

**WESTERN EMERGENCY SERVICE AREA
PO BOX 350
72440 MILO FRITZ AVENUE
ANCHOR POINT, AK 99556-0350
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 13, 2025
18:00 HOURS**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Dawson Slaughter called the meeting to order at 18:00 hours.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Chief, Jon Marsh led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Janet Cully, Seat A; Dawson Slaughter, Seat B; Mark Ball, Seat C; Katherine Covey, Seat D; Janice Nofziger, Seat E

Staff Members Present: Jon Marsh, Chief; Cassie Parkinson, FF Tech/ Acting Secretary; Rob Mathis, Deputy Chief

Absent:

Visitors: Tim Lanz, Lisa James, Olivia Tipikin, Brad Kirby

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Discussion: None.

___K Covey___ / ___J Cully___ moved and seconded to approve the Agenda as written.

__5__ Yes, __0__ No, __0__ Absent Motion Passed

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, Regular Board Meeting, July 9, 2025.

Discussion: None.

___K Covey___ / ___M Ball___ moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2025 Regular Board Meeting as written.

__5__ Yes, __0__ No, __0__ Absent Motion Passed

PUBLIC COMMENTS UPON MATTERS ALREADY ON THE AGENDA

Comments:

None at this time.

REPORTS

A. Chief's Report ~ Jon Marsh, Chief:

Key Points: Firefighter 2 class is completed, everyone passed. EMT 1 class is still continuing through September. FADO class has been postponed. Alaska State Fire Conference is scheduled for September 29 – October 3 in Sitka. Currently Mark Ball and Deputy Chief Mathis will be attending.

The previous 12 months' EMS billing collection rate through June 2025 is 72%. \$429,680.26 total charges for the year. \$232,790.21 in payments, with pending charges of \$105,617.12.

2025 Calls for Assistance: 470 YTD, with 84 calls since last meeting.

B. Deputy Chief's Report ~ Grants:
Nothing at this time.

C. WES Recruitment and Retention Committee Report ~Janet Cully:
Discussion about the previously reviewed surveys. There is a cost associated with utilizing online survey providers. What is the best way to send out? Electronic or the old fashion way (in the mail)? The old fashion way is cheaper and probably best.
Board Chairman, Dawson Slaughter asked if there was a full committee formed yet? Currently the committee is in the process of forming, and the members are Janet Cully, Mark Ball, Tim Lanz, Jon Crocker, Diana Shand and Brian Cully.
Board Member, Katherine Covey asked if there was anyone from Ninilchik involved in the committee. Janet asked if Katherine could get her contacts for Ninilchik residents who would be interested.
The committee should have the PSA's out by the end of the month.
Board members asked when the committee was having a meeting. The committee has not had its first meeting yet. They are working on getting that date set.
Board Member, Janice Nofziger asked who she should refer community members showing interest in volunteering or being involved? Janet Cully asked for the names and contact info for those community members.

PENDING BUSINESS & FOLLOW-UP FROM LAST MEETING

A. No Pending Business.

NEW BUSINESS

A. No New Business.

INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL

Expense report
Chief's Report

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Olivia Tipikin: We are here from Nikoleavsk. We know the Station in Nikolaevsk is not being manned, and we were told there would be crucial decisions made concerning the Station at this meeting tonight.

Lisa James: concerned because her son has epilepsy. She spurred action to get road access across from the fire station for emergency vehicles. Show support for the Fire Department.

Janet Cully asked if the ladies had names and contact information for residents of the village who would like to volunteer or participate in the Fire Department.

It was noted that in the past there was support for the Nikolaevsk Fire Station, but there has not been continued support over the years. Are there people willing to step up and support now? There are currently a lot of questions concerning volunteering with the Department.

Brad Kirby: What is needed to man the Station in Nikolaevsk? Do we need fully certified individuals? Are we looking for on call or staffing?

Chief Marsh explained it would not be staffed with 56 Hr Firefighters, we need volunteers in order to man that Station. The volunteers need to be fully qualified, as in trained, certified and able to serve independently. It takes time to get volunteers and time to get them adequately trained.

There was talk of recruitment issues. Talk of the small population in the Nikolaevsk area.

Lisa James asked what the minimum number of volunteers would be needed in order to get Emergency vehicles out of the Nikolaevsk Station.

Chief answered that the bare minimum would be 2. Realistically, more would be needed, so there was a bit of a rotation.

Katherine Covey stated that interested persons need to come in, sign up to volunteer and start training classes to get the ball rolling.

There was more discussion of what the requirements and commitments for volunteering with Emergency Services are for our area.

There was talk of response times to areas within the Service Area. The size of our service area. There were questions on how long EMT and Firefighter classes are. It was noted that volunteering is a big commitment with no monetary incentive.

Board Member, Janet Cully asked about the Nikolaevsk Community Meeting and when it would be held.

BOARD COMMENTS

Seat A; Janet Cully: No comments.

Seat B; Chair, Dawson Slaughter: No comments

Seat C; Vice Chair, Mark Ball: No comments

Seat D; Katherine Covey: No comments.

Seat E; Janice Nofziger: Commented about Emergency Accessibility. During Salmon Fest, roads and driveways were blocked, limiting Emergency Access. Is there something that can be done about this?

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Discussion: The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for September 10, 2025. At this point, there is no need to hold the September meeting due to no new business needing conducted.

Chairman, Dawson Slaughter cancelled the September meeting. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held October 8, 2025 at Station 3 in Anchor Point.

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 will be the next regularly scheduled meeting.

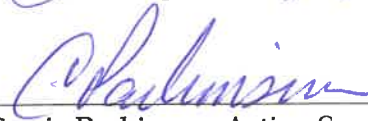
ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair, Dawson Slaughter adjourned the meeting at 18:24.


Dawson Slaughter, Board Chair

10/08/2025

Date Approved


Cassie Parkinson, Acting Secretary, WES Board

10/08/2025

Date Approved