



DRAFT

MINUTES

Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners

Emergency Meeting – August 16, 2024, 3:52 p.m.

Jefferson County Courthouse – Commissioners' Chambers

1820 Jefferson Street, Port Townsend, WA (Hybrid)

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Kate Dean, Commissioner Heidi Eisenhour and Commissioner Greg Brotherton participated in the meeting. Chair Dean called the Emergency Meeting to order. Also present was Emergency Management Director Willie Bence.

DUCKABUSH FIRE UPDATE (Now known as the Road 2620 Fire): Emergency Management Director Willie Bence provided an update to the fire and stated that he is requesting a Declaration of Emergency for the Road 2620 Fire, as it is now 445 acres and continuing to grow. A Type 3 Incident Management Team has come over to take control of the incident, and they are in need of a larger facility. He added that Mason County is able to provide the facility, to help plan and respond, but to help further facilitate, he is requesting the emergency declaration. This fire is expected to extend for the next several days, if not weeks.

Commissioner Brotherton noted that he has been to the area, and that there currently is around 175 firefighters, and there are those fighting the fire from the air. He asked that there be a single messaging point, controlled by the Department of Emergency Management. Director Bence noted that the Brinnon Fire Department page has been providing updates on the fire.

The Commissioners discussed ways the community can help, which includes reaching out to Center Valley Animal Rescue if you're able to help transport animals, donating funds to support the Halfway House Restaurant, who have been closing down their restaurant to provide meals to the firefighters, and by visiting the BrinnonFire.org website.

Director Bence noted that Chief Manly has plans to attend the Commissioner meeting virtually on Monday, August 19, 2024 to provide an update. He suggested that staff also invite Quilcene Fire Chief Tim McKern.

Commissioner Brotherton moved to approve **RESOLUTION NO. 45-0816-24R** re: Declaration of Emergency Road 2620 Fire. Commissioner Eisenhour seconded the motion. Chair Dean called for public comments, and no comments were received. She called for a vote on the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

NOTICE OF ADJOURNMENT: Chair Dean adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m. until the next regular meeting or special meeting as properly noticed.

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

Kate Dean, Chair

ATTEST:

Greg Brotherton, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC
Clerk of the Board

Heidi Eisenhour, Member