

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT THREE

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

December 3rd, 2020

Chairman Dobry
Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Kirkbride
Commissioner Hetzler

The meeting was open to the public via the Zoom meeting platform.

I. CALL TO ORDER / FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Dobry called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Hetzler

Carried: Unanimous

III. AMERICAN LEGION AWARDS PRESENTATION

- Commander Gary Walker of the American Legion Post 94 addressed the Board. He shared that the American Legion would like to recognize the entire first responder community. He shared his thanks to the District for going above the call this past year.
 - Post Award Recipients:
 - He recognized Daniel Moerman of Olympic Ambulance as the Emergency Medical Technician of the Year. Daniel was recognized for his leadership and mentorship abilities. Post Commander Rose Hodgeboom presented Daniel his award.
 - He recognized Lacey Fire District 3 Captain Karen Weiss for the Firefighter of the Year Award. Karen was recognized for her continued commitment and dedication to the District throughout her time with Lacey Fire and in her new leadership role as MSO. Post Commander Rose Hodgeboom presented Karen her award.
 - Department Award Recipient:
 - Last year Commander Rick Sucee presented Derek Smith with the Post award. Department Commander Clark presented

Derek Smith with the Legion's Department award for his continued dedication and service.

- Department of Washington Firefighter of the Year Award Recipient:
 - Last year Robert Gottbreht was awarded the post Firefighter of the Year award. Commander Rick Sucee shared an account of Firefighter Gottbreht's rescue of a citizen in distress which he administered lifesaving measures. He shared that Firefighter Gottbreht's selfless and heroic actions saved the man's life. This year Commander Clark presented with the 2019-2020 Firefighter of the Year award. The recipients of this award are forwarded to the regional panel and Firefighter Gottbreht additionally was awarded with the Western Division Firefighter of the Year award.
 - Commissioner Dobry, Commissioner Hetzler, and Commissioner Roberts shared their thanks on behalf of the Board for the outstanding service of our members to the community.

IV. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC /MEMBERS PRESENT

- Olympic Ambulance Director Chris Clem addressed that Olympic Ambulance was able to hire more full time positions to increase coverage.
 - Received a license for Pierce County. They will not be cross staffing.

V. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- General Fund 001 (Acct# 6630) checks numbered #22355 through #22363 in the amount of \$21,103.64
- 2017B Capital Projects Fund 307 (Acct#663B) checks numbered #22364 through #22365 in the amount of \$85,951.38
- Payroll #11B 2020 in the amount of \$432,926.96

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Roberts

Carried: Unanimous

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Planning and Response Updates for Pandemic: Staff Report

Chief Brooks shared:

- Deferred to the administrative report at the end.

B. Commissioner Appointment Process: Staff Update/Discussion

Commissioner Dobry shared how the interview process was to be conducted:

- Commissioner Candidate Dave Ribacchi addressed the Board:
 - He shared his prior service in the Lacey community and previous experience out of state which included some seasonal fire service work. He shared his appreciation for the services that firefighters provide. He shared his experience as a mediator, and his view of the “We Proposition” and its mission. He shared his desire to be a part of the community, and his work on the Citizen’s Advisory Committee.
 - Commissioner Kirkbride asked if Mr. Ribacchi would be running for election next November.
 - He affirmed that he would.
- Commissioner Candidate Ken Balsley addressed the Board:
 - He shared his family connections and community service in the area. He shared his knowledge of the District and that the citizens of the District. Shared the communications background, and his service to organizations in the Lacey community. He shared the importance of future planning and the importance of meeting community expectations for service.
 - Commissioner Kirkbride asked if he would running for election next November.
 - He affirmed that he would.
- Commissioner Candidate Richard “Rick” Kelling addressed the Board:
 - He shared that he is a retired Army Officer, his family connection to Lacey, his experience serving in the military community, and his volunteer experience serving the homeless community in our area. He stated that in his prior experience in the military he helped to develop policy, and that he had experience in personnel training, and equipment/resource allocation. He shared that he would be willing to run for election next November.
- Commissioner Candidate Melissa Gamble addressed the Board:
 - She shared her family’s connection in the community. She shared that she is involved in Rotary, YMCA volunteering, and volunteering in other countries providing medical care. She shared her knowledge of LFD3 organizational structure and of our Department community outreach. She spoke about her appreciation of Camp Blaze and the confidence it provides youth in the community. Spoke to her experience in the medical field as to community needs, and shared her personal experience as a community member with emergency medical services. She shared that she would be willing to run for election next November.
- Commissioner Candidate Barbara Sovde addressed the Board:
 - She shared her experience serving the community with HOA Boards in the area and working in communications. She shared that she is experienced in bringing community leaders to the table, shared her experience working with the District as a volunteer, and her background working on District bonds and levies. She shared that she would be willing to run for the election next November.

VII. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(h): To evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elected office.
- The Board recessed at 7:00pm, and will reconvene for the Executive Session at that time. They anticipated their session would last approximately 20 minutes.
 - The Board returned to regular session at 7:28pm with a decision.

MOTION: To nominate Melissa Gamble for appointment to Board Position #5.

Motion: Commissioner Hetzler

Second: Commissioner Roberts

Carried: Unanimous

- Commissioner Kirkbride thanked all of the candidates for applying to the open position. He stated that the candidates were all quality candidates and the Board had a tough time deciding on who would fill the vacancy. He thanked them for their dedication to the Lacey community.
- Commissioner Dobry shared this thanks to the candidates for taking the time to apply for the vacant position and for taking their time to familiarize themselves with the District.
- Commissioner Hetzler shared she felt that any one of the candidates would have served in the vacant position well.
- Commissioner Roberts seconded all of the comments shared and she thanked the candidates for their time and commitment to the District.
- Commissioner Dobry inquired when the swearing in ceremony would take place.
 - Chief Brooks shared that Commissioner Elect Gamble would be sworn in and take the oath of office at the beginning of the next BoFC meeting on Thursday, December 17th.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- None.

C. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Brooks provided the following updates:

- The vaccine is anticipated in the coming weeks. The District began meeting with TCMO and other agencies regarding the roll out of the vaccine. The Department of Health shared that District employees to be included in the 1A group of the vaccine timeline would include first responders and fire department administration staff. Vaccinations could become available as early as December 14th.

- Discussion took place regarding the distribution, shipping, allocation, dosage, storage, side effects, vaccine locations, and timelines of both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.
 - Commissioner Dobry inquired if the vaccine would be a mandatory vaccine.
 - Chief Brooks shared that it would not be. Members would have the ability to opt out. He shared that at present over 60% of those surveyed by Medic One in Thurston County have said that they would take the vaccine if provided.
 - He shared that the District will be surveying our members and he anticipated that approximately 70% of our workforce would participate.
 - One member of District tested positive and a number of members have had to quarantine.
 - Commissioner Dobry inquired about the capacity at the local hospitals.
 - Chief Brooks shared that they are getting close to capacity, and hospitals are considering reducing elective procedures.
 - Discussion took place regarding diversion, capacity, and staffing.
 - New Station 34 is in final inspections and approval stage, but one outstanding item was the bio-retention pond issue.
 - Excavated the retention pond an additional 12-18” to have soils at correct consistency. Final soil to be delivered tomorrow. Waiting on updates from the civil engineers to the County tomorrow. The County will be ready to issue a Certificate of Occupancy once they review those documents. Should have Certificate of Occupancy from the County by Monday at the latest.

Deputy Chief Schmidt provided the following updates:

- That there are good systems in place for COVID practices regarding prevention and contact tracing measures

D. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Kirkbride – He shared that there were five outstanding candidates for the vacant commissioner position. He thanked the Board for their thoughtfulness and comments in order to help the Board come to their decision.

Commissioner Roberts – She shared her thanks for everyone who participated in the interview process and shared her thanks to HR Director Teri Perrine for her work preparing for the interview.

Commissioner Dobry – He shared his appreciation for the citizens who wanted to join the Board and spoke about the position of being a member of the Board. He shared his

appreciation to the American Legion for the awards and recognition of member service.

Commissioner Hetzler – She shared that she appreciated the American Legion awards presentation and the members who were awarded. She shared her appreciation to the applicants who applied for the vacant commissioner seat.

E. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC / MEMBERS PRESENT

- None.

F. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned as of 8:09pm.

*Next Regular Meeting: December 17th, 2020– 5:30 p.m.
Available via remote meeting.*

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Chair Eugene W Dobry Jr

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Commissioner

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Vice Chair Sylvia Roberts

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Commissioner Frank Kirkbride

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Steve Brooks
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ATTEST: District Secretary Steve Brooks