

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 22, 2013**

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 Ryan Baskett, Deputy Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Assistant Chief Tom Mason, Assistant Chief Steve Richards, and District Secretary Kathy Hale.

Absent: Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake had an excused absence.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Gustafson moved to amend the Agenda to have the Presentations at the beginning of the Meeting. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATIONS:

Retired Deputy Gary Franz was in attendance to receive his retirement present from the District. Congratulations again, Gary, on your retirement – you are and will continue to be missed!

Employees of DaVita Dialysis were in attendance and presented Special Recognition Certificates for their life-saving effort in saving a patient's life when suffering a heart attack at their facility. The employees are: Karla Linley Administrator RN; Adina Goldman RN; Rachel Champ RN; Claudia Aide PCT; Melissa Rice PCT. Thank you for your quick thinking, reacting calmly to the situation and performing CPR before our medics arrived.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 8, 2013, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Thank You Letter from a Citizen
- Announcement/Flyer regarding the Pierce County Law Enforcement Memorial, Wednesday, May 8th at 6 p.m., Clover Park Technical College
- Letter from Lt. Michael Ray to Fire Department New York requesting a piece of steel from the 9-1-1 twin towers for Local 726 Hall. (Request was granted)

FINANCIALS:

General Payable Vouchers #188 in the amount of \$12,276.27, #440 in the amount of \$3,854.13, #470 through #518 in the amount of \$16,199.92, #523 through #538 in the amount of \$285,555.24, Payable Checks #16119 through #16138 in the amount of \$28,112.58, and Account Transfers in the amount of \$470,099.20, for a total of \$816,097.44, of which \$607,659.32 was for Payroll and \$208,438.12 was for Payables, were presented for approval.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$816,097.44 after proper auditing. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Chief's Report

Chief Romines reported on the following:

Resident Fire Fighter Tyler Winn has been on a leave of absence and the approved timeframe for return has passed. The District has not been able to make contact with him so we are requesting Board approval to terminate his leave and his association with the Department.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to terminate Resident Fire Fighter Tyler Winn effective immediately. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The Certificate of Merit Presentation to a former Resident Fire Fighter will take place next Meeting. He was unable to attend this evening.

South Sound 911. There are recent minutes and agenda in your SS-911 tab-section.

Station No. 21-0. Nothing new to report.

Joint Impact Fee Committee. Nothing new to report.

Operating Instruction No. 321, SCBA. Chief Romines requested Board approval of Operating Instructing No. 321, SCBA, which he had given them a draft of at their last meeting.

Commissioner Skaggs moved the approval of Operating Instruction No. 321, SCBA, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Tacoma Public Utilities. Chief Romines stated upon further research, Commissioner Gustafson was correct that the substation at Lake Kapowsin is owned by Puget Power, not Tacoma Public Utilities.

Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy. Chief Romines requested Board approval of an MOU with the Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy to allow for employee donations through payroll deductions. The Board reviewed the document.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve the MOU with the Tacoma Pierce County Chaplaincy, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Personal Services Contract. Chief Romines informed the Board that Dr. Kobersy did sign off on his personal service contract, which was previously approved and signed by the Board.

Affordable Care Act. Chief Romines informed the Board staff is investigating the possibility we may be required to provide medical insurance coverage to volunteers who work more than 30 hours under the new Affordable Care Act. He stated our resident fire fighters currently average more than 30 hours per week. More to follow.

Pierce County Contract. Chief Romines requested Board approval of the contract with Pierce County to provide fire and EMS services to the fairgrounds. The amount this year is \$10,465. He also stated staff has reviewed the contract and it is the same as in previous years, with no additions or deletions.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve and sign the contract with Pierce County for fire and EMS service to the fairground. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Legal Shield. Chief Romines presented the Board with documents which would allow employees to sign up for a private service called Legal Shield, a service that provides legal assistance in the areas of wills, accident issues, fraud protection, etc. He stated this would be voluntary and payroll deduction. He requested Board approval.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to approve signing up with Legal Shield as an employee voluntary payroll deduction program. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Pinnacle EMS Conference. Chief Romines presented the Board with an email from John McDonald, President of the Pierce County Chiefs' Association, detailing an effort to send EMS officers from our County to an important conference on the changing healthcare landscape. He explained the PC Chiefs' have donated \$2,500 to help pay for expenses, and the County Commissioners may also participate, along with a possible grant which Assistant Chief Mason is looking into.

Assistant Chief Jensen stated this conference will focus on issues coming down the road in the changing EMS world and healthcare in general. The Pierce County EMS committee is looking to send five people to this conference. Chief Romines informed the Board, if all the grant money is not approved, our District would need to expend approximately \$1,300 to send A/C Jensen.

The Board concurred attendance at the conference is extremely important, and if need be, they will authorize the expenditure to make sure A/C Jensen attends.

Training Report

Assistant Chief Mason reviewed the Training Report with the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Pierson stated he has been officially appointed to the 9-1-1 Committee for the State of Washington.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chief Romines requested a 15-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow.

Commissioner Pierson announced a 15-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow. Executive Session was announced as beginning at 7:40 p.m.

Commissioner Pierson reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:55 p.m. He announced that during the Executive Session discussion was had regarding personal services contracts.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to allow Chief Romines to retire on June 30, 2013, and to accept the severance package, which will save the District an additional \$68,000. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to allow Kathy Hale to retire July 31, 2013, and to accept the severance package, which will save the District an additional \$37,600. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve signing new Personal Services Contracts with Ryan Baskett and Tony Judd, dated this day, which changes Article 9, Medical/Dental coverage. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of April 22, 2013, was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary