

**THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT THREE**

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

**June 17, 2021**

Commissioner Roberts  
Commissioner Kirkbride  
Commissioner Gamble  
Commissioner Kelling  
Commissioner Hetzler

The meeting was held in person with limited attendance and is open to the public via the Zoom meeting platform. The meeting is being recorded.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, followed with a salute to our Nation's Flag.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Hetzler  
Second: Commissioner Kirkbride  
Carried: Unanimous

**III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC /MEMBERS PRESENT**

Douglas Hartz introduced himself as running for Fire Commissioner.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Draft minutes of the June 3, 2021 of the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting.
- B. Warrants:
- General Fund 001 (Acct #6630) checks numbered 22653 through 22685 and including bank drafts and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for a total amount of \$574,290.76

- Equipment, Repair and Replacement Fund 103 (Acct#6636) electronic fund transfers (EFT) for a total of \$21.50
- 301 Capital Projects Fund (Acct #6631 ) check numbered 22686 for a total amount of \$25,417.59
- 2017B Capital Projects Fund 307 (Acct #663B) checks numbered 22687 and 22688 and including bank drafts and electronic fund transfers (EFTs) for a total amount of \$97,219.42

C. Payroll 06A 2021 in the amount of \$1,247660.95

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Kelling

Carried: Unanimous

## V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Thurston County Medic One

Commissioner Kirkbride reported from the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- A status report regarding of delays and diversions at hospitals was provided.
- Approximately \$10,000 in special projects funding was distributed between 6 Districts
- The main discussion was budget. Four budgets were approved; 2022 and 2023 if the levy passes, and 2022 and 2023 if the levy does not pass. The 2022 no levy budget also included funding to run the levy again should it be necessary. July 13<sup>th</sup> will be a Zoom meeting for questions on the budget. The with levy funding budget meets all obligations; if the levy does not pass there will be impacts to both ALS and BLS funding, including opening existing contracts.
- The Medical Services officers of the County, led by Captain Karen Weiss, developed a video that positively impacted PMs interest in applying; there are eleven potential candidates in this recruitment period. Commissioner Kirkbride asked the Chief to express his thanks to Captain Weiss.

### B. Thurston 9-1-1 Communications (TCOMM)

No report – the next meeting is July 7<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Roberts sent link for the upcoming town hall meeting – the purpose for shareholders with interest in radio system

### C. City/District Liaison

Meeting cancelled.

Chief received a communication from the City asking if Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11 AM would work for a meeting. Commissioners Kirkbride and Roberts indicated both could attend. The meeting will be in person at the District, and will have Zoom link as well.

D. Thurston County Fire Commissioners Association

Commissioner Hetzler reported from the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- Commissioner of Public Lands, Hillary Franz, spoke about funding for wildland fires. Programs like FireWise are getting more funding than previously. Commissioner Hetzler signed up for several of the programs to see what kind of information was provided and noted she is experiencing a lack of responses to her inquiries.
- Next meeting is July 20<sup>th</sup>, the meeting in August is the picnic. In person meetings are slated to begin again in September.

E. Thurston Regional Planning Council -

Commissioner Kelling reported from the June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting:

- This meeting was the mid-year update for TRPC – Commissioner Kelling noted two items of interest for which he will share the presentation
  - The I-5 Planning and Environmental links
    - The Martin Way corridor presentation. The purpose of the study is to develop a common vision for Martin Way.
    - There is an online open house running through the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, and a virtual public meeting in the evening of the 23<sup>rd</sup>: Chief can send the link.
  - Smart Corridor update – this project started in 2012 and will continue through 2023
- The bi-annual retreat will be looking at the mission, values and goals in July in two half days

F. Community Outreach

Chief Brooks shared:

- The senior safe @ home had a great training session and the soft rollout is occurring.
- The traditional July 3<sup>rd</sup> fireworks for the City of Lacey is happening this year at the North Thurston High School and is a car based show, designed / intended so that no one leaves their vehicle. This is an interesting location as

this is essentially the convergence of Olympia, Lacey and unincorporated Thurston County.

- Nisqually tribe has opted to join with Tumwater this year and is the sponsor for their fireworks show. There is no sanctioned event at the Nisqually this year.
- Staff is meeting next week to discuss the reopening strategy for meeting rooms – if no other barriers, the intent would be to have our rooms open for public use after the 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

#### G. Capital Facilities and Equipment Activities

Chief Brooks shared:

- The storm water runoff easement from new St 34 is still under review with the County. Since Lacey now has jurisdiction, the City has requested an easement for utilities.
- Staff is working on final closeout documents with our contractor J and R; while the project was ultimately 6% over the bid with change orders, the original bid was 9-10% under estimated.
- Staff is meeting next week with Olympia to discuss the vehicle repair facility. Finance Director Hough is researching alternatives or options for funding. We are working with the engineers and architect on the next phase which is buildable plans, and hope to have a proposal by your next meeting.
- We are planning an updated fleet photo on June 30<sup>th</sup>
- On Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>, the District was able to fly our large flag by ourselves with both ladder trucks sharing the honors.

### VI. OLD BUSINESS

#### A. Planning and Response Updates for Pandemic: Staff Report

Chief Brooks noted there is no new report regarding the District, but that the model of vaccination clinics has changed to smaller pop up types; the District has been approached by the County to possibly use the old 34 site again.

### VII. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Consideration of Board Support for Medic One Levy

Chief Brooks noted that other governmental agencies have formally supported / endorsed the Medic One levy restoration on the August ballot and inquired of the Boards' interest in also doing so. After a brief poll of the Board, the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** To support and endorse the Medic One EMS levy as written on the ballot.

Motion: Commissioner Hetzler  
Second: Commissioner Kelling  
Carried: Unanimous

## **VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Chief Brooks reported:

- June 30<sup>th</sup> will be an updated fleet photo, admin staff photo and BBQ retirement lunch for Chief Dickson. Hopefully old 34 will be available but that has not been finalized. The Board is encouraged to attend.
- He will schedule an updated BoFC group needed
- The District has opened an application period for lateral paramedics, and have solicited internal interest from members for attending PM class.
- He assisted yesterday with the City of Lacey Police Chief interview process as part of the civic panel.

## **IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Gamble – no comments

Commissioner Kelling – attended the Thurston County summer hazards seminar. He encouraged the Board to look at the DNR dashboard.

Commissioner Hetzler – attended the summer hazards seminar. She will not be at the next meeting and is unable to attend the BBQ. Also, requested the Chief again provide calendars to the group.

Commissioner Kirkbride –

- also attended the summer hazards seminar. He noted it was similar to the King County seminar. He also noted DNR reported a normal year has an average 100 - 130 wildland fires about this time of year, but this year there have been 410. Most of the areas of Washington State are in drought. He reported Microsoft has plotted all the structures in the state of Washington and then mapped all our forest lands illustrating the wildland urban interface.
- L&I has published smoke rules. The rulemaking should be done by end of month. It intends to inform when businesses have to shut down to protect workers due to particulate matter.
- Finally, he presented a chart of the CPI since 2000 – while the average has been 2.1 it is currently at 4.9. It is expected to come back down by 2022.

Commissioner Roberts – Commissioner Kelling and I attended the flag handoff honoring Crystal Murphy - it was very moving. After, we were able to see the ladder truck which we had missed last meeting. Also attended the summer hazards seminar; my impression is that South County is where the majority of the wildland danger is.

**X. CORRESPONDENCE**

- We have had inquiries from residents about the landscaping at 34; Director Chambers is working with those residents.
- We have also had reachouts through website and letters with thank yous to our providers. Chief Schmidt passes those along to the members.

**XI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC / MEMBERS PRESENT**

- Incoming Deputy Chief Cerovski is joining us tonight from Colorado via Zoom. Chief Brooks expressed his appreciation for making time to attend the meeting.
- Jim Dickson – noted this is his wife’s last official meeting as Deputy Chief. He wanted to point out all her contributions to the District over the last 30 years. Noted she dislikes recognition as her career has been about the Fire Service, not her. I wanted to publically recognize her.
- Jim Green Local 2903 expressed his thanks to Chief Dickson for her time and years of service at the District.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned as of 6:26 PM.

*Next Regular Meeting: July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.  
Available via remote meeting.*

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 Chair  
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 Commissioner  
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 ATTEST District Secretary