

# King County Fire Protection District No. 27

## Minutes

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on May 8, 2012 at Station No. 271 located at 4301 334th PL SE in Fall City, Washington.

Commissioner Hollis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

### Present:

Chairperson Williams – 7:06  
Commissioner Hollis  
Commissioner Meredith via phone  
Chief Connor  
Secretary Evans

### In Attendance:

Capt. Larson  
FF Noble  
FF Krache  
FF White

### BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

#### Local Board for Volunteer Firefighters

The Board convened into a Local Board for Firefighter meeting at 7:00 p.m. to discuss and approve medical claims. The Board convened back into the regular meeting at 7:02 p.m

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion made by Commissioner Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hollis the Board approved the minutes of the April 10, 2012 Regular meeting.

Motion Carried.

### WARRANTS:

The Board reviewed the various vouchers drawn on the expense fund.

On the Motion made by Commissioner Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hollis the Board approved the following expenses and signed the authorization documents.

Voucher No. 19515 -19547 totaling \$22,588.61  
Payroll and EFT transactions totaling \$90,254.81  
Motion Carried.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Board reviewed the monthly expense fund budget. Secretary Evans reported that the County reports have not been received therefore the budget does not include the April tax and investment revenue.

Secretary Evans also stated that the GO Bond interest payment of \$35,930 will post in the bond fund account on June 1.

### STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Falls Little League – Auction Request for Birthday Party at the Fire Department

Secretary Evans stated that she had received a request from the Falls Little League to procure a birthday party event at the fire department for the League's fund raising. She further stated that the District has allowed this type of request for Encompass on three occasions over the past three years and Chief Kanim PTSA, on one occasion. The fire department provides the room, a tour, some fire education activity books and sometimes Sparky will make an appearance. The decorations and cake are provided by another donor or business. The Fire District also recently donated to the Sno Valley Senior Center's benefit gala a dinner for six with the Firefighters and a ride in one of the apparatus at Fall City Days.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of allowing these fund raising requests. Commissioner Williams conveyed that the educational tours that we provide to children are much more in line with how the fire service should be respected. Having birthday parties is not what we are in business for, however she also recognizes why the schools and local groups request them for their fundraisers; if you could put a limit say one or two request a year she was ok with that. Commissioner Meredith favored declining the request and moving away from these types of events altogether. Commissioner Hollis stated that he had procured the auction items for the Senior Center benefit gala and if we do have a limit in place he would be inclined to allow it. After some further discussion the Board approved the request.

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### CHIEF'S REPORT:

#### **Alarms**

In April, the District responded to 32 BLS Aid calls, 8 ALS Aid calls, 8 Fire calls and 5 Service calls for a total of 53. The fiscal year to date total at the end of the month was 408 alarms, compared to 341 in the 2011 fiscal year. The calendar year to date total at the end of the month was 249 alarms compared to 188 in 2011. The District requested mutual aid on 6 alarms of which we cancelled 3 times. The District provided mutual aid on 20 alarms of which we were cancelled 15 times.

The 01:30 turnout time standard was achieved on 40 of 49 calls which is 81.6%. The 90% turnout time was 01:49. Alarm Charts for the month were provided for review.

#### **Volunteer Recruit Training**

Chief Connor reported that the six newest recruits have completed the IFSTA fire training modules. First Aid and CPR, Extrication, Hazardous Materials and Incident Command training and some makeup and additional training is planned. They continue to train in a Thursday evening and all day Saturday format.

#### **Volunteer Firefighters / E Shift Program**

Nothing new to report at this time.

#### **NORCOM**

Chief Connor reported that the annual Principals Assembly was held last month. The regular monthly Governing Board meeting followed the Principals Assembly. Efforts are continuing to hire a permanent Executive Director, hire a temporary Technology Project Manager, plan for the next Go Live event later this year, and to make progress on a labor agreement.

#### **SERRA**

Chief Connor discussed the SERRA inter-local agreement as it now exists. The original intent was a program to delay purchase of front line apparatus and to share a reserve apparatus. The District is limited to apparatus it can share and the only engine currently in the program has been provided by EFR. Chief Connor stated that there has not been much traction occurring with the program and interest with other agencies participating in the program has diminished. The current participants in the agreement are EFR, Mercer Island and FD 27. The agreement states that a maintenance trust would be set up for the reserve apparatus in the program and the participating agencies would fund the trust. Chief Connor conveyed that it doesn't make fiscal sense for D27 to continue with the partnership and pay into the maintenance trust if we continue to operate with our own back up engine. Chief Connor recommended that the District withdraw from the SERRA agreement.

On the Motion of Commissioner Hollis and a second by Chairperson Williams, since there was no clear benefit to the District the Board unanimously approved the withdrawal from the SERRA inter-local agreement.

Motion Carried.

#### **VHF Radio**

Chief Connor reported that narrow band replacement mobile and portable VHF radios would be purchased in the next few months.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

#### **Future Options - Revenue and Expenses**

Chief Connor reviewed with the Board a summary of the patient transports for the five year period beginning January 1, 2007 and ending December 31, 2011. The data indicates that on average there are about 75 potentially billable transports per year. The collection rate experience of other departments varies widely between 35 and 75 percent. Chief Connor stated that the potential revenue is around \$30,000 – \$40,000 per year.

Chief Connor explained that the District has a policy that currently allows for local transports to Snoqualmie Valley Hospital. The District has been transporting to Swedish Hospital in Issaquah and Overlake Hospital as well; in most cases because an ambulance is not available and the patient may have a preference based on their provider network. Ultimately the Officer in charge will make the determination based on what is best for the patient. Chief Connor further discussed that if the patient is critical enough for ALS (Advance Life Services) then the Medic Unit will be transporting and there is no transport fee passed on to the patient. Commissioner Meredith asked is it more reasonable to reduce the risks of something happening within the District; and by initiating a fee for transport it will create an environment where we increase the likelihood of having the duty crew out of the area more.

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Commissioner Williams stated that she would prefer not to charge the citizens of the District for transports. Chief Connor commented that most transports initiated by the District are due to there not being an ambulance available. Commissioner Meredith stated that he would like to revisit this issue and review the transport policy.

FF White left the meeting – 7:45 p.m.

**Outdoor Burning**

Chief Connor stated that last month the consensus of the Board was to move ahead with a proposal to discontinue the issuance of "Residential Burning" permits in the higher density areas of the District and establish a seasonal burning moratorium during the summer months. Chief Connor reported that EFR has an outdoor residential burning moratorium in place every year from June 15 through September 30. This does not affect recreational fires. Commissioner Hollis stated that he did not intend to restrict recreational fires. Chief Connor stated that the recreational burning is prohibited if the County imposes a fire danger ban or if a pollution episode is issued by Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

Two maps illustrating proposed boundaries for the restricted burning areas were provided to the Board. The map titled Fall City Fire District 27 was created by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency when land clear burning was phased out; the highlighted areas were considered high density areas of the District. Commissioner Meredith asked if the high density definition still exists in those areas. Chief Connor replied that the census tract that he viewed showed approximately 700 persons per square mile.

The second map provided was similar in scope and included the River View Park and Heathercrest neighborhoods. Further discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of the Lake Alice area due to its density and proximity to the Snoqualmie Ridge. The Board concurred that it should be included.

Commissioner Williams stated that by putting a seasonal burning moratorium in place this would help with some of the other issues. Chief Connor reported that DNR is expected to issue a burning moratorium in June; it may be good idea to line up our dates with DNR this year. There was discussion regarding other types of burning; agricultural, silvacultural, flood debris disposal and firefighting training.

Chief Connor suggested moving ahead with the seasonal moratorium in concert with DNR and or King County this year. While this is in place it allows the District more time to finalize the boundaries, provide information to the public and update the website with the map and rule changes. Commissioner Meredith asked how many people this may potentially effect and he wasn't completely convinced that the map presented enough information; he would like to see additional details to the map, specifically if the parcel information could be identified more clearly.

Capt. Larson, FF Noble, FF Krache left the meeting to respond to an alarm at 8:18 p.m.

Chief Connor will add the Lake Alice area and some additional details to the preliminary map as requested. Further discussion on distributing the information to the public ensued.

Commissioner Hollis requested that an updated map be provided at the next meeting. The Board discussed when they would like to implement the changes and gravitated towards a November timeline.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**OTHER:**

Commissioner Williams conveyed her appreciation and gratitude to the duty crew that had responded to her house and helped with her family over the weekend.

**Adjournment:**

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hollis at 8:36 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Evans  
Board Secretary

*Melinda Evans*

*Gerie Williams*  
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Commissioner

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Commissioner  
*[Signature]*  
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Commissioner