



## **Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

***May 27, 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.

**Additions to Agenda** – No additions.

**Public/Staff Comments** – No comments.

### **Consent Agenda –**

Approval of the revised payroll for May 2025 - \$212,816.35.

Agency Benefits for May 2025 – \$48,917.37.

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

### **Chief's Report** – See attached.

The Commissioners thanked crews for attending the Memorial Day ceremony.

The Commissioners inquired about the repeaters cost and who bears that cost, locations, and testing process.

Chief Johnson stated the cost is between \$100,000 - 250,000 and it is the responsibility of the building owner to pay for the repeater. He provided the Commissioners with information about locations and the testing process.

### **Old Business –**

**Open Issues/Actions** – No actions were added.

### **New Business –**

**Amended Interlocal agreement with Sno911** – Chief Johnson reviewed the document with the Commissioners. The question was asked if the agreement was the final version. Chief replied that he did not anticipate another version. The attorney for Sno911 said this was the final version.

A motion to approve the **Amended Interlocal Agreement with Sno911** as presented was made by Commissioner Chase, seconded by Commissioner Fox, and passed unanimously.

### **Joint Commissioner meeting between King County Fire District 50 and Snohomish County Fire District 26 –**

Commissioner Chase reviewed the meeting discussion held between King County Fire District 50 and Snohomish County Fire District 26 that she and Chief Johnson recently attended.

Commissioner Chase provided her observations and what she felt were the pros and cons of a potential integration between Fire District 5 and the other two Fire Districts.

Commissioner Fox and Geiger expressed their concerns.

Commissioner Geiger expressed his thanks to Commissioner Chase for attending. He stated his appreciation for the pros and cons information.

Commissioner Chase agreed to attend future meetings.



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### **New Business – continued**

It was suggested that during the Strategic Planning workshop tomorrow, that policies for ALS services to fill the gap if Gold Bar ALS services collapse, be included in the plan.

Chief Johnson stated that maintaining involvement at some level by attending the meetings is important in order to keep us informed.

### **Executive Session-**

A motion to recess to Executive Session until 8:10 p.m. per RCW 42.30.110 (g) for the review of a public employee, was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously at 7:50 p.m. Commissioners Fox, Geiger, and Chase, were present. Chief Johnson was asked to attend at 7:55 p.m.

At 8:10 p.m. Commissioner Fox told those in attendance that the meeting would need to be extended by an additional five minutes. A motion to extend the Executive Session was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously. The Executive Session resumed at 8:10 p.m.

At 8:15 p.m. Commissioner Fox told those in attendance that the meeting would need to be extended for an additional five minutes. A motion to extend the Executive Session was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously. The Executive Session resumed at 8:15 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 8:20 p.m. No actions were taken.  
The regular meeting resumed at 8:20 p.m.

A motion to approve a memorandum of agreement with Chief Johnson was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

### **Commissioner Comments –**

Commissioner Fox commented that it was great to see crews at Memorial Day ceremony. He also mentioned that Braun Journey extended his appreciation for the amazing job the fire crews did at his home recently.

Commissioner Geiger reported that effective June 9th, 2025, he will be resigning his position as Commissioner.

Commissioner Fox extended the District's appreciation for his many years of service.

Chief Johnson briefly reviewed some of the steps that must be followed to announce the open Commissioner seat and solicit for the appointed position.

**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 8:29 p.m.

  
Cathy Barth  
District Secretary

# **Chiefs Report to the Board of Commissioners**

May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

## **Personnel**

- The FF/PM interviews (Oral Board and Skills) occurred on 5/15, which narrowed the field of 7 candidates down to 4. The final Chiefs interviews will occur this week, and a selection will be made within two weeks.
- The Secretary job continues to get an immense amount of applicants. This two-step process has resulted in over 100 applications being filed with the District, and the two step process has reduced the amount of unqualified or bot/scammer applicants. We believe that we will have a solid candidate pool to chose from, but will know more after the 30<sup>th</sup>, when the application period closes.

## **General**

- In response to concerns from personnel, the District had indoor environmental air sampling performed to determine if there unknown allergens at Station 51. The results were shared with personnel, and we found that we could improve the filtering at the station as well as implement engineering controls to optimize the HVAC filtering system.
- Emergency radios have been reprogrammed for a second time after switching over to a radio communication system. The effects of the digitization are not fully realized yet, but staff is making sure to report any coverage issues that may come up. In building radio amplifiers in Snohomish County are all off-line, and will be for an estimated 18 months.
- Battle of the Badges was a fun time, and the preliminary numbers indicate that more than \$5,000 was raised for the Sultan Education Foundation.
- The District was represented Last Thursday at the Snohomish County CWPP Preparedness Expo at the Startup Event Center. Many wildfire partners came together to assist citizens in preparation as well as passed out draft CWPP's.
- Crews and Chaplains attended the Sultan Memorial Day Event at the Sultan Cemetery.

**Respectfully submitted,**

Seth Johnson

Chief, Snohomish County Fire District 5