



## Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

*January 27, 2020*

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at Station 51. 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 - None**

**Public Comments – None**

**Consent Items – None**

**Chief's Report – See Attached**

Commissioner Geiger asked Chief Halverson if steps or precautions for our employees had been made if they are dispatched to a Novel Coronavirus patient. Chief Halverson responded crews are advised to wear N95 masks and gloves and to ask appropriate questions such as; patient travel to China or association with people who have traveled to China in the last 14 days. SNOCOM 911 dispatchers are assisting in determining if the patient may have the virus by asking appropriate questions and informing responding crews prior to reaching the scene. There has been no special equipment purchased at this time; the District retains a cache of equipment.

Commissioner Geiger asked if it was mandatory reporting to CPS regarding the anonymous call the Chief received about the circumstances surrounding the house fire. The Chief responded, because the information was not directly observed by our firefighters or himself but was received in a phone conversation it probably would not rise to mandatory reporting. However, Chief Halverson felt it was important to follow up with CPS and Law Enforcement regarding the information he received. Commissioner Fox stated that Chief Halverson did his due diligence following up with officials.

**Secretary's Report – None**

**Old Business – None**

**New Business –**

**PO#2019-2356 – Sea Western -** A motion to approve the purchase of **Bunker Gear** was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously.

**Executive Session -**

A motion to recess to Executive Session until 8:00 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 for the purpose of discussing performance review and to review negotiations regarding the ALS contract was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously at 7:26 p.m. District Secretary, Cathy Barth, was excused at that time.

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m. No actions were taken.

The **Regular Meeting** resumed at 8:01 p.m.



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### **Regular Meeting - Continued**

Chief Halverson requested approval of a three year contract for Deputy Chief Fulcher based on his exemplary performance. Commissioner Geiger commented that this contract was reviewed by legal counsel and that the Board had been provided a draft job description, a list of duties presently performed by the Deputy Chief and a performance review by the Chief. Therefore, Commissioner Geiger felt the Board had performed their due diligence regarding this position.

A motion to approve the [Employment Agreement for Deputy Chief Fulcher](#) was made by Commissioner Cople, seconded by Commissioner Fox, and passed unanimously.

### **Commissioner Comments – None**

**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 8:05 p.m.

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Cathy Barth  
District Secretary

# Chiefs Report to Board of Commissioners

January 27, 2019

## **Station Construction**

Although the building permit process is completed the civil groundwork process is not complete. This is partially due to a communication disconnect between the Cities review and the District's Civil Engineers. The communication was diverted into the City's Junk mail. The problem wasn't found until we questioned why things weren't moving forward. The bid documents are with the Attorney Brian Snure for review and comment and will be complete by the end of this week. It now appears the bid process will be delayed until February.

## **ALS Agreement**

I met with District 7 Chief O'Brian on January 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss a process forward. We had general discussions on the provision of EMS in the area including the considering District 5 establishing a stand-alone program. I will meet with Chief O'Brian and his staff again on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Border Clarification**

Nothing new to report on the Border Clarification Issue. With the reorganization following the absorption of District #8 by District #7 this issue seems to have been set aside.

## **House Fire**

We have continued to have inquiries about the 31720 Dotson Rd. fire. On Monday January 20<sup>th</sup> I received a call from a person wishing to remain anonymous. The person was tearful and very distressed by the death of the child in that fire. In the process of the conversation concern was expressed about the care of the children residing at that address including that this individual had given the adult victims smoke detectors and a CO detector and yet there were no detectors in the residence. I was told that complaints had been left with Child Protective Services in the past but that nothing had been done. This individual expressed concern for the child remaining in the household. On January 23<sup>rd</sup> I contacted CPS and SCSO and relayed to them what information I had been given.

## **Novel Corona Virus – First case in Snohomish County Transported by D7**

A meeting was called by Doctor Cooper (Snohomish County EMS) to discuss the systems response to the Corona Virus should it become a pandemic. Representatives from the Fire Service, Hospitals, Private Ambulances, Snohomish County Health District, Washington State Department of Health and others were in attendance. Two subcommittees are being organized through SNOCOM one to develop a communications plan and the other an alternate destination plan in the event systems become overrun. I will serve on the communications committee.

Initially there was caution but little concern, as the days go by the system is becoming more concerned and less certain about how extreme control measures need to be.

So far this is what we know or at least think we know.

- Fatality rate 3%
- Critical 10%
- R naught 2.5 to 3.8
- It is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation Novel Virus with no human immunity
- No symptoms for 5 days then get progressively worse over the next 4 days
- 14 day incubation period

#### Potential Points of Concern

- It has been reported by the Chinese that contagion begins before symptoms appear
- Spanish Flu of 1918 killed between 20 and 40 million people R 1.4 – 2.8
- SARS Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome R3
- There are cases in 4 of 7 continents
- China is building a 10,000 bed hospital in two weeks
- Unchecked 16 million critical and 2/3 million dead
- Our system of tracking potential patients will not contain this if it gets a foothold
- This issue is largely dependent on whether or not contagion starts after symptoms
- Vaccines are at least one year from development

#### **Swedish Labor Strike**

Swedish hospital nurses and other specialties are expected to begin a work stoppage on Tuesday morning. Daily briefings are being provided by Swedish Administration. Presently the only facility directly affected in Snohomish County is Swedish Edmonds. The strike could spread to other facilities if not settled quickly. Impact on District #5 is expected to be increased work load on other hospitals potentially increasing wall time.