



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 12, 2020

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

Additions to Agenda – None

Public/Staff Comments – No comments.

Consent Items –

A motion to approve the Minutes of September 14, 2020, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Cople, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the Minutes of September 28, 2020, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the payroll in the amount of \$121,954.72 was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Cople, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the following voucher/warrants for payment: Voucher numbers: 0524 through 0563 and totaling \$36,528.72 as verified by the District Secretary was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the following Safety Center vouchers for payment: Voucher numbers: 1018 through 1022 and totaling \$594,139.57 as verified by the District Secretary was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Cople, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Fox under the emergency order restricting public meetings and District 5 Resolutions 2020-01 and 2020-02, authorized Chief Halverson to sign to the Payroll, Vouchers and Safety Center vouchers for this month.

Chief's Report – See attached.

Secretary's Report –

District Secretary Cathy Barth, extended an invitation to the Commissioners from the Auditor to attend the Entrance conference. The Commissioners agreed that Commissioner Fox attend as the Board representative.

Old Business –

Open Issues and Actions – No new business.

ALS Services - Commissioner Geiger inquired if the Chief was pursuing information from other ALS programs in other Districts such as Darrington. Commissioner Geiger suggested we get some specifics on their program. Chief Halverson replied that the Darrington system mirrors Gold Bar's, while District 17 is hiring full time paramedics which is what he plans on suggesting we do. Commissioner Fox asked if we have a general idea of costs associated with a paramedic program. Chief replied yes we have some idea but need more information from Attorney Snure and neighboring Districts before proceeding.



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New Business –

Sno-Isle Meeting - Chief Halverson reported that he attended the recent Sno-Isle meeting. The topic presented by the Snohomish County Assessor and Treasurer was the effect of Covid on the receipt of property taxes.

Executive Session – No meeting needed.

Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Fox commented again, that he is pleased with the Station Progress and again thanked staff for their handling of the calls during this difficult time.

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 7:21p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to Board of Commissioners

October 12, 2020

COVID-19

With my encouragement the Washington State Council of Firefighters (WSCFF) and the Snohomish County Fire Chiefs Association (SCFCA) have delivered a joint message to area firefighters encouraging the continued adherence to Covid prevention guidelines while on and off duty. The communication also encourages getting the seasonal flu vaccination. It is important that we do not become complacent this fall and into winter. There should be no relaxing of precautions until a treatment and/or vaccine is approved and available.

The latest information available in Snohomish County is that we are just under 50 new Covid cases per 100,000 residents, the objective is to get below 25 new cases per 100,000 but we are going the wrong way. We have approximately a 5% positive rate on Covid tests (25% Idaho/1.2% New York), and a death rate of 2.9%.

Providence Hospital Covid admittances tipped by the first of October. They are seeing an increase of patients suffering falls, general weakness, dizziness and syncope. This aligns with County EMS data which triggered alerts for calls from falls and weakness at two times (2X) standard deviation. We are clearly going to have a Fall/Winter surge the question remaining is how bad it will be and that answer is largely dependent on how well the public cooperates.

We are keeping crews aware, managing PPE stores and arranging for flu shots for those personnel who will take them.

Station Construction

We remain on schedule for substantial completion in early May. Trusses and sheathing have been going up for the past couple weeks. Roofing is scheduled for completion by the end of this month and building dry-in by the first week in November. Most of the civil work is complete or near completion. The weather will become a factor in scheduling the remaining concrete, pavement and exterior painting. The base for the bay aprons is laid which will be formed and reinforced so that a pour can be scheduled when clear weather is forecast.

The RFP for the low voltage functions within the new building that DC Fulcher has been managing closed on October 8th. Those systems include Locution, security cameras, dam sirens, phones, audio visual, ethernet, and other functions brought into the building over the internet. We received two proposals only one of which we are confident is a responsive bid. We will meeting with Attorney Brian Snure tomorrow to discuss how to proceed.

DC Fulcher and I have been working with the Architects and Engineers to determine if there are proven HVAC integrated technologies available, for scrubbing air and surfaces to neutralize Covid and other pathogens. We know a great deal of effort has gone into this issue for industry; airlines for example. We are interested in UVC, electronic filtering, bipolar ionization and HEPA filtering to mention a few. There are also some systems independent of the HVAC we may consider.

Display SR2

The display on SR2 honoring Law Enforcement, Search and Rescue and the Fire Service was produced by Robin Fox and an organized group of Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts in the Valley. It is very thoughtful and kind. DC Fulcher called MS Fox and thanked her and her team on behalf of Fire District #5.