

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

A Special Joint Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 and the City of Snoqualmie Representatives was held on September 24, 2018 at Station No. 271 located at 4301-334th PL SE in Fall City, Washington.

Chairperson Hansen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Present:

FC Chairperson Lilly Hansen
FC Commissioner Eric Hollis
FC Commissioner Daniel Meredith
FC Fire Chief Chris Connor
FC Secretary Melinda Wall
SQ Mayor Matt Larson
SQ City Administrator Bob Larson
SQ Council Member Bob Jeans
SQ Council Member Katherine Ross
SQ Council Member Peggy Shepard
SQ Fire Chief Mark Correira

Audience:

FF Springer
FF Jessen
FF Baker
Terri Divers
Dave Hart
Nancy Moore

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Service Consolidations Options Discussion

Commissioner Meredith opened the discussion outlining the following talking points:

- Lead Agency – Opportunity for Shared Governance / Shared Decision Making
- Cost Sharing Methodology – Factors, Population, Calls for Service, Risks, EE location, FBC
- Apparatus – Replacement Schedule, Cost Apportionment, Ownership
- Staffing – Current, Future Needs

Commissioner Hollis stated that the District is not looking for an agreement like what Snoqualmie provides to North Bend for police services; the District would want to retain shared governance and decision making authority. Chief Correira discussed the shared governance model, option-three and how the governance and shared decision making could be addressed by the terms of an interlocal agreement. He also stated that the capital and equipment of each agency could remain separate.

Councilmember Ross stated that there could also be some benefits to District 27 in a shared governance model because of Snoqualmie's accreditation. Mayor Larson discussed a couple of ideas on apparatus replacement which could be segregated by agency or an alternative could be combining them into a fleet program.

Commissioner Hollis asked how District 27 would share in the decision making process with the Fire Chief's position. Mayor Larson discussed the authority overseeing the Chief's position. City Administrator Larson added that for those decisions affecting the Chief could be addressed with a Joint Executive Board, similar to what EFR has or a separate governing Board like NORCOM. City Administrator Larson also conveyed that if there is a willingness to work together a long term commitment would be most desirable.

Ideas on cost sharing were discussed; e.g., for a training officer % of use by each agency. City Administrator Larson also stated that identifying the needs and planning ahead can be very beneficial.

When asked about obstacles, Chairperson Hansen commented on the challenges with the different governance structure of cities and fire districts and the effectiveness of shared decision making. Commissioner Meredith also shared his concerns about the added complexity with governance.

Chief Correira discussed the following benefits of the two agencies working together; shared training officer and deputy chief, 3-person minimum staffing for District 27, cost savings on reserve apparatus, efficiencies and economies of scale for both agencies. He also noted the comparative analysis for 2019, with both agencies combined the cost estimate was \$5.2 mil. and separately it was \$5.3 mil.

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It was also noted that an update to the cost sharing data could be provided. Mayor Larson also discussed the benefits that could be attained, in addition to Fall City retaining its identity. Commissioner Meredith had some concerns about the scoping document analysis, and that the numbers were higher than the District's current 2018 budget. Chairperson Hansen commented that District 27 would still need to have an excess levy or other funding in the Snoqualmie option.

Discussion ensued about the experience Chief Correira had with the merger of Snohomish District 1 and the City of Edmonds. Discussion ensued regarding Snoqualmie's decision to leave the EFR Partnership.

Councilmember Ross inquired what the next steps would be for District 27. Commissioner Meredith stated that he would like to review the data, though he conveyed that the opportunity that District 10 is offering is compelling and appears to provide the additional services at a savings to the District. Mayor Larson replied that some of the challenges will be political and how much you want to retain your identity. Further discussion on both agencies volunteer program ensued. Councilmember Jeans stated that the Board has a challenging decision to make and asked if they would like to meet again.

Commissioner Meredith stated that he would like to review the data on the options and that the Board needs to have some further discussions. The Board thanked the City of Snoqualmie Representatives for taking the time to meet with them. Snoqualmie Representatives left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

After a ten-minute break the Board convened back into the special meeting at 11:30 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Collective Bargaining Agreement Hiring Additional Career Firefighter

The Board went into a fifteen-minute Executive Session at 11:30 a.m. with Chief Connor to discuss the Collective Bargaining Agreement in accordance with RCW 42.30.140 and to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g). An additional twenty-five minutes was needed to finish the discussion. At 12:10 p.m. the Executive Session was closed, and the Special Meeting was opened.

NEW BUSINESS:

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Hansen at 12:10 p.m.

Attest:
Melinda Wall
Board Secretary

Melinda Wall

[Signature]
Commissioner

[Signature]
Commissioner

Commissioner