

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
May 12, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

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

Attendance:

Present: Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Russell T. Barstow, Fire Chief Ryan Baskett, Deputy Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Tom Mason and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

Absent: Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Assistant Chief Steve Richards and Public Prevention and Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake had excused absences.

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

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve the Agenda as presented.

Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 28, 2014, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Invitation to Community Taco Dinner hosted by Evergreen Church on the Hill
- WFCA Memorandum on 2014 Open Government Trainings Act
- Pierce Co. Fire Prevention Bureau Monthly Reports for April 2014

FINANCIALS

Payables Checks #17739 through #17780 in the amount of \$118,303.11 and a Transfer (EFT) in the amount of \$1,370.15 for a total of \$119,673.26, were presented for approval.

Commissioner Barstow moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$119,673.26 after proper auditing. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Chief's Report

Chief Baskett reported on the following:

He and Assistant Chief Jensen will be attending the State Chiefs Conference in Richland May 19th through May 23rd.

Public Prevention and Education Officer Merdian-Drake is on vacation from May 8th through May 26th. School tours begin May 28th. A Commissioner Skaggs requested staff provide the Board with a copy of the schedule for the tours. Chief Baskett responded he would do so.

Planning for the June Open House events is ongoing. The "Celebrating 50 Years" banner is here in the meeting room for the Board to preview. The banner will be displayed during the Open House events at the stations.

M&O Levy. The Resolution and Explanatory Statement were submitted to Pierce County last week prior to the May 9th deadline. The District had advertised a significant amount and submitted the "for" committee members and had no "against" committee members. The County is satisfied with the amount of advertising done by the District and may choose not to solicit "against" committee members. Chief Baskett has attended several HOA and community business group meetings to provide information regarding the M&O Levy and answer questions and has received only positive feedback thus far in favor of moving forward with the levy.

South Sound 911. The previously scheduled Operations Board meeting on May 9th was cancelled and rescheduled for Wednesday, May 14th. He will provide a report to the Board at the next meeting.

State Audit. The auditors are ready to schedule the exit meeting for next week. Chief Baskett will be at the State Chiefs Conference, and is confident having one or more of the Commissioners and Deputy Chief Judd in attendance. Commissioner Skaggs recommended one Commissioner attend with Deputy Chief Judd and since Commissioner Barstow was not in office during the time period under review, and Commissioner Gustafson has expressed an interest in attending, Commissioner Gustafson would be an appropriate choice.

Commissioner Skaggs passed the gavel to Commissioner Gustafson.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to select Commissioner Gustafson to attend the State Audit exit interview along with Deputy Chief Judd. Commissioner Barstow seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gustafson stated his availability and asked Staff to contact him with the date and time. Deputy Chief Judd responded he will email the auditor tonight and get back to Commissioner Gustafson.

Resident/Volunteer Program Rebuilding. The committee met on May 5th. Commissioner Gustafson stated they are making progress and the next meeting is scheduled for June 6th. Commissioner Skaggs pointed out in the meantime, a Monday night Officers' meeting would not be scheduled until the committee has formulated its recommendations.

SCBA Purchase. NIOSH has completed their review process and approved 2013 compliant SCBA's. The Department is now ready to start the process to purchase SCBA's. Attorney Quinn has completed his review of the RFP and made a couple of minor changes only. The RFP is ready for Board review and approval. Discussion ensued with regards to 15-year vs. 30-year shelf life and the NFPA 1981 requirement for

a minimum 15-year shelf life. Chief Baskett summarized the SCBA selection process for the Board.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to approve the Request for Proposal for Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus for Fire Departments, as written. Commissioner Barstow seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

2014 Fire Protection Contract. Chief Baskett stated the annual fire protection agreement to provide coverage for Pierce County-owned properties is pending Board review, approval and signature.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve the 2014 Fire Protection Services Contract with Pierce County, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Baskett informed the Board of the following:

The Department's physician advisor Dr. Kobersy has resigned and will be leaving at the end of June. Assistant Chiefs Mason and Jensen are working with the other affected agencies to explore a county-wide solution.

Fire Chief Bob Vellias of South Pierce Fire & Rescue emailed Chief Baskett informing him he will be on vacation this week and due to his agency being short-staffed, inquired if they may contact our agency for command assistance in the event of a major incident. Chief Baskett responded affirmatively and advised them to contact Assistant Chief Jensen if a need arises.

Tender 92 was involved in a minor accident when the operator backed up past the stop blocks at Station No. 21-2 and struck the corner of the building. The restroom sustained some structural damage. The Accident Report is forthcoming.

The Pierce County Assessor spoke at the recent Pierce County Fire Chiefs meeting and provided some optimistic preliminary estimates for property valuations by zone. Our District covers two zones, south and north. Based on the County's estimates, residential property values may increase by 6% in the south zone and 3% in the north zone. Chief Baskett pointed out 90% of our residential properties are located in the north zone. Commercial property valuations are flat. Staff cautiously anticipates a 2% increase overall.

Commissioner Skaggs requested the status of the concept of physician assistants in fire stations in conjunction with the Affordable Care Act. Chief Baskett stated under the current healthcare system, we would have to be a part of an ACO. Assistant Chief Mason explained the county MSO's are working closely with the two ACO's, MultiCare and Franciscan. Discussion continued regarding the need to secure one or more physician advisors to fill the vacancy created by Dr. Kobersy's resignation, and the future of the physician assistant program, two separate concepts.

Commissioner Skaggs requested the physician assistant concept continue to be considered. Chief Baskett assured the Board that Pierce County EMS is on the leading edge in the nation in its coordination with the ACO's.

GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC INPUT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2014, was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Robert E. Skaggs, Commissioner

Anthony D. Judd, District Secretary