



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

May 11, 2020

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 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 – None

Public/Staff Comments –Deborah Chase extended her thanks to the District for setting up the Zoom meetings which allows members of the public to attend.

She expressed her disappointment that information was not more forthcoming to the residents regarding the pandemic and the District's response to it. She stated that she had heard that City officials were provided some details at a March 16th briefing by the Chief. But general information was not provided to residents of the District.

She also expressed her dissatisfaction that a newsletter for the first quarter had not yet been produced and asked that one be sent out as soon as possible. She expressed that many things in the Chief's reports would be of value and could be shared with the public in a newsletter as well as on Facebook.

Chief Halverson responded that initially he had a strong desire to communicate with our constituents and had planned to do so early on. There was great concern on the part of the Joint Information Center, (JIC) that all information delivered to the public come through that group, and that individual organizations not independently message the public. This was due in part to the conflicting information that was coming from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

Given our cooperation with the Emergency Communications Center (ECC), my efforts were directed at encouraging fire based messaging through the JIC. This resulted in one major production that included most of the Fire Chiefs in the Snohomish County traveling to OSO for a "we're in this together" message and a second production a few weeks later the subject of which I don't recall.

Fire Districts continue working closely with Snohomish County as prescribed in the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Emergency (CEMP). The Department of Emergency Management began operation of the Emergency Communications Center (ECC) several weeks ago. The Fire service functions through Emergency Support Functions 4 (ESF4). Part of the CEMP/ECC is a Joint Information Center (JIC). The JIC coordinated with the Governor's Office, Washington Department of Health, the Snohomish County Health Department and Snohomish County EMS.

The Chief agreed with Ms. Chase that there is information that he can share with the public. He suggested that if Ms. Chase had anything specific in mind that she thought would be of value to the residents in the Fire District, that she email him with the information.



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Consent Items –

A motion to approve the Minutes of April 13, 2020, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the Minutes of April 27, 2020, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the payroll in the amount of \$111,798.70 was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously. Commissioner Geiger asked that the Chief provide a report at the next Board meeting as to the reasons for what appeared to be a smaller number of part time employees on payroll.

A motion to approve the following voucher/warrants for payment: Voucher numbers: 254 through 306 and totaling \$293,545.14 as verified by the District Secretary was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Copple, 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 the payroll and vouchers for this month.

Chief's Report – See attached

Commissioner Fox reported that he recently saw an announcement that PPE made in China did not meet FDA standards. He asked the Chief if there was any way to determine if PPE that the District purchases meets FDA standards? Chief Halverson replied that he does not know but will discuss this in one of the Emergency Support meetings.

Commissioner Geiger inquired as to the timeline for the new website becoming functional. Chief Halverson replied that we are currently working at producing content for the website and the Contractor is actively working on it.

Commissioner Geiger asked the Chief if the employee that was in quarantine was back to work. The Chief replied that he was back at work and did not have Covid 19 and at this point no other employees have contracted the virus.

Commissioner Geiger commented that he would like to see us get ahead of the contract negotiations due to expire at the end of this year. He would like to see work on the contracts begin prior to year-end. Two contracts will require negotiations the ALS District 7 and IAFF Local 2781. Chief replied that a formal request to bargain has not been received from the local. There has been no further progress on the ALS Sky Valley Fire agreement at this time. Fire District 7 would like a regional ALS system next year. The Chief is not certain where this stands at the moment he will contact Chief O'Brian to discuss the matter.

Commissioner Geiger inquired as to whether or not there was an agreement in place with Snohomish County Waste Management with regard to the use of our property for their dump truck crossing.



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Chief's Report – *continued*

Chief Halverson stated that there is no formal agreement in place with the County. To date they have been very responsive in making road reparations when necessary or requested to do so.

Secretary's Report – No report

Old Business – Commissioner Fox asked that the ALS contract with District 7 be closed as well as the following two issues on the Open Issues and Actions list. Commissioner Geiger asked that an ALS contract District 7 and Sky Valley Fire contract be added to open issues with today's date.

New Business –

PO#2020 – 2462 A motion to approve [PO#2020-2462 Headsets for A51a](#) was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, 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 purchase order 2020-2462.

PO#2020 – 2463 A motion to approve [PO#2020-2463 Internet security 3 year subscription](#) was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously. Chief added that internet security is an auditor requirement and will be needed at the new station and will be moved over once we are occupying the building. Commissioner Fox under the emergency order restricting public meetings and District 5 Resolutions 2020-01 and 2020-02, authorized Chief Halverson to sign purchase order 2020-2463.

Commissioner Comments – Commissioner Fox thanked staff for continuing to meet needs of the Valley.

Commissioner Geiger thanked everybody for their hard work. He shares Ms. Chase's concerns about the newsletter and would like to see that go out as soon as possible. There is plenty of valuable information to share. A new web site will be helpful in getting information out as well.

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 7:46 p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to Board of Commissioners

May 11, 2020

Station Construction

With the help of Attorney Brian Snure we were successful in the Bid Protest defense and have a signed agreement with Trico Construction. We are in the process of working with Attorney Ken Yallowitz to get all pre-start documents in order. These include a Retainage Bond, Performance Bond, and Insurance Certificates. There will also be a Covid-19 plan required which we will review with Trico on Wednesday.

Pre-construction meetings are being arranged with the City to acquire permits not included in the general building permit and to make certain the contractor is aware of regulations that may be specific to Sultan.

We are completing our work on Builders Risk Insurance and beginning the search for a Special Testing organization. The construction process will require several tests during different phases of construction. The tests such as soil compaction and concrete mixtures are intended to make certain the contractor is following the engineering and design specifications. These tests are required by Washington law and have to be provided by the owner to insure legitimacy.

We are researching security cameras or systems to provide security and as a feed to the Architects to observe progress. The tentative schedule is to begin work by the end of May.

Apparatus

E51a is back on line following several weeks down time due to a deteriorated bladder/manifold. The new aid unit is working its way through the process of getting response ready, presently getting electronic equipment installed.

Alarms/Novel Corona Virus

The numbers of Protocol 36 calls in the County are bouncing around, but in general are slightly lower and holding steady. Washington ranks 13th in the nation for the number of known Covid-19 cases per 100,000 population. EMS calls are moving slowly toward pre-Covid-19 levels but call volume overall remains lower than one year ago.

In general we respond to more people dying at home than before Covid-19. It is difficult to know if fear of going to hospitals or clinics is a major factor in these deaths, but we are aware that it was a factor in this morning's 05:45 incident, a 67 Y/O male whose medical appointment had been put off out of COVID-19 fear. Later today (11:45) we performed CPR for 40 minutes on a 52 Y/O female before gaining spontaneous circulation and transporting the patient via M32 to Everett Prov.

District #5 assisted D7 on a residential structure fire on Saturday morning on Cromwell Rd and later that day to a rollover MVC on SR2 near the Reptile Zoo.

We had another death on Youngs Creek off Cedar Ponds Road. A 17 year old cliff jumper was reported missing to the Monroe PD after he jumped into a pool, came up briefly then disappeared. Apparently after the incident his friends drove to Monroe to make a report. His body was located two days after the incident.

Still no report on the cause of the fire Startup that killed on male in the motor home.

Repairs District Property

We contacted the County about the dismal condition of our property they are using. The pot holes are forcing the container truck drivers to the west to avoid working in that area. I asked them to make repairs and to maintain the area to the condition it was in prior to their use. Operations Supervisor Casey Jones emailed me that they would make improvements this week.