



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Four Cities User Board
Meeting Minutes
July 26, 2023 – 4:30 pm
Zoom Meeting

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. and ended at 5:45 p.m.

Members Present:

Philip Morley	Fairview City Manager
Steven Marker	Fairview City Councilor
Greg Dirks	Wood Village City Manager
Bruce Nissen	Wood Village Representative
Ray Young	Troutdale City Manager
Glenn White	Troutdale City Councilor

Others Present:

Scott Lewis	Fire Chief
Jeff Hairston	Assistant Fire Chief
Katie Lowell	Recording Secretary

Agenda Items:

- Review New Quarterly Response Reports
- Safety Levy Update
- Council Direction for a Fire District Feasibility Study
- AMR Contract/Response Issues
- Academy 23-01, 23-02 Update
- Good of the Order

Quarterly Reports: Reports for all cities were emailed and reviewed by each member of the board. The new reports do not contain exact addresses for privacy reasons. Medical call addresses are not released to the public. Chief Hairston will inquire with Legal as to what additional data can be released to the three cities, regarding addresses that make frequent calls to 911. The board would also like to see the historic call volume chart added back into the report, to show the trend line including the City of Gresham.

Safety Levy Update: The Gresham Safety Levy did not pass in the May 16 special election, failing by 400 votes. Gresham City Council met June 6 to discuss next steps and how to disperse the remaining ARPA funds and the continuation of the Police, Fire and Parks fee. The levy will likely be placed on the May 2024 Ballot. City leadership from the three cities have concerns that a levy would provide funds for a short time but due to Measures 5 and 50 there may be issues later on.

Council Direction for Future District Feasibility Study: Gresham City Council has given direction to Gresham City Leadership to move forward with a District Feasibility Study. The study will research districts and how this transition could benefit the City of Gresham as a whole. City leadership will begin the process to find a consulting firm. This would be approximately a one-year study. The three cities would like to be involved in the discussion; Chief Lewis advised City Managers reach out to City Manager Vetter regarding this request. Gresham is not currently focusing on a fire district. If the other cities would like to explore the possibility of a fire district, they would need to conduct their own study and meet with District 10 to explore the option of annexation.

AMR Contract/Response Issues: AMR continues to have delayed arrival times due to staffing constraints. The County holds the contract and requires each ambulance to have two ALS responders and will now allow a BLS unit to respond if a paramedic has evaluated the patient and determined only transport is needed. Mayor Stovall sent a letter, with Chief Lewis' and Chief Gullberg's concerns. Union President Larson has also met with the County Chair regarding these same concerns with no solution presented. AMR presented the option to have Gresham Fire use an AMR ambulance for transporting using Gresham paramedics. This would not be a feasible option due to staffing constraints and not being financially beneficial for the department.

Academy 23-01, 23-02 Update: Class 23-01 graduated six firefighters in June who are now on the line working through the remainder of their probation. A recruit class of 6 will start in September and graduate in December with 4 funded by ARPA funds.

Good of the Order:

The tiller truck was delivered, and staff will be training for a few months prior to the official rollout.

City Manager Dirks thanked the Fire Department for their participation in the Wood Village Night Out event.

Next Meeting:
October 25, 2023