



Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes February 8, 2024

McLane Black Lake Fire Department
Board of Fire Commissioners
February 8, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Dale Putnam of District 9 Board of Fire Commissioners called the meeting to order at 1802 hours. Commissioners Dale Putnam, Len Albert, Mark Thompson, Mark Campeau and Jason Foust (virtual), Chief Leonard Johnson, Assistant Chief Chris Patti, Division Chief - Logistics Josh Ambrose, Business Operations Director Brett Warwick, Board Secretary Tom McBride, Lt. Chris Welch, Captain Casey Sobol, Firefighter Ben Collins, Firefighter Clint Carlson and Firefighter Kyle Rose (virtual) attended the regular meeting held in person and via the virtual Zoom platform using the link posted on the Fire District's website.

BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

The Board for Volunteer Firefighters met prior to the Board of Commissioners meeting.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

None. The agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT & VISITING SPEAKERS

Firefighter Ben Collins and Firefighter Clint Carlson introduced themselves and made remarks to the Board.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. *Approval of Minutes:*

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on January 11, 2024; 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 d; the motion carried. A discussion was had related to the practice of social media archiving.

- a. General Fund 6690 \$198,031.06;
- b. EMS/Apparatus Replacement Fund 6694 8,935.38;
- c. M&O Fund 6698 \$17,329.79;
- d. SORT Fund 6699 \$69.17.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

STAFF REPORTS:

1. *Finance/Administration: Business Operations Director Brett Warwick*

Finance

- Our largest expenditure in January was due to the Life Scan physicals for an expense of \$36,450. The Fire District will be receiving reimbursement payments from the two districts that also participated in the event, reducing the Fire District cost to \$17,820.
- HRA VEBA contributions were delayed in January, and the deposit will be in our account by Friday, February 9.
- Other large expenses in January included vehicle maintenance of \$12,198.05, Station 95 restoration at \$8,623.61, architecture planning for Station 91 in the amount of \$7,985, and payment for enhanced cyber security at \$7,121.63.
- Based on rough estimates, the monthly expenditures for February are expected to be \$505,036.67 which is well below 2023 February expenses of \$675,672.29, and similar to expenses in February 2022 of \$458,431.86.

Community Outreach:

- The Fire District has two elementary schools scheduled to visit Station 91 this month and plans to offer in-depth tours, goodie bags, demonstrations, and learning opportunities to all who attend.

Health and Wellness:

- After completing Life Scan testing in January, the Fire District received overwhelming support for the process and thorough analysis for our firefighters. The District is currently discussing a health and wellness clinic to be hosted at the Fire District in late June or early July of 2024.

Events:

- Scheduling the details of the annual awards banquet continues as BOD Warwick met with Olympia Golf and Country Club representatives to review layout, dining options, and information that will make this awards banquet a successful and enjoyable event.
- The Easter Egg Dash is fast approaching on Saturday, March 30. Messaging to the community is set to go out next week through social media and reminders will continue through the next several weeks.

2. Logistics: Division Chief – Logistics Josh Ambrose

Volunteers

- One volunteer firefighter completed the Thuston County EMT program and one of the new recruits started EMT training in the Grays Harbor program. One volunteer, who just completed academy, will be on military leave for an overseas deployment.

Facilities

- Station 93: An interior water line and exterior hose bib froze during the freezing weather in January. No leaks caused damage within the building. The building has a design issue with pipe placement in non-insulated areas and will need to be reviewed for future issues.
- Station 96: An interior water pipe also froze causing water damage to several interior rooms at the station. Servpro has fans in the building to assist with drying. An insurance claim has been opened for the damage and repairs.

Vehicles

- There are no new out-of-service issues, one is still on-going with E95. The following is a summary of ongoing/completed apparatus maintenance and repairs: APPARATUS ID ON-GOING & COMPLETED MAINTENANCE A95 (new) Upfitting with MDC mounts and other equipment. BN91 Replace auto eject plug. CH91 Annual PM Service,

misc. repairs. CH93 Quarterly Service, diagnosis check engine light, sensor replacement. E912 Annual PM Service, replace/repair left upper ball joint, service rear brakes. E94 Annual PM Service, misc. repairs. E95 Out of Service Apparatus remains OOS in Portland at Premier Truck with DEF/REGEN issues. It has been identified that the SCR (Selective Catalytic Reduction) needs to be replaced and, if everything goes well, the engine should be back by the end of the month. E952 Repair headset issues in cab, replace multiple lights. T91 Replace intake pressure gauge. T93 Replace vehicle shore power charger. Apparatus Project Status:

- AMBULANCES: The third ambulance has been scheduled for construction with Braun NW. The vehicle is anticipated for delivery Q3 or Q4 of this year. The two units received in 2023 are in service.
- CHIEF 93 (new): Lighting system has been ordered. Vehicle received canopy and rear bed storage tray system.
- UTILITY 91: Equipment order for upfitting, including lights and radio equipment.
- There are no new out-of-service issues, but lots of minor servicing matters.
- Engine 95 continues to be out of service due to the emissions system problem. Recent information is being reviewed for the claim to move to warranty status.

Commissioner Albert asked about water freezing prevention efforts, such as slow dripping to maintain flow. Chief Ambrose explained that can be done, but it is difficult with the number of sinks and faucets in the facility. That method has been used in the past. The recommendation for a reliable fix moving forward is a hot water pump that will keep water flowing to avoid freezing. It is also possible to apply heat tape to the pipes, but some newer pipe materials do not hold up well to direct heat.

3. Operations: Assistant Chief Chris Patti

Calls: AC Patti reported that operations activity for the month of January 2024 was busy. There were 236 calls for the month of January 2024, composed of 174 fire and 62 EMS. 2024 calls to date (236) are ahead of 2023 calls through January (174). BLS transports in January 2024 were at 62, up by 23 over January 2023.

Ambulance Wait Times: Ambulance wait times have been acceptable. Average wait time numbers are down to about 18 minutes at St. Pete's and 6 minutes at Capital Medical Center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board convened into Executive Session at 1852, for an estimated 5 minutes, to discuss personnel matters. The Board will reconvene at 1857 and immediately adjourn. No action was taken as a result of the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Board meeting; the motion carried. The Board adjourned at 1857.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

For Thurston County Fire District 9:

Dale Putnam, Chair

Jason Foust, Commissioner

Len Albert, Commissioner

Mark Thompson, Commissioner

Mark Campeau, Commissioner

Tom McBride, Board Secretary

Date