



MONROE FIRE DISTRICT #3

163 Village Court • Monroe, WA 98272

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Friday, January 15, 2010
CONTACT: Richelle Risdon, Public Education & Information Officer
PHONE: 360.805.0338
EMAIL: risdon@monroefire.org

Monroe Fire District #3 Welcomes Jeff Frye, Fire Commissioner



Jeff Frye sworn in as Fire Commissioner

Pictured left to right: MFD #3 Fire Commissioner Bill Snyder, MFD #3 Fire Chief Jamie Silva, MFD #3 Fire Commissioner Jeff Frye.

Monroe, WA—On January 11, 2010, Bill Snyder was sworn in to his newly elected six-year term as a MFD #3 Fire Commissioner, while Jeff Frye was sworn in to fill a vacant Fire Commissioner seat. MFD #3 employees congratulate Bill and thank him for his continued service, and also welcome Jeff as he fills the vacant position left by the recent passing of Mark Mechling.

Jeff and his wife have lived in Monroe for 16 years and have three children who are all involved in local sports. Jeff has been active in the community for the past 10 years, serving on the City of Monroe Park Board, the Monroe City Council, and the City of Monroe Planning Commission. He had also previously served as a Fire Commissioner for MFD #3. When Jeff saw that the position of fire commissioner had become available, he was "excited for the opportunity to serve the fire district citizens once again."

Change often occurs when we least expect it. Late last year, one of those changes happened when Fire Commissioner Mark Mechling resigned due to health concerns. It was known that Mark had been battling cancer, but his sudden resignation and subsequent passing were still quite a shock. Mark served on the Fire Department's Joint Operating Board during his tenure on the Monroe City Council. After the city was incorporated into the Fire District and the Board of Commissioners was increased to five, Mark was appointed to one of the new positions. With his sense of humor and common sense on how to get things done, Mark not only made board operation pleasant, but also fun. According to others who served on the board with Mark, "he was just a great guy to work with and will be missed."

Mark's passing left a vacancy that the Board of Commissioners had to fill. A total of four candidates applied for the position. All were well qualified, making the Commissioners' choice difficult. They ultimately selected Jeff Frye because of his prior service, understanding of the role of Fire Commissioner, and ability to fully engage with the task of governance right away. Welcome aboard Jeff!