



**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
JANUARY 12, 2023**

**BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS**

The meeting of the Board for Volunteer Firefighters was called to order at 1800 hrs. Invoices the amount of \$560.00 were presented for firefighter physicals. MSP, unanimous

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Dale Putnam Chair of Board of Fire Commissioners called the meeting to order at 1803 hours at 125 Delphi Rd NW. Commissioners Mark Thompson, Len Albert, Mark Campeau and Jason Foust, Chief Leonard Johnson, AC Chris Patti, EA Davie Kindell, firefighters Frank Weeks, Rob Klein, Sean Keegan, Brad Faires, Lieutenant Alex Adams, Captain Casey Sobol, Captain Jeff Novak, and Board Secretary Tom McBride attended the regular meeting held in person and via the virtual Zoom platform using the link posted on the District's website.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

None. The agenda was approved as presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT & VISITING SPEAKERS**

None.

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. **Appointment of District Board Secretary:** A motion was made and seconded to approve Tom McBride as the District Board Secretary; the motion carried.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 8, 2023; the motion carried.
3. **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 e; the motion carried.
  - a. Authorized Claims Fund 6690 Dec. 14, 2022 - \$12,114.16;
  - b. General Fund 6690 \$678,528.78;
  - c. Capital Fund 6691 \$12,054.54;
  - d. EMS/Apparatus Replacement Fund 6694 \$31,788.76;

- e. SORT Fund 6699 \$6,316.73.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**2023 Line-item Budget Revisions:** A motion was made and seconded to approve 2023 line-item budget revisions in the amounts listed below; the motion carried.

### Fund 6690

- a. Facilities Equipment: Cell Phone Booster Replacement, Snowblowers budgeted at \$20,000 and increased by \$12,000;
- b. Capital Equipment: Hurst Tool Replacement E91 & E95 budgeted at \$64,000 and increased by \$82,000.

### Fund 6694

- a. Capital Equipment EMS: Stryker Power Loaders & Power Cots budgeted at \$560,000 and increased by \$62,000;
- b. Capital Equipment Non-EMS: Radio Upfitting Battalion 91 budgeted at \$0 and increased by \$31,000.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### ***Finance/Administration:***

EA Kindell reported that the District is debt free as of January 11, 2023. This is due to early payoff of debt due in 2024 and 2026, the interest saving in approximately \$142,000

The District audit continues. The review of purchasing is completed and the audit will now move into payroll and policy. The District does not have a policy on related party transactions and she has requested template language from the District's legal counsel

The Chief, AC Patti, and EA Kindell are participating in employment law training taking place over 3 days in January 2023.

The Washington Fire Commissioners Association changed the provider network in 2023 from First Choice to CIGNA. There have been several complaints about the new network from employees, specifically concerning lack of providers willing to accept CIGNA. The District is looking for ways to address the problems.

### ***Operations:***

AC Patti reported 225 total calls in December 2022; 87 fire-related calls and 138 EMS calls. There were 2,328 calls in 2022, which is an increase of 75 over 2021. There were 58 BLS transports in December 2022.

The District Food Drive is completed. The District collected over 8,000 pounds of food and \$738 in monetary contributions.

The District has secured 2 new snowblowers that will provide additional safety for crews that are out working and shoveling snow.

The District experienced a mini-ice and wind storm in December 2022. It was not as bad as anticipated. Good operation plans were in place, but not necessary to activate.

There were 2 major incidents of note in December 2022. The first one involved a log truck rollover accident on Hwy 101 involving 3 cars in which 2 patients were transported to the hospital. The other incident involved a propane truck rollover with no injuries.

***Fire Chief:***

Chief Johnson reported that there is still one employee out on long-term LNI leave, and one person will be returning shortly from LNI injury leave.

Three conditional offers have been extended. The candidates are currently working through medical and background screening process; they are scheduled to begin Fire Academy in February.

FF Alex Adam has been promoted to Lieutenant as Captain Hodge's vacancy has been filled.

The District has 7 new volunteers who started pre-academy on January 10.

Station 95 is close to completing its HVAC system replacement. There have been problems, including installation errors that have delayed completion of the project. The final punch list items are being addressed before final release of the project can be start with the State.

Station 91 is due for a new roof and that project is already underway. Regarding general maintenance, recirculation updates to the water supply have improved the delivery of hot water and provided additional water pressure. A water heater replacement will be necessary soon.

Kurt Harding, the Executive Director of Medic One is retiring in March 2023.

Legislative Day for Fire Commissioners and Chiefs will be on February 17 in Olympia. WFCA continues to provide us with regular legislative updates. Please let us know if you want to attend.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Campeau reported that he will attend West Thurston's meeting on January 23. AMR has ceased operations in Thurston County.

Commissioner Putnam reported that he received a call from a constituent suggesting there is confusion about the multiple fire levies in our region among different districts, such as No. 9 and West Thurston. We will need to educate and advise voters about our respective levy needs.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The Chief introduced four firefighters who attended the Commissioners' meeting. They are Frank Weeks, Rob Klein, Sean Keegan and Brad Faires. Each firefighter made brief remarks.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**


The Board convened into Executive Session at 1909, for an estimated 15 minutes, to discuss collective bargaining, and announced they expected to reconvene at 1924, with no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 1924 and immediately adjourned.

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

For Thurston County Fire District 9:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dale Putnam, Chair

  
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Jason Foust, Commissioner

  
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Len Albert, Commissioner

  
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Mark Thompson, Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Campeau

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~~Tom McBride~~, Board Secretary  
Dawie Kindell, Executive Session

2/9/23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date