



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

January 22, 2024

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:01 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. Members of the public were in attendance.

Additions to Agenda -

District Secretary Barth asked to add the January 2024 Agency Benefits to the Consent Agenda.

Public Comments – None

Consent Agenda –

View 3 – 2023 Budget (Month and YTD)

Agency Benefits for January 2024 – \$40,170.00

A motion to approve the consent agenda with the added Agency Benefits was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Chief's Report – See Attached

Commissioner Geiger asked what the estimated timeline was for the new hirings.

Chief Johnson replied April 1st or sooner.

Commissioner Geiger inquired if the overtime costs for training were differentiated in the budget.

Chief Johnson replied that no they were not broken out.

Old Business –

Open Issues and Actions – No updates.

New Business –

Training Overtime - The Commissioners discussed their desire to see the training overtime costs separated from regular shift work overtime.

The Chief stated that he will bring more information to the next meeting regarding this issue.

Leave Behind Naloxone Agreement - Review and Discuss

Chief Johnson presented the background and information regarding the program.

The Commissioners had mixed reactions to the program. Noting that having the program in the District could prove valuable but on the same hand may take away a valuable resource for a District with more need than ours.

Discussion was held regarding liabilities, enabling patients, staff time for completion of the forms, training of personnel and the liaison. Also discussed was the potential of HIPPA violations, the number of calls where Narcan was administered by District personnel, the quantity and shelf life of the kits, disposal of expired kits, and review of the agreement by the District Attorney.

Chief Johnson commented that he would forward additional documentation regarding the proposed leave-at-home program to the Commissioners and place this on the agenda for review at the next meeting.



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New Business – continued

2024 Capital Purchases Discussion -

Chief Johnson presented the proposed Capital Budget items. As per his request, the staff was offered the opportunity to provide their input.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed items.

The Commissioner inquired as to where the scissor lift, lawn mower and mower attachments would be stored.

Chief Johnson stated that the fenced in outbuilding would house the mower and attachments. The scissor lift would be stored in the covered area of the building. Deputy Chief Clark is looking into auxiliary building ideas for a more permanent solution.

Chief Johnson spoke to the Commissioners about the need to start preparations for the purchase of a new fire engine. Due to supplier timelines being 18 to 48 months out, EPA standards affecting costs and the rising cost in general, he feels beginning the process right now is very important. The Commissioners agreed this would be a good idea, especially given the timeline.

The Commissioners discussed the purchase of a hovercraft trailer as well as the surplus of the current one. Chief Johnson stated that the trailer we currently have is extremely difficult to maneuver and makes it time consuming to deploy. He would like to have one built to our specifications by a local supplier.

The addition of pavement to the graveled areas was discussed and the steps that must be taken prior to beginning that process.

The Commissioners spoke at length about the size of the mower and if it would be sufficient for the land that must be mowed, also discussed were the attachments that would be purchased, and training on the use of the mower and scissor lift. The use of the scissor lift by outside maintenance persons and the need for a waiver of liability agreement.

Lieutenant Gwilt provided the Commissioners with some information about the mower.

Chief Johnson stated that most equipment requires some training, and it can be accomplished quite easily. Chief Johnson will also inquire with Attorney Snure about a waiver of liability if contractors are to utilize our equipment.

The Smokey the Bear sign placement and state approval for its location were discussed.

Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Fox extended his appreciation to Lt. Gwilt for his input regarding the mower and to the staff for all they do.

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 8:31p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to the Board of Commissioners

January 22nd, 2024

Career Hiring Update

- The application period has closed, and we received a total of 49 applicants. Staff is working on performing an initial review of those applications and finalizing the dates for candidate assessments.
- The volume of applications has the District investigating how to move toward electronic applications, accessed from our website. Initial proposal indicates a cost of \$2,500, but staff is working through the quote to identify any additional needs.

District Cell Phones

- New cell phones have arrived and we are waiting for FirstNet to provide an implementation timeline for our service.

EMS

- The first joint run review with SCFD17 was held on Jan 11th. Snohomish County EMS has hired an executive director to assist in implementing new programs and processes in the office, and we are seeing the positive effects of the new MPD.

General

- The City of Sultan Public Safety Meetings have started again with new leadership at both the City level and Police Department. This forum brings together multiple agencies to discuss specific needs of Sultan and its residents and provides important collaboration on public safety projects.
- I will be meeting with out-of-district residents tomorrow evening to answer questions about their desire to annex into the Fire District. If they chose to request annexation, they will forward a petition to the Board of Commissioners for discussion and approval. This annexation project is generally located at the end Woods Lake Road, in between the road and the Sultan River.
- Weather cancelled two meeting last week of the HOSA students and parents, to provide an opportunity for observer time at the District, to explore careers in emergency medicine. That meeting is now scheduled for Wednesday, immediately after the Sultan High School Career and Technical Advisory Board meeting, of which we are a member.
- Snohomish PUD attended our last staff meeting and provided a presentation on Culmback Dam and the related infrastructure we may respond to. Tours for our staff will be scheduled in the Spring.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Johnson
Chief, Snohomish County Fire District 5