



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

May 24, 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 – Commissioner Fox added to New Business a Sno-Isle meeting review. Commissioner Fox added an Executive Session for discussion about an employee contract.

Public Comments – Debra Chase inquired if the District was or has been receiving FEMA Covid disaster grants. Chief Halverson replied that we are receiving funds and equipment through the County. The District has actually had very few Covid expenses. He further stated that we are hoping to be reimbursed for personnel expenses related to assistance at the vaccination sites. Commissioner Geiger asked if we could look into reimbursement costs of any pandemic related expenses. Chief Halverson replied that he will look into this.

Karen Clark inquired if the Board was going to increase to a five member board. Commissioner Fox replied that this issue will be going before the voters to make that decision. She then asked if she would be eligible to run for a position. Commissioner Fox replied that the deadline to file for the open Board position has past, but she would be eligible for one of the appointed positions. She then asked if the majority of the District calls were EMS calls. Chief Halverson replied that about 70 percent of District's calls are EMS. She commented it would make sense that the District would need more EMS personnel. Chief responded that people with EMS certifications are necessary to the District. She then asked why the District was allowing bullying of EMS only personnel. Chief responded that bullying of any kind was not allowed. Commissioner Fox interjected that this would be a personnel matter and should not be discussed in a public meeting.

Consent Items – None

Chief's Report – See Attached

Commissioner Geiger asked if the cost of the Hover craft would increase when going out to bid. Chief Halverson replied that we are not sure yet. The District's Attorney advised us to follow this process.

Commissioner Geiger asked about the number of responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for an agency to conduct the search for a Chief Officer. Chief Halverson replied that there are three responses. Commissioner Geiger asked if the Commissioners will be reviewing these proposals. Chief Halverson replied that he would bring a proposal before to Board at the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the Fire and Carbon Monoxide alarm system at the new station. The subject of providing a Fire Marshal service was discussed. Chief Halverson replied that when he first took the Chief's position he offered the service to the City and they were not interested, and presently we don't have anyone interested in the position.

Secretary's Report – District Secretary Cathy Barth, reported to the Commissioners that the Annual report to the State had been filed on the 14th. The report was reviewed by both Randy Krumm Finance Officer, for North County Regional Fire Authority (Fire and EMS), and Assistant Secretary Lynene Young. Both offered a great deal of assistance in getting the report completed accurately and submitted in a timely manner.



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Old Business – Commissioner Geiger asked how the recruitment of Paramedics would be dealt with. Chief Halverson responded that we would attempt recruiting on our own. He was not sure when that would begin as we are waiting on the Department of Health to give us the go ahead.

New Business – Commissioner Fox gave a brief report about his attendance at the Sno-Isle Commissioner and Sno-Isle Board meetings. The topic of a Fire Benefits charge was discussed. He mentioned that Sno-Isle members among others were looking forward to an Open House event at the New Station.

He mentioned that when the Governor lifts the Emergency Order we will be back to conducting public meetings at the station.

Commissioner Geiger gave a brief description of the Fire Benefits charge program.

Executive Session -

A motion to recess to Executive Session until 7:50 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 for the purpose of discussing an employee contract was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously at 7:30 p.m. Commissioners Fox, Copple, and Geiger, were in attendance.

At 7:50 p.m. Commissioner Fox informed those waiting in the Zoom waiting room that the meeting would need to be extended for an additional 10 minutes. At 7:50 p.m. the Executive Session resumed. Executive Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

No actions were taken. Returned to the regular meeting.

Regular meeting – Commissioner Fox made a motion to seek assistance from Attorney Mitch Cogdil regarding a new contract for the Chief, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Fox thanked those in attendance and the Staff for their great work on the New Station and crews for their continued hard work during these difficult times.

Commissioner Geiger commented that he was looking forward to in person meetings at the new station. He stated that he hoped that the interest that the Zoom Board meetings are generating would carry over to the in person meetings. Thanks to all District employees for their hard work.

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 8:04 p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary