



THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 9

November 11, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Dale Putnam of District 9 Board of Fire Commissioners called the meeting to order at 1800 hours. Commissioners Mark Thompson, Mark Campeau, Rich Milligan, and Len Albert; Chief Leonard Johnson, AC Chris Patti, EA Davie Kindell, and Board Secretary Ferol Max attended the regular meeting held via the virtual Zoom platform. Viewing of the meeting was made available to the public with the Zoom meeting link posted on the district website.

AGENDA

The agenda was approved as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

1. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 14, 2021; the motion carried.
2. **Approval of Vouchers and Payroll:** A motion was made and seconded to approve vouchers and payroll in the amounts listed below in items a through c; the motion carried.
 - a. General Fund 6690 \$453,313.72;
 - b. EMS Fund 6694 totaling \$21,078.90;
 - c. M&O Fund 6698 \$9,211.75
 - d. Transfer of funds to Debt Service: \$800,000 transferred from M&O to General Fund, and \$190,000 from General Fund to Debt Service Fund 6692. A motion was made and seconded to approve the transfer; the motion carried.
 - e. 2022 Budget Documents: A motion was made and seconded to approve items i. through iii. listed below; the motion carried.
 - i. FTE Certification
 - ii. Resolution 21-571 WA State Ordinance Resolution
 - iii. Levy Certification
 - f. Resolution 21-572 Transfer of Funds: see above under item d. Commissioner Thompson asked that the resolution be revised to show a reference to the attachment or to list the amounts; EA Kindell will reprint the resolution. A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution 21-572; the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **WA Paid Family Leave Draft Policy:** Chief Johnson described the policy currently in draft format. It allows conversion of sick leave after 90 hours to fulfill the Department of Retirement Systems service credit requirements. The policy was also provided to the Union for input or feedback.
2. **Fire Chief Annual Review:** Commissioner Putnam had previously shared the template for the Fire Chief Annual Review that has been used in the past. He invited discussion as to the usefulness of the template; there were suggestions made for updates to the language, and to add the SORT Program. Commissioner Putnam will make the changes and distribute to the Board members and Chief Johnson; Chief Johnson will complete a self-assessment first.

STAFF REPORTS

Finance/Administration: See Chief's Report for complete information. EA Kindell reported budget work continues.

The hiring process is underway and EA Kindell hopes to have a list of candidates posted on November 12.

The MBLFD administrative staff will start discussion on development of a home safety and home inspection program with an emphasis on assuring working smoke detectors are in homes.

The newsletter is scheduled to go to print next week and will include Santa Run and Food Drive information. Santa will be handing out packets focusing on smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and emergency preparedness information.

Operations: AC Patti reported October call volume was up, with a call total of 209 calls; 82 fire-related calls and 127 EMS calls. There were 42 BLS transports.

COVID-19 vaccination status for the entire department is at 91%.

AC Patti reports he expects to receive specs for the new rigs from Braun soon.

There were four structure fires in the district, two of which were minor. A third involved a chimney fire that extended into the attic, causing extensive damage to the residence. The fire on November 5th resulted in two fatalities and is still under investigation.

Chief: Chief Johnson reported since the fatality fire in the District he is hoping to start discussion of more multi-company training operations with neighboring mutual aid partners. Responding crews and Fire District 9 personnel were recognized for their outstanding work at the fire.

Aid 95 as part of the cross-staffing program made nine patient transfers due to the lack of private ambulance availability. EMS Report is included with the Chief's Report.

The extent of the impact to the District of the vaccine mandates is still unknown. Exemptions and accommodations have been made, with one volunteer choosing to resign rather than seek accommodation.

The volunteer program development continues to see improvements in the intake process and peer fitness. Continuous recruitment enables volunteers to start training in whichever training model is being offered at the time. The next CPAT is scheduled for November 29th. There have been several recent losses of volunteers to career positions, which speaks well for the MBLFD program.

The SORT Admin Board met in October. The ILA will be revised and updated. Going forward, District 9 will be lead agency for purchases of all PPE and then receive reimbursement from member departments. Rates will increase to \$3,500 for member user agencies, and the board is also looking into cost recovery options. Capt. Sobol has stepped down as a deputy team leader but will still lend his assistance with grant applications.

Chief Johnson reported the fuel cell upgrade at Station 91 is in line and a price estimate less than \$30,000 has been received from D Square Energy Systems.

Citizen Advisory Boards will be reassembled next year.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Congratulations to Capt. and Mrs. Novak who recently welcomed a new baby.

The Board extended thanks to Capt. Sobol for his work as deputy team leader with the SORT program.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners adjourned at 1845 hours.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

For Thurston County Fire District 9:



Dale Putnam, Chairperson



Mark Thompson, Commissioner



Mark Campeau, Commissioner

Rich Milligan, Commissioner



Len Albert, Commissioner



Ferol Max, Board Secretary

December 9, 2021