

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on June 24, 2019 at Station No. 271 located at 4301-334th PL SE in Fall City, Washington.

Commissioner Hollis called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Daniel Meredith – arrived 6:31
Commissioner Lilly Hansen
Commissioner Eric Hollis
Chief Chris Connor
Secretary Melinda Wall

In Attendance:

see attached list

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period:

Nancy Moore thanked Chief Connor and the Firefighters for their participation in the parade. She also commented about the agenda item "New Business" and "Other" and the order of the agenda items. Commissioner Hansen stated that the Executive Session is usually done at the end of the meeting, and that no business will be conducted after the Executive Session.

Secretary Wall explained that "Other" is used as a place holder for good of the order type comments or announcements. Chief Connor also stated that the Board can discuss any item they just cannot take final action on an item that is not listed on the agenda.

Robert Angrisano commented about having "Other" or "New Business" open-ended, on the special meeting agenda, he believed it contradicted the RCW's.

The Board moved the public comment period to the end of the meeting when Chairman Meredith would be in attendance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Financial Projections

Chief Connor reviewed the updated Financial Projections which included the additional line items listed below, which were requested by the Board at the last special meeting. The line items were to be populated into the model to indicate the cash flow and financial outcomes.

The following expenditures were included:

- Annual Capital Reserve Transfer increased up to \$120,000
- SCBA Purchase – \$160,000-\$185,000
- PPE 10 Year Life cycle – 2nd Set for Career EE's, (\$3,300 per set x 12--\$40K)
- SKCFTC Training Consortium - Annual \$50,000
- MDC's - \$20,000 (two units)
- Tires on 7 Year Replacement Schedule \$18,710
- Rescue Tools \$38,000
- Power Load – A252 \$25,000
- Hose, Nozzles, SRT Equip, K12 Saw, etc. \$19,500
- Train Officer / Admin / DC \$140,000
- Accrued Leave Balance \$69,765
- Additional NORCOM Funding \$850 in 2021, \$5,410 in 2023
- Facilities, Equip Replacement Fund

Commissioner Hollis asked about the current overtime costs. Discussion followed about what was driving the increased costs such as the open e-shifts and the usual time off coverage.

Discussion ensued on the replacement costs for the SCBA equipment. Robert Angrisano commented on the estimates. Chief Connor reviewed the estimate he received from a current bid that was available and

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

he reported on the variables that can affect the outcome of those costs. Further discussion ensued regarding the purchase timeline of the SCBA's and what other neighboring districts were doing.

The District's vehicle replacement schedule was discussed in detail; it was suggested that the life of some of the vehicles could be extended out further due to their low mileage or low use. Funding the vehicles with optional low interest financing was also discussed.

Brandon Bothwell discussed the second set of turnout gear and suggested that a second helmet and second set of boots would not be needed to be in compliance with the regulations. Brandon suggested reducing the number of SCBA's that would be purchased. He suggested some alternatives to the reserve aid car and recommended expanding the life of the front-line aid car. He also suggested to eliminate the power load for the reserve aid car because of its low use. Further discussion followed on complying with manufacture's recommendations and maintenance protocols for turn-out gear.

Commissioner Hollis asked Chief Connor if the Board moved to hire the next firefighter how long would the process take. Chief Connor replied possibly two or three months. Commissioner Hollis requested that hiring an additional firefighter be included on the agenda for further discussion at the next regular meeting.

Brandon Bothwell commented about employee moral; he discussed moving the 12 hour shift employees to a modified 24 hour schedule. He thought this could help fix the nighttime staffing and prevent excessive overtime; and by doing this you could delay hiring the 12th firefighter.

Commissioner Hansen asked if the Union had brought forward any ideas for staffing and scheduling needs. Chief Connor replied there are some ideas but we need to determine if they are cost effective.

Chief Connor further discussed the District's current schedule, the amount of time off coverage which is needed to get to the desired three-person coverage.

Public Comment Period:

(previously moved)

Dave Hart commented that it's not cost effective to use overtime to provide the coverage for three-person staffing. The Board should consider hiring the next firefighter at this time and not wait until 2020; the volunteers could continue to fill the 4th and 5th bed; it's just time to move forward on this.

Chairman Meredith conveyed that the Board needs to assess all of the costs before committing to hiring the next firefighter. There are many items that we want to have over the next five years and we have to look at our options. Chief Connor provided a review of the cash flow in the Financial Projections. Commissioner Hansen shared her concerns about passing another M&O levy.

Chairman Meredith stated that we have to look at all of these items, and we know that Chief Connor has done a great job of getting by, our goal is something more than just getting by.

Terri Divers commented on the revenue side of the budget; she stated that in November the District will have a better idea of assessed values and new construction. She commented on the EMS levy renewal and the option of transport fees. She conveyed that there will be additional revenues that's currently not reflected in this budget. She discussed the District's past budgets and stated that the District usually ends up banking money every year; a lot of planning and studying still needs to occur with this budget. She further commented about the current tax assessments that have increased upwards to 17% and by contrast the District's projections were 5%. She encouraged the Board to study all of the options and take into consideration some of the ideas that were discussed tonight.

Nora Hightower commented on financial planning and stated that the budget is probably the most important document that the Board will prepare. She shared her experience with developing and managing budgets. She commented that there needs to be realistic costs, you might need to change the scope of the costs or change the priorities. The levy rate may need to be raised; finding new revenue sources, and looking at alternative financing for the vehicles are options for discussion. She commented on prioritizing needs and having business goals; Safety, People, and Stewardship of the public dollars. She encouraged the Board to be strategic with the list, to do the research, and sometimes you take a risk, maybe hire the 12th firefighter.

Robert Angrisano agreed with Nora's comments and stated that there is some time to analyze and prioritize the list. He commented that Chief Connor has done an excellent job, and ends up with money at the end of the year because he budgets conservatively, and I appreciate that. He commented about the

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

current assessments and believed that the levy rate would drop to near a \$1.00 per thousand. A future levy lid lift of \$.0.25 may be appropriate. He conveyed that the community supports the fire department and if you let them know what its going to cost, they will support you. Robert also commented on the public records request that he did with EFR; the request has been closed and no supporting documents were ever provided that could verify their numbers in the budget summary that they had submitted for the merger proposal.

Marty Wheeler commented on the budget, and that every line item has an NFPA standard, we need to keep in mind that firefighter's lives are at risk. He commented that the budget cannot be maintained by residential taxes. He commented about starting another petition, for another vote and recommend that any documents the Board receives should be saved for any future subpoenas.

Performance Evaluations: Fire Chief, Administrative Assistant

No action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board convened into a 15 minute Executive Session with Chief Connor at 7:55 p.m. in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g); to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. At 8:10 p.m. the Board convened back into the regular meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER:

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hollis at 8:10 p.m.

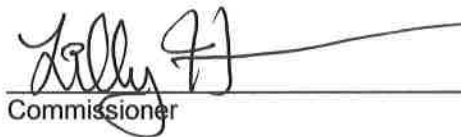
Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall


Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner

King County Fire Protection District No. 27
Board of Commissioner's Meeting

Attendee List – June 24, 2019

Robert Angrisano
Jay Bluher
Terri Divers
Dave Hart
Nora Hightower
Nancy Moore
George Robertson
Kevin Little
Marty Wheeler
Brandon Bothwell
Danielle Bothwell
Kimbra Baker
FF Shaun Baker
FF Amy Juliano – 6:20
FF Marcus Noble – 7:12
FF Scott Fleming – 7:12