

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
June 11, 2012**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Pierson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Fire Chief Reggie Romines, Deputy Chief Gary Franz, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Assistant Chief Steve Richards, Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake and District Secretary Kathy Hale

Absent: Assistant Chief Ryan Baskett and Assistant Chief Tom Mason had excused absences.

Commissioner Pierson led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Gustafson moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 23, 2012, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank You Letter from a Citizen

FINANCIALS:

General Payable Vouchers #06001 through #06057 in the amount of \$39,184.29 and Account Transfers in the amount of \$102.68 for a total of \$39,286.97 were presented for approval.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$39,286.97 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Chief's Report

Chief Romines reported on the following:

Volunteer David Serr has resigned due to work commitments.

Local 726 IAFF Annual Awards Banquet will occur on June 16, 2012, 5:00 p.m.

Successor Planning. Chief Romines reminded the Board of their Special Meeting, June 18, 2012, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Pierce County Mitigation Program. Chief Romines informed the Board Katie Gillespie from Pierce County will not be able to make the meeting tonight due to a family emergency. She has rescheduled for their next meeting, June 25th.

Pertussis Clinic. Chief Romines reported due to the limited number of personnel signed up to receive vaccinations, A/C Jensen has cancelled the clinic. Those still wishing to receive a vaccination will need to either visit their primary physician or a program pharmacy.

FDC Locking Caps. Regarding Commissioner Skaggs' question about replacement timelines, Chief Romines stated the Fire Marshal's office is requiring all new installations to occur immediately and existing will be replaced only when they have been damaged or are missing.

Pierce County Chaplaincy. Chief Romines reported he recently met with Doctor Horn of the Pierce County Chaplaincy to discuss Graham Fire & Rescue joining their organization. He stated in the past we have considered joining, but have chosen not to due to differing training and certification requirements. He has asked staff to investigate with our chaplains their preference for joining.

Trees at Station No. 21-1. Chief Romines requested Board approval to remove two maple trees at the east side of the station due to their root system beginning to damage the asphalt.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve the removal of the two maple trees on the east side of Station No. 21-1 as recommended. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Rainier to Ruston Relay. Chief Romines informed the Board our volunteers out of Station No. 21-2 provided medical support for the Rainier to Ruston Relay. Assistant Chief Jensen stated there were no patients seen this year.

SAFER Grant Analysis. Chief Romines inquired if the Board had an opportunity to review his analysis on the requirements and timing of applying for a SAFER Grant, which he had delivered to the Board last week. The Board stated they each had.

Commissioner Skaggs voiced after reading the information he agreed with Chief Romines' conclusion that given our revenue projections for the next few years this year is not the time to apply. He stated he would not like to see us hiring from the Grant and then need to lay off after the two-year funding period. He also voiced his surprise of the need to meet the 1710/1720 Standards.

Commissioner Pierson also voiced his concern relative to not being able to continue to fund the positions following the two-year Grant period. Commissioner Gustafson stated given the economy we will be hard pressed in years to come to simply maintain our own personnel let alone take on more through a Grant.

Chief Romines suggested further discussion and the making of a decision to apply for a SAFER Grant take place during each budget process in the next few years. The Board concurred with the suggestion.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to accept Chief Romines' recommendation not to apply for a SAFER Grant this year and discuss applying during each budget process. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Station No. 21-2 Response Options. Chief Romines stated Commissioner Gustafson had brought up a concern relative to how we would staff Station No. 21-2 when/should we lose our current volunteers and are unable to recruit new come-from-home volunteers for that station. He stated Deputy Chief Franz checked into the staffing requirements from WSRB that would allow us to keep our current rating and found as long as we have some type of presence at the station our rating would not change. Chief Romines explained he would like to possibly enact a resident day program at the station, which would suffice for the rating requirement.

Commissioner Gustafson inquired if WSRB requires the staffing to be career personnel. Chief Romines replied volunteers, as is the case now, qualify for staffing requirements according to the information from WSRB.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve Chief Romines' recommendation to continue to recruit volunteers for Station No. 21-2. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gustafson stated for the record he wants to see staff continue to work on volunteer recruitment, especially for Station No. 21-2, and does not want to see this matter dropped and forgotten about.

PPEO Report

Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake presented her report to the Board for their review.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Romines presented the Board with a draft Policy, Operating Instruction No. 424, Bariatric Unit Response, for their review. He stated he will be asking for Board approval at their next Meeting.

Chief Romines presented the Board with a draft template Interlocal Agreement/Hazmat Team Services for their review. He stated outside agencies have inquired about their ability to request the Pierce County Hazardous Incident Team to respond to hazardous material incidents. Attorney Quinn recommended and penned the template Agreement. Chief Romines also presented the Board with five draft policies from the Team for their review. He stated he would be asking for Board approval at their next Meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Skaggs voiced he believes our members still need to be recognized annually even though the Board has temporarily suspended having an awards banquet due to budget constraints. He stated he would like to have staff start the selection process and have the presentations at an upcoming Board Meeting. Commissioner Pierson and Commissioner Gustafson concurred.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to direct staff to begin the awards process for 2011. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chief Romines requested a 15-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations, with no business to follow.

Commissioner Pierson announced a 15-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations, with no business to follow. Executive Session was announced as beginning at 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of June 11, 2012, was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary