

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT THREE

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

July 1, 2021

Commissioner Roberts
Commissioner Kirkbride
Commissioner Gamble
Commissioner Kelling

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.

Commissioner Hetzler was excused.

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

Chief Brooks requested an executive session be added to the Agenda in accordance with RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) regarding discussion of collective bargaining strategies

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended.

Motion: Commissioner Gamble
Second: Commissioner Kelling
Carried: Unanimous

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC /MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Candidate Doug Hartz attended the meeting via Zoom.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Draft minutes of the June 17, 2021 of the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting.
- B. Warrants:

- General Fund 001 (Acct #6630) checks numbered 22689 through 22693 and including bank drafts and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for a total amount of \$50,156.28
- Equipment, Repair and Replacement Fund 103 (Acct#6636) check numbered 22694 for a total amount of \$877.70
- 2017B Capital Projects Fund 307 (Acct #663B) checks numbered 22695 through 22698 and including bank drafts and electronic fund transfers (EFT) for a total amount of \$126,990.57

C. Payroll 06B 2021 in the amount of \$460,464.32

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Gamble
Second: Commissioner Kirkbride
Carried: Unanimous

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Thurston County Medic One

No report – the next meeting is July 21st. Commissioner Hetzler will be attending in lieu of Commissioner Kirkbride.

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

No report – the next meeting is July 7th.

C. City/District Liaison

Commissioner Roberts reported from the June 22nd meeting:

- Discussed annexation issues related to Station 34 area
- Discussed annexation around Capital City golf course. While the City Council may take action sooner, implementation that would affect fire service response will be delayed until September.
- Discussed the City response to homelessness within City limits. There is an agreement in place with WADOT that does not allow anyone to move (back) in after they move out; this has particularly decreased the number of campers in the area of concern. The City is also looking at wrap around services for remaining campers, including the possibility of transitional housing.
- Discussed fires in the wildland urban interface. Commissioner Kirkbride delivered a presentation, they group discussed Firewise, and Chief Brooks has been invited to present at a Council meeting.
- Discussed the City's fireworks display, which will be at North Thurston this year.

D. Thurston County Fire Commissioners Association

No report – the next meeting is July 20th

E. Thurston Regional Planning Council -

No report – the next meeting is July 2nd.

F. Community Outreach

Chief Brooks shared:

- Social media has been our emphasis throughout the pandemic – Community Resource Coordinator Chris DeBell and the Battalion Chiefs, particularly Chief Hulse, have been effectively using social media and emphasizing targeted campaigns. The District is excited about transitioning into in-person activities.
- Staff discussed reopening our facilities after the holidays, and we have started scheduling the meeting rooms.
- Planning on a full day on September 11th with a remembrance of the 20th anniversary, an open house and a District recognition event.
- Chief Schmidt and Chief Brooks will be available along with 2 additional staffed units for the 3rd of July to help supplement regular staffing.

G. Capital Facilities and Equipment Activities

Chief Brooks shared:

- Our final Certificate of Occupancy for Station 34 was received electronically today from the County. There is ongoing discussion regarding the stormwater management and the easement. The County continues to assert it will be the District's responsibility; the Chief has requested the legal citations. We continue to work on this issue with our Attorney.
- We are nearing completion of the TEC (Training and Education Center); we anticipate on or about the 12th to be transitioning back in the building.
- Logistics Director Chambers and Chief Brooks met with Olympia Fire Chief John and Chief Mechanic Adam Cummings regarding the VRF proposals and possible financial support if what has been allocated for the project is insufficient. Chief John felt positive about the project and support for funding.
- TCOMM has agreed to fully fund and take over project management for the full house generator to be installed at the TEC; this generator will be sufficient to meet both our needs. They intend to eventually transfer the asset back to the District for ongoing maintenance. They are taking on this project in lieu of regular rent payment for their space in the TEC. They hope to move forward with the interior modification in the fall. Additional antennas will be needed; we are working on minimizing their visual impact.
- We are looking to move forward with updated cost estimating for St 33 (new business item) with cost estimates in August.

- Our two new engines were in Lacey for our apparatus photo, have been through acceptance pump testing with the VRF and are headed back to the dealer for final inspections and cleaning. The ladder truck training is right after the holidays, and we hope to get it into the shop after for final outfitting. The old ladder truck will remain at Station 31 as a reserve and to make a truck readily available for training while one remains in service.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Pandemic Response and Planning Updates and consideration of emergency Declaration

Chief Brooks noted the Governors reopening yesterday has created a bit of confusion and staff has issued guidance to members, including being allowed to unmask while in a public business unless the business requires a mask. As an employer, our restrictions have not really changed.

Commissioner Kirkbride suggested this item can be removed from the agenda; any further information that needs to be provided can be in the Administrative report. The Board concurred.

Next meeting the Board may consider rescinding the emergency declaration.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Resolution Regarding Electronic Signatures

Chief Brooks noted the honoring of electronic signatures needed a formal action. While working under emergency declaration we felt it was acceptable for electronic signatures, but moving forward and continuing to utilize them needed a Board action.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 877-07-21 Authorizing the Use of Electronic and Digital Signatures

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride
Second: Commissioner Kelling
Carried: Unanimous

B. Rice Fergus Miller (RFM) Service order 04 for VRF design through construction: Staff Report and Potential Action

Chief Brooks noted we have previously entered into a master agreement for our capital facilities plan, and Rice Fergus Miller (RFM) was selected as the Architect. Under that master agreement, each new project required a separate sub

service agreement. This agreement is for the VRF for the design phase through the construction management. Staff has reviewed and recommends signature.

The Board and Chief discussed the costs of the proposal, the proposal review process, steel (pre-engineered metal) versus regular wood construction, timing of the project, and alternate options.

The Board asked the Chief to have this as an agenda item at the next meeting with additional discussion including the Attorney and a presentation from Chief John and/or Chief Mechanic Adam Cummings if possible.

C. RFM amendment for Station 33 Cost Estimating: Staff Report and Potential Action

Chief Brooks presented the Station 33 cost estimating for the additional apparatus bay. We had received a previous estimate proposal from RFM for all initial phases of design; this proposal represents a simplification of the proposal basically taking a three stages down to a single stage for cost estimating.

Commissioner Kirkbride clarified this proposal is for \$3,335 to get a cost estimate for Station 33.

MOTION: To accept the RLB Robinson proposal to develop cost estimate for the addition to St 33 in the amount of \$3,335.

Amended Motion: To accept the RLB Robinson proposal to develop cost estimate for the addition to St 33 in the amount of \$4855.20 and extend the contract to RFM, not Robinson.

Motion and amended motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Gamble

Carried: Unanimous

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Brooks reported:

- This weekend was record setting with triple digit heat three days in a row – give the crews a shout out– both responding and those who came in. On the hottest day, the power from PSE began cycling and ultimately failed. Director Chambers responded and got power switched to the generator and we have been running on the generator until this afternoon. The best guess is one leg of PSE power was soft and created the power cycling process. For stability, the District remained on the generator through the heat wave. Director Chambers is exploring putting a tracking meter system on our system to provide data to know why the failure occurred.

- Call volume through the weekend was slightly higher, then Monday we had between 90 and 100 responses. Our daily average is generally about 40 per day.
- We are currently discussing the impacts to fire service from the law enforcement changes in legislation; although it takes effect later this month, we are already seeing the impacts of the changes. Basically, if a crime has not been committed, they are not allowed to respond. This impacts fire service on such things a scene safety and welfare checks. We are working with partners and agencies to try and develop consistency in practice among the agencies.
- Lack of BLS transport resources has been a particular challenge over the last couple of weeks - downstream effects include those to ALS - we actually had no ALS units available at one point over the weekend. WE are engaging with private ambulance and Medic One on this issue.
- Chief Cerovski confirmed his house closing and he anticipates being in town on Friday the 9th. We are planning his swearing in at the BoFC meeting on the 15th.
- Congratulations to Chief Dickson on her retirement.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gamble – intense meeting tonight with good conversation. She maintains optimism on making good decisions about the facilities. She is concerned about potential negative energy or communications with our partners.

Commissioner Kelling – heard from Lacey Community Development Director that Lacey is within 200 – 300 of Olympia’s population, which is remarkable. Chief Hulse’s Gone in 60 Seconds video was great. The TRPC sponsored online open house for the Martin Way Corridor study remains open until Monday. Wishing everyone a safe and happy Independence Day.

Commissioner Kirkbride – saw Chief Hulse’s PSA; he does a great job. The new photos of the apparatus and staff are great; the administrative staff photo really humanizes the District. We are not just about fire and safety, but are real neighbors helping the community. He is pleased regarding the selection of the interim Chief as Chief of Police for Lacey.

Commissioner Roberts – thought photos were great. Loved the photo of Chief Dickson for her probationary retirement, which was a very nice function. Thank you to all who put that together. She is personally happy Chief Dickson will not be a stranger. A happy and safe 4th to all.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

- Continued to get thankous positive comments and feedback.

XI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC / MEMBERS PRESENT

- Jim Dickson commented on the off hand nickname for the homeless encampment. Commissioners Roberts and Kirkbride assured it was an internal comment made in a private meeting.
- Chief Dickson thanked the Commissioners for their attendance at her probationary retirement event, and for the generosity of the Board.

XII. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. In Accordance with RCW 42.30.140(4)(a) regarding discussion of collective bargaining strategies

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 6:50 PM for no more than 10 minutes with no action to be taken.

The Board resumed the open meeting at 7:00 PM

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned as of 7:00 PM.

*Next Regular Meeting: July 15, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.
Available via remote meeting.*

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 Chair
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 Commissioner

 Commissioner

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 Vice Chair
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 Commissioner

 ATTEST: District Secretary