



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2021

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom video conferencing. Commissioner Copple, Chief Halverson, Deputy Chief Fulcher and District Secretary, Cathy Barth, were present. Members of the public were in attendance. Commissioner Geiger was excused.

Additions to Agenda – No additions

Public Comments – David Hose presented the Commissioners with an idea for a moveable canvas painting at the new fire station. Commissioner Fox suggested it be discussed further under New Business.

Consent Items – None

Chief's Report – See Attached.

Secretary's Report – None

Old Business – None

New Business –

Painting for New Station – Commissioner Fox commented that he thought this was a wonderful idea. Commissioner Copple stated that he felt the same and would support it. Commissioner Fox asked Chief Halverson to bring the Board a proposal.

Assistant Chief Process – Commissioner Fox commented that the hiring process will be determined once Strategic Government Resource (SGR) provides a list of applicants. How we proceed with the interviews and the hiring process will be dependent on advice from SGR. Commissioner Copple remarked that SGR are the professionals the District has contracted with for this recruitment. They know more about the process than we do. He sees no need to become more involved at this time. He suggested that the Board let SGR provide us with the process once the candidates list is assembled. Commissioner Fox agreed and suggested this can be discussed further when Commissioner Geiger is present.

Executive Session-

A motion to recess to Executive Session until 7:35 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 (d) for the purpose of discussing the Settlement Agreement and Release with Trico was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously at 7:20 p.m. Commissioners Fox, Commissioner Copple, and Chief Halverson were in attendance. The Executive Session adjourned at 7:35 p.m. with the regular meeting reconvening.

Regular meeting resumed -

A motion to delegate to the Chief authority to sign a Settlement Agreement and Release with Trico, provided that the Agreement has the support of Attorney Yallowitz and Lawhead Architects, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously.

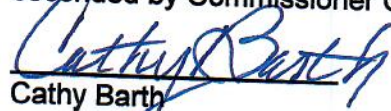
Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Fox thanked the crews and staff for their hard work. Commissioner Fox commented that he was looking forward to the station being finished.



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Adjourn - Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:37p.m.


Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to Board of Commissioners

August 23, 2021

Station Construction

- Lawhead Architects issued Trico a Certificate of Substantial Completion as of August 11th.
- We are moving some items into the building attempting to stay out of the way so the pickup list can be completed efficiently.
- I have requested an Executive Session with the Board tonight to discuss a final settlement agreement with Trico.

HB 1310

- As expected we have inherited many of the problems that were once handled by Law Enforcement.
- To date we have not experienced reluctance from Law Enforcement to respond when we need backup or assistance.
- The difference is that we now go first on many calls on which LE historically took the lead.

Vandalism to A51

- Recently a local transient with known mental health problems has been harassing fire units as they pass.
- I have suggested to the Police Chief that he and I meet with this individual and see if we can understand and resolve his angst with the fire service. We have yet to make that contact.
- Last week he threw a rock at A51 as they were responding to a 911 call breaking the windshield.
- He has been arrested and will likely be sent to a mental health facility for treatment.
- I will stay in touch with the Chief Martin and monitor the situation.

Covid

- Fire organizations are all back to mandatory masking while in quarters or riding in District owned apparatus.
- Vaccinations are now a requirement for anyone licensed through the DOH.
- All EMTs are credentialed through DOH and therefore must be vaccinated to practice.
- Some serving the District are reluctant to be vaccinated.
- There are some very narrow reasons why an EMT would be allowed to treat patients without a vaccination.

- The District is responsible for insuring all, except those meeting the exemption threshold, are vaccinated before doing EMS work.
- We have one employee Covid positive. He is doing well and should be back to work next week.
- It appears there is a need for a booster shot at 8 months. The details of who, how and when are still being worked out.

Brush Fires

- There have been several brush fires in Snohomish County through the summer.
- To date all have remained small without life or property loss.
- In Western Washington nearly all wildland or brush fires are human caused.
- Our wildland fire last night was on our Eastern border with District 26 technically in DNR land and not within a Fire District. It was stopped at less than 1 acre but did manage to get into the tree tops making it difficult to manage.
- The fire started in a transient camp. It is unknown if the fire was accidental or intentional.

Illegal Fires

- Even though we are in a stage 2 burn ban we continue to respond to large controlled burns.
- Illegal burns are historically the leading cause of our brush or wildland fires.

Asst. Chief Recruitment

- Recruitment is going well and will remain open until September 12th.
- We presently have 7 applicants.
- The expectation is to receive between 14 and 30 applications.
- I have spoken with two potential applicants who are investigating the District, both are from out of State.
- SGR believes we have a lot to offer and will receive quality applicants.