



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2024

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at 32905 Cascade View Dr. Station 51 and via Zoom video conferencing. Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Geiger and Commissioner Chase were present. Chief Johnson, Deputy Chief Fulcher and District Secretary, Cathy Barth, were present.

Additions to Agenda – None

Public/Staff Comments – None

Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2023

Approval of Minutes for December 11, 2023

Approval of Minutes for December 26, 2023

A motion to approve the minutes for December 4th, 11th and 26th 2023, as presented was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Election of Board Officer Positions for 2024

Resolution 2024-01, A Resolution Appointing the Board of Fire Commissioner Officer Positions for Calendar Year 2024.

Board Secretary Cathy Barth, Chairperson pro-tem, called for nominations for the Chairperson position to the Board. Commissioner Chase nominated Commissioner Fox for Chairman. No other nominations were made.

Commissioner Chase made a motion to elect [Commissioner Fox](#), as [Chairman for 2024](#), seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Fox assumed Chairman position and called for nominations for the Vice Chair position.

Commissioner Fox nominated Commissioner Geiger for the Vice Chair position. No other nominations were made.

Commissioner Fox made a motion to elect [Commissioner Geiger](#), as [Vice Chair for 2024](#), seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Chase nominated Cathy Barth as Board Secretary.

Commissioner Chase made a motion to elect Cathy Barth as the [Board Secretary](#), seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda -

Approval of Payroll January 2024 = \$173,477.62

Approval of Expense Fund Vouchers #240101001-#240101028 January 2024 = \$67,795.70

Approval of Capital Projects Fund Vouchers #040102001-#240102002 January 2024= \$12,334.65

A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.



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Chief's Report – See attached.

Commissioner Geiger inquired as to how many applications for the new positions had been received. Chief Johnson replied that 19 applications at this point, but he expects more. Commissioner Geiger asked if the Chief had any idea what positions those applicants were applying for. The Chief replied that he has not reviewed any of the applications at this point, he plans do so on or around the closing date of the 12th.

A conversation was held regarding FirstNet services and reception for the new apparatus phones.

Reports – No comments.

Old Business –

Commissioner Geiger asked Chief Johnson for an update on the proposed property sites. Chief Johnson replied that there was nothing new on the first site and DNR is still conducting the timber sale on the second site.

Open Issues/Actions – No actions were added.

New Business – None

Informational –

Chief Johnson asked the Commissioners if they would like to continue to see the apparatus report. The Commissioners agreed that the report was helpful. They would like to continue receiving it, but it need only include the last five years.

Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Fox commented that last year was a good year for District 5. Thank you to everyone.

Adjourn –

Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30p.m.


Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to the Board of Commissioners

January 8th, 2024

Career Hiring Update

- Currently there are 19 total applications that have been delivered directly to the District. More applications are anticipated to be submitted directly through National Testing Network.
- Application period closes this Friday.

2024 Capital Budget

- As in years previous, I have opened the period for capital budget requests from the staff. These will be reviewed, prioritized, and made ready for presentation by the next Board meeting.

District Cell Phones

- For two years, the District has struggled with poor cellular phone coverage for our work phones. In an effort to remedy the situation, we contacted FirstNet to see if they provided better coverage for our area. After a successful signal survey of our known problem areas, it was determined that First Net provides a more reliable signal as well as a being a dedicated first responder network.
- Staff is preparing to implement a program that includes centralized phone management, additional lines of service, and mobile signal boosting solutions for a total monthly cost similar to our current plan.
- Field signal boosters are costing \$2,000 plus installation, but the 24 month service credit will offset the cost of equipment purchase.
- FirstNet service will also be made available to all D5 personnel, should they chose to migrate their personal lines of service.

General

- Chief 51 vehicle is in service. The old command vehicle will be kept and made available for firefighter training and miscellaneous crew and admin use.
- Multiple weather concerns will exist over the next week. Tomorrow may bring over an inch of rain and winds gusting SE 50+, followed by snow and temperatures in the 20's. DEM has staged a mobile communication trailer to Station 51 as a precaution.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Johnson
Chief, Snohomish County Fire District 5