



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2025

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 and District Secretary, Cathy Barth, were present. Members of staff were in attendance.

Call to Order - Appointment of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Commissioner Chase nominated Commissioner Fox as Chairperson for 2025, and Commissioner Geiger as Vice Chair for 2025. Commissioner Geiger declined. Commissioner Fox then nominated Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed with unanimous consent.

Additions to Agenda – Commissioner Steve Fox pulled the Minutes of December the 23rd.

Public/Staff Comments – No comments.

Consent Agenda -

Approval of Minutes for December 8, 2024

Approval of Payroll January 2025 = \$222,069.42

Approval of Expense Fund Vouchers #250101001 - #250101044 January 2025 = \$148,297.80

Approval of Capital Projects Fund Vouchers #250102001 - #250102002 January 2025= \$1680.22

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

Item pulled: Minutes for December 23, 2024

A motion to approve the Minutes of December 23, 2024, as amended was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Chief's Report – See attached.

Discussion was held regarding light duty for one of the District's staff members, and the cost or savings to the district. Chief Johnson replied that the person on light duty is currently working their full contracted hours performing various tasks assigned for light duty. More should be known about the duration of the light duty shifts after the 27th of this month, when they have spoken to their physician.

Old Business –

Type 1 Engine Purchase – Chief Johnson presented the proposal to the Commissioners. The Commissioners discussed the proposal, the condition of the current Engine, the cost of purchasing an Engine after the Environment Protection Agency (EPA), regulations are instituted, space constraints on the apparatus once the EPA regulations are in place. Also discussed were cash payments versus a lease payment plan. Chief Johnson was asked about the number of vendors that were contacted for estimates. Chief Johnson stated that there were three vendors contacted for quotes. Also discussed were the design and options available for the apparatus. The Commissioners agreed that they did not want to utilize the lease option.

Chief Johnson commented that there is a discount for prepayment of \$65,000 off the top of the price. He mentioned that there are progress type payments, but he does not have those figures at this time. Discussed was a cancellation clause and ramifications.



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Old Business –

Type 1 Engine Purchase – *continued*

The Commissioners agreed that there should be an amount approved that would allow for last-minute costs without coming back to the Board, due to the time constraints.

A motion was made to purchase the Type 1 engine by Commissioner Fox, with the modification not to exceed 1.5 million, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

Snohomish County EMS Agency (SCEMSA) Inter local Agreement - Chief Johnson provided the Commissioners with documentation and the agreement for the program. The Commissioners discussed contradictions within the agreement and their dissatisfaction overall with the agreement.

At 8:35 p.m. A motion to break for five minutes was made by Commissioner Geiger, seconded by Commissioner Fox, and passed unanimously.

Discussion continued after the break.

The Commissioners asked Chief Johnson to approach the Joint Task Force about wording that is contradictory and legal concerns they have within the Interlocal Agreement.

Medical Program Director Delegate Agreement Draft – Chief Johnson reviewed the draft agreement with the Commissioners. The Commissioners reviewed, discussed, and asked for some clarification regarding the agreement.

Open Issues/Actions – No new actions were added.

New Business –

Chief Johnson reviewed the command vehicle purchase order. Commissioner Fox noted that the PO listed the year of the vehicle as 2024. Chief Johnson stated that it was a typographical error, and that the vehicle year is 2025.

PO# 2024-3571 Bud Clary Ford - A motion to approve **PO# 2024- 3571 - Command Vehicle as amended** was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

A motion to table the Executive Session was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Geiger expressed that he was glad a new command vehicle will be provided for Deputy Chief Spence and appreciated his flexibility while waiting for the new vehicle.



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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 9:27 p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary

Chiefs Report to the Board of Commissioners

January 13th, 2025

Equipment

- Engine 52 update – still out of service at the shop.
- Tender 51 delivery to US Fire Equip was pushed to next week. T55 is in service.
- The purchase of a structure engine continues, and will be a topic of discussion this evening.

General

- Since we last met we made it through the holidays, and the new duty rotation began on Jan 1.
- Staff had an opportunity to meet the proposed new Medical Program Director Delegate, Dr. Zach Forcade. He has little experience in field EMS delivery, but completed a fellowship in emergency room medicine and will be a good resource to have as a delegate.
- At the SCFCA meeting on January 6th, I was appointed the liaison between the Snohomish County Fire Chiefs and the Sno-Isle Fire Commissioners Association.
- Sky valley preschool came in for a tour last week, with 16 pupils plus parents and teachers. FF tutoring at Sultan Elementary continues every other Friday.
- The District participated in the Sky Valley Health Fair this weekend, where we instructed participants with bystander CPR (Take 10), and were a resource for participants who had questions about emergency medical services.
- District 5 was requested to send an engine to California, and though we had interested personnel, the request was only for type 1 or 3 engines. We only have one type 1 in service, and Brush 52 is not an appropriate apparatus to send that far out of state.
- First of the year/last of the year items have been completed and Office staff has done a fantastic job maintaining deadlines in light of the special circumstances they are working around.

Personnel

- The two new firefighter/EMT's started employment with the District on January 1st. They were both current PT FF's with us, so they are making very good progress in completing their probationary signoffs.
- We have one Paramedic applicant, who we are interviewing on January 20th.
- One of our FT FF/Medics was placed on light duty and has been moved to 4/12's. There are light duty tasks related to database cleanup in both our training and certification platform and our EMS training and credentialing platform. This is an evolving situation, and no hard date has been set for their return to full duty.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth Johnson

Chief, Snohomish County Fire District 5