

Chiefs Report to the Board of Commissioners

April 27, 2026

Summer Wildland Season

- Staff will undergo ongoing refresher training for wildland firefighting this week. DC Spence and myself are instructing the refresher.
- DC Spence and myself will be the agency coordinators for all wildland response this summer and manage callouts, staffing availability, backfills and act as the agency POC for deployed crews.
- Staff will sign up in one-week increments, starting on June 1st.
- All state mobilization, DNR, BLM or EMAC wildland responses will be approached by ensuring that the home unit is properly staffed prior to committing resources for response.
- To date, we have billed \$203,282 for apparatus and personnel time to the State, and have been reimbursed \$183,466, a difference of \$19,816. We still have \$22,000 of personnel time being processed, which we believe will arrive next month.

Fuel costs for 2026

- The department has calculated, based off 2025 fuel usage in gallons, the impact of increased fuel costs. If prices remain high, the District may be looking at an additional \$22,000 of fuel costs for 2026.
- Staff has been instructed to continue normal emergency operations but consider fuel costs when planning for non-emergent travel.

Collective Bargaining

- Our first collective bargaining session occurred last week, and we will discuss it more in closed session, but I must say that I appreciate the relationship that we have built with labor.

Joint Battalion Program

- This program went live the beginning of this month, and the first joint meeting amongst the participants is tomorrow.
- I believe that the program is working well, but I will reserve feedback until after we have an opportunity to meet with the other half of the participants.
- There have not been any significant incidents since this program has started.

Tender 51

- The new tank that we had installed on Tender 51 has developed a leak and it will be going back to US Fire Equipment for repair next week. The leak is coming from an area that is not easily reached, and we will have a better idea of the repairs needed when the vendor has an opportunity to inspect.

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Upcoming items

- Open House – May 3 – Noon to 2pm.
 - I attended the Sultan Community Alliance meeting to finalize the event and there will be a flyer forthcoming.
- Sno-Isle Meeting – May 7 – 6pm.
 - Please let Commissioner Fox know if you plan on attending
- Sultan Citizen Academy Graduation – May 6 – 6pm
 - Reminder this will be a joint meeting of the City Council, School District and Fire District. Only items are each administrator will give a brief “State of the Agency” presentation.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Johnson
Chief, Snohomish County Fire
District 5



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2026

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at 32905 Cascade View Dr. Station 51 and via Zoom video conferencing. Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Chase, and Commissioner Copple were present. Chief Johnson and District Secretary Kendra Chynoweth were present. Members of staff were in attendance.

Additions to Agenda –

Commissioner Fox added to New Business a discussion about an onsite Helipad

Public Comments – None

Consent Agenda –

Agency Benefits for April 2026 – **\$66,515.78**

A motion to approve **April 2026 Agency Benefits \$66,515.78** was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

Chief's Report – See attached.

Old Business –

Open Issues/Actions –

Records Requests – None

New Business –

Draft Reserve Fund Report – Review / Discuss

Chief Johnson provided 2025 Financial Reserve Report Draft and Resolution 2022-03.

Commissioner Chase noted there was missing data in the draft report. Commissioner Fox said he was happy to see what Chief Johnson has produced so far. The Commissioners will be sending additional notes to Chief Johnson. Further discussion will be held at the May 11, 2026, meeting.

Discussion about an onsite Helipad

Commissioner Fox is interested in acting on behalf of the district to do research creating a helipad location. Commissioner Chase would like to see the project management schematics. A motion to approve Commissioner Fox to do research regarding adding a helipad at Station 51 was made by Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously.

Informational

2nd batch of Vouchers sent Projects Fund - \$77,686.70

2nd batch of Vouchers sent Expense Fund - \$2,408.94

3rd batch of Vouchers sent Expense Fund - \$61,688.90



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

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Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Fox – Good to see everyone, keep doing well.

Commissioner Chase – Thrilled with the asphalt, Thank you!

Adjourn - Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Kendra Chynoweth
District Secretary