



## Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

*January 25, 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 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** – Chief Halverson asked that an Executive Board meeting be added to discuss a contract addendum and a personnel evaluation.

**Public Comments** – Ms. Chase commented that Sky Valley Fire had posted a letter and a notification of an upcoming transportation hearing being held at the County regarding Highway Two. She made a suggestion that District 5 Fire Commissioners send a letter of support since District 5 utilizes the Sky Valley Fire Medic services. The Chief and Commissioners will view the posted letter. Chief Halverson will contact Representative Eslick to see if they are soliciting letters regarding Highway Two traffic issues.

**Consent Items** – None

**Chief's Report** – See Attached

Commissioner Geiger asked Chief Halverson if the electrical panel that was delayed in arriving to the new station construction site; as he stated in his last Chief's report, was still delayed. Chief Halverson replied that he was not sure but he had not been updated on the delay.

**Secretary's Report** – None

**Old Business** – Commissioner Fox inquired if the Chief was making any progress finding out about other District's Medic programs. Chief Halverson replied that he had made contact with other District's and will continue to research Medic programs.

**New Business** – No new business to report

**Executive Session** -

A motion to recess to Executive Session until 7:40 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 for the purpose of discussing an addendum to a contract and a personnel evaluation was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously at 7:19 p.m. Commissioners Fox, Copple, Geiger, Chief Halverson and Deputy Chief Fulcher and District Secretary, Cathy Barth, were excused at that time.

The Executive Session adjourned at 7:38p.m. and the Board returned to regular business at 7:40 p.m.

**Regular Meeting** –

A motion to approve [the addendum to Deputy Chief Clarks Contract](#) was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

**Commissioner Comments** – Commissioner Fox thanked the staff for all of their hard work. Commissioner Geiger thanked Ms. Chase for the information and input.



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**Adjourn** - Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:41p.m.

  
Cathy Barth  
District Secretary



# Chiefs Report to Board of Commissioners

January 25, 2021

## **Radios**

The delivery of portable radios to District #5 will be in early March rather than January as predicted. I am attempting to verify with SNOCO 911 that they will provide the base radios for our new station and the radio belonging to the City of Sultan that controls the dam warning sirens. The issue of how new station equipment will be handled has apparently not been previously discussed. I'm concerned that because the City has no law enforcement or fire service within city government, and have little direct knowledge of the emergency radio system, the dam radio may have been overlooked.

## **Station Construction**

We appear to be on schedule for completion the first of May with the possible exception of exterior paint. There are some very strict guidelines for the paint which may require waiting for the weather to change. Bay door deliveries were delayed and are now expected to arrive this week. Trim material holding up the completion of the exterior siding is also expected this week. Presently most work is inside the building. Sheetrock is being hung on the walls as overhead work on HVAC, low voltage and other building systems continue. Most delays with weather and supply issues are being worked around and are more hurdles than obstacles.

## **COVID-19**

The fire service in Snohomish County through the ECC continues to collaborate with health care agencies and organizations in Snohomish County to operationalize a mass vaccination effort. Drive through sites have been operating as vaccine becomes available at the Evergreen Fairgrounds and Paine Field Airport. Planning is well advanced to provide drive through sites at Edmonds CC, Arlington Airport and Boom City as soon as large volumes of vaccine are made available. Indoor sites at Angel of the Winds and a Boeing facility are also in the planning stages. The Fire Service will be a major player in many of these operations particularly the drive through sites. It is expected that the Everett Clinic, Swedish Hospitals and other Healthcare organizations will continue their efforts as well.

To date 25,000 vaccinations have been delivered in the County and 40,000 allocated. With the release of the vaccines being held back for second shots we will deplete our allocation by the end of next week. We do not know what the strategy is for those who need the second shot when the supply is gone.

We continue to purchase PPE on a regional basis through the County and are keeping pace with the need.

Hospitalizations and new Covid positives have leveled off in Washington and generally throughout the nation. So far there is no noticeable decline but clearly not the daily increases of the recent past. There is optimism that the spread of the virus could begin to decline but concern over the new variants, many of which are much more virulent than the original virus. These could lead to new spikes in the near future unless we get a strong vaccination effort underway.

#### **John P Cummings and wife Carol**

You have been provided a copy of a letter from Mr. Cummings. John spent his working life in Law Enforcement first as a Marine Corp MP, then as a City Police Officer and finally spending 22 plus years as a Snohomish County Sheriff.

Mr. Cummings and his wife have lived for many years in Sultan, and had to use our service on several occasions because of Carol's poor health. John came to my office twice since our last response to his home to thank me and our organization for the wonderful empathetic care we provide to his wife Carol. John told me that he had heard people say that bigger organizations provide better service, but he couldn't imagine how Carol could have received better more compassionate care from any organization than provided by District #5.

#### **Vaccinations**

We had 23 individuals express interest in getting the vaccination. We continue to inform our personnel when and where vaccinations are available. We ask them to act quickly because supplies are very short. We request that once vaccinated the District is made aware. We have had moderate success. To date we have been notified of 14 vaccinations. It is likely there are more that we are unaware of, in part because some individuals will arrange their vaccination through a different agency or employer. We will continue to encourage vaccinations as vaccine becomes available and gather data as we can.

#### **News Letter**

DC Fulcher and I plan on producing a newsletter in February. Any thoughts on subject matter are welcome.