQUIPMENT:

Engine 319 was sent out for a head gasket leak found by the mechanics during routine preventive maintenance work. The cost has been quoted at $38,000 so Chief Gay will be requesting approval to expend up to $40,000 plus Washington State Sales Tax for that.

PERSONNEL:

Probationary Firefighter Rudy Engstrom has completed his probation so a motion is needed to appoint him to a permanent firefighter position. From August 10-19, 2026,

Firefighter Dutton, with the assistance of FF Pruit, conducted a two-week pre-academy for the four recruits currently attending Recruiting Academy RA 23.

From August 11-12, 2026, we conducted interviews for BC and Captain, respectively. Chief Gay commented on the high quality of the candidates for both positions. He said we are fortunate to have hired, and continue to hire, such amazing, intelligent, and capable individuals. Those selected for promotion, such as Will Spruill, just had superior years of experience.

An email was sent out on August 20th, to all personnel, letting them know that if they want to consider a day shift position, the following will be coming available on January 1, 2027: one day Captain FMO, one day Captain for Logistics, one CARES firefighter and one day firefighter for Training, with interviews to be held on September 9, 2026.

EVENTS:

Our department personnel were invited back for the third year to the City of Burien staff appreciation party on August 20th at the Annex Community. Fun was had by all and we appreciated the camaraderie. Saturday, September 12th is our annual Kids Day. Captain Lemanu is doing a great job organizing the event.

OTHER:

The negotiations meeting was cancelled by the Local due to a timing conflict. Negotiations are moving forward, with the next meeting scheduled for August 31st at 1000 hours at Station 28. Also, the District is part of the ongoing negotiations about a potential different medical plan—the IAFF Health & Welfare Trust. The WFCA rates came out; they are increasing premiums by 18.5% for 2027, which follows a 15% increase in 2026, 6.9% in 2025, and 6% in 2024. These rising premiums are significant and impactful.

In keeping with the Strategic Plan, the Anonymous email link and corresponding policy was sent out and is now active.

The Board had no further questions and that concluded the Chief's report.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL.

The commissioners unanimously approved the consent agenda, which includes the following items:

- August 25, 2026 Chief's Report
- Meeting Minutes: Minutes of the August 4, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- Voucher Approval for August 2026:

Expense Fund: Voucher No. 260801001 through 260801081 in the amount of $2,116,370.16, due for payment on August 31, 2026.

X. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.** There was none.

XI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS.** There was none.

XII. **OTHER NEW BUSINESS.**

- It was moved, seconded and carried to appoint Rudy Engstrom to a permanent firefighter position, effective August 12, 2026, as he has completed his twenty-for month probationary period.

- It was moved, seconded and carried to authorize Chief Gay to enter into a contract with Duncan Diesel Services to perform a full motor rebuild of Engine 319, for a total cost not to exceed $40,000 plus Washington State Sales Tax.

XIII. **GOOD OF THE ORDER.** Chief Gay mentioned that AC Wayne Metz is retiring soon. He said he has been blessed to have Chief Metz as an Assistant Chief and informal mentor, especially in his first months as Chief of the Department, when he was learning how to be a Fire Chief. Chief Metz will be sorely missed.

Chief Gay said our usual monthly expenses run between $1.8 million and $2.0 million, but this month's expenses were a bit higher, so he called upon Charles to explain why expenses were higher than normal. Charles Chen explained that renewal insurance costs have been very high, despite significant increases in the deductibles on the vehicles. Our insurance broker is Nicholson & Associates.

It was suggested that the first meeting in September should probably be changed instead of meeting so soon again on September 1st. It was unanimously agreed that the first September meeting will be a special meeting to be held on September 8, 2026. The second meeting will be on September 22, 2026.

XIV. **ADJOURNMENT.** Commissioner Elwell moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:56 pm. Motion carried, 3-0

Minutes Approved: **September 8, 2026**.

Chris Elwell (Sep 9, 2026 19:14:21 PDT)

Chris Elwell
Chairman

Mike Ziegler
Commissioner

Robert Lawson
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Eric Quinn (Sep 9, 2026 10:03:31 PDT)

Eric T. Quinn, District Secretary

ATTACHMENTS:

- Attendance Roster
- Agenda
- Chief's Report
- Call Summary Report

08.25.2026 KCFD2 Meeting Minutes_Need E-Signature

Final Audit Report 2026-09-10

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