

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 November 13, 2012 at Station No. 271 located at 4301 334th PL SE in Fall City, Washington.

Chairperson Williams called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present:

Chairperson Williams
Commissioner Hollis
Chief Connor
Secretary Evans

In Attendance:

Lt. LeDoux
FF Turcotte
FF White
FF Todd
FF Fleming
Judy White
Richard Pankratz
Linda Schoenfeld

Nancy Moore
Del Moore

Commissioner Meredith absent and excused.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Local Board for Volunteer Firefighters

The Board convened into a meeting of the Local Board for Volunteer Firefighters from 7:05 to 7:07 p.m.

Public Comment

Ms. White addressed the Board with her concerns on the outdoor burning rule changes. She stated that the Fire District does not have its monthly meeting day or time listed anywhere, how can citizens in the community be informed if the District does not provide notification of its meetings and issues. There are many people in the community that are not even aware of the new outdoor burn rules. Ms. White stated that it wasn't until after the action was taken that a letter went out to inform the community.

Commissioner Hollis stated that the Board has kept outdoor burning on the agenda so that we could receive comments from the public. Chairperson Williams agreed that the regular meeting dates and times should be posted on the District's website and the law does require our special meetings to be posted.

Ms. Shoenfeld addressed the Board and stated that she was not aware of the District's meetings and that they were open to the public. The time to give public comment would have been before the ruling had been made. Had I known that this was being considered I would have provided comment, there was no public awareness and something like this effects a lot of people.

Ms. Moore stated that she could add the District's meetings to the Neighbors Newsletter monthly calendar. Chief Connor stated that the regular monthly meeting is always on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Ms. White continued and stated the RCW that the Board referenced in the media release was; in accordance to the Washington Clean Air Act, when reasonable alternative methods of yard debris disposal are available and are less harmful to the environment, then outdoor burning shall be prohibited. She further stated "When reading the RCW; it says that when an alternative technology or method of disposing of the organic refuse is available, reasonably economical, and less harmful to the environment. I think the test of the RCW that states economically reasonable needs to be addressed; three times the cost is not economical for me.

Ms. White further discussed the issue that she has with disposing of blackberries and knotweed on her riverfront property. The knotweed is an invasive species and I can't compost it, the only way to get rid of it is digging it out and putting it in the garbage, the garbage company does not want you to put yard debris in the garbage, Rainier Recyclers charge \$20 a cubic yard to dispose of it, and the amount that I have is considerable.

Chairperson Williams inquired if it was a requirement of the County to manage the knotweed on the riverbank. Ms. White stated that she is trying to do what the County advises, and they tell me that I should try to control it from spreading; once it is dry it burns very quickly.

Further discussion by Commissioner Hollis on noxious weed disposal at the Cedar Falls transfer station ensued. Mr. Pankratz stated that there are many people who don't have the resources to dispose of the debris in this manner.

Ms. Shoenfeld addressed the Board and asked if there would be any consideration to amending the rules. Commissioner Hollis replied that he would not be inclined to change the rules. Chairperson Williams stated that one of the Commissioners is absent tonight and he would need to weigh in on the discussion,

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however the three of us have discussed this issue and the outcome is probably not going to change. Chairperson Williams conveyed that for many years she had concerns with the fire dangers and wildfires in the community. There are many people in the community that agree with not having the outdoor burning, they don't like the nuisance of the smoke, and the District has expended a lot of resources responding to burn complaints. Chairperson Williams further conveyed that there are other alternatives, such as chipping and composting, the Firewise program is a good resource that individuals can utilize.

Mr. Pankratz stated that not having any opportunity to burn is sad, being in a rural community we have a lot of debris that accumulates, and in the City where the limitations are, as far as the knotweed goes, it shouldn't be a burden on the people who live on the river, their hands are tied. There should be some reconsideration to this.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On the Motion made by Commissioner Hollis and a second by Chairperson Williams the Board approved the minutes of the October 9, 2012 Regular meeting, October 30, 2012 and November 5, 2012 Special meetings.

Motion Carried.

WARRANTS:

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

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

Voucher No. 19713 -19765 totaling \$31,700.47

Payroll and EFT transactions totaling \$94,953.71

Motion Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

The Board reviewed the monthly budgets and financial statements.

STATION USER AGREEMENTS:

Snoqualmie Valley Soccer Assoc., Coaches Training; October 27, 2012 – 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Snoqualmie Valley Soccer Assoc., Board of Directors Meeting; November 12, 2012 - 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Approved

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter from the Fall City Community Food Pantry thanking the Firefighters who participated in the food drive on October 19th was received.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Alarms

In October, the District responded to 28 BLS Aid calls, 16 ALS Aid calls, 15 Fire calls and 9 Service calls for a total of 68. The fiscal year to date total at the end of the month was 68 alarms, compared to 49 in the 2011 fiscal year. The calendar year to date total at the end of the month was 664 alarms compared to 546 in 2011. The District requested mutual aid on 9 alarms of which we cancelled 6 times. The District provided mutual aid on 22 alarms of which we were cancelled 12 times.

The 01:30 turnout time standard was achieved on 55 of 65 calls which is 84.6%. The 90% turnout time was 01:44. Alarm Charts for the month were provided for review.

Annual Alarm, Drill Report

Chief Connor provided a copy of the annual report to the Board for review. The Annual Volunteer pay which was approved tonight is based on this report.

Volunteer Recruit Training

Chief Connor reported that two of the newest recruits are attending the EMT class. The other three are working E shift fills and some weekend day shifts.

Volunteer Firefighters / E Shift Program

Chief Connor reported that the Volunteer Member who was attending the Washington State Training Recruit Academy at North Bend graduated on November 2nd and has returned to the E Shift rotation.

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NORCOM

Chief Connor reported that the regular monthly Governing Board meeting was held last Friday morning. Chief Connor stated that he did not attend.

SERRA

Chief Connor stated that no meeting had occurred to discuss changes to the ILA.

VHF Radio

Chief Connor stated that the radio order had been received at Wentz Electronics. Programming and installation will be scheduled soon. The alphanumeric paging receiver will also be installed. The District will be reprogramming all of the radios to the narrow banding in order to be in compliance with the FCC before the end of the year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Bond Refinance – Martin Nelson & Co.

Chief Connor provided a brief summary to the citizens present, of the District's past bond approval measure and the current refinance process that is under way with Martin Nelson & Co.

Chief Connor reported that he and Melinda along with Jim Nelson had participated in a telephone conference with Standard & Poor's earlier today to provide information for the preliminary credit assessment. The preliminary credit assessment should be available in about a week or so, and if it is favorable the District would request that Standard & Poor's issue a public rating. The rating could then be included in the preliminary official statement which would be used to market bonds to refund the existing bonds, resulting in a savings to the tax payers. Chief Connor stated that the target is to achieve a rating of A - or better. If the preliminary credit assessment indicates the target can be achieved the next step is to request the rating. Chief Connor asked the Board for approval to request a rating if the preliminary credit assessment indicates we can achieve the target rating. The cost of the preliminary credit assessment, \$4,042, would be applied toward the cost of the rating.

On the Motion of Chairperson Williams and a second by Commissioner Hollis, the Board approved requesting the Standard & Poor's rating if the indications are that the District will receive a favorable rating.

Motion Carried.

Outdoor Burning

Discussed earlier

Future Options – Revenue and Expenses

No report at this time

2013 Draft Budget

Chief Connor stated that the budget hearing is scheduled for November 29th and further review of the budget would occur at that meeting.

Temporary Succession Plan – Letter of Agreement

Chief Connor stated that at the last meeting he was tasked with putting a document together and to get the consensus of the Local. He will be meeting with Lt. LeDoux tomorrow to discuss LOA further.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER:

Chairperson Williams inquired about the distribution of the Fall City Neighbors Newsletter. Nancy Moore explained that they distribute about 1,000 copies mostly through the local drop boxes, a small list of people do have the newsletter mailed to them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board convened into an Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. to review the performance of a public employee in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) and to discuss the letter of agreement for temporary succession in accordance with RCW 42.30.140(4)(a). The Executive Session was expected to last 20 minutes. At 8:30 p.m. an additional 15 minutes was requested to continue the discussion.

The Board convened into the Regular Meeting at 9:05 p.m.

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Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Williams at 9:05 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Evans
Board Secretary

Melinda Evans

Sonia Williams
Commissioner

[Signature]
Commissioner

Commissioner