

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
February 10, 2021 (Virtual)**

**PUBLIC HEARING – BENEFIT CHARGE**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Homan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL BY CHAIR**

Present: Chair Robert Homan, Commissioner Ryan Portmann, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Vice Chair Adam G. Rosenlund, Commissioner Gina Finley (Blanchard-Reed), Fire Chief Pat Dale, Deputy Chief Oscar Espinosa and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

Absent: None

**CONVENE HEARING BOARD**

The Graham Fire & Rescue Governing Board convened as the Benefit Charge Appeals Review Board pursuant to RCW 52.18.070. Chair Homan stated the Review Board will hold two public hearings to receive petitions, the first being today, the second being February 24, 2021.

**STAFF REPORT**

Battalion Chief Todd Jensen provided the staff report.

**PETITIONS**

One petition was presented to the Board for their consideration by Battalion Chief Todd Jensen at the petitioner's request, as follows:

Petitioner Name: Sherman

Parcel #4132500200

Petition Statement: Not saving enough over last year

**RECESS PUBLIC HEARING**

Chair Homan recessed the public hearing at 6:38 p.m. until February 24, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**ROLL CALL BY CHAIR**

Present: Chair Robert Homan, Commissioner Ryan Portmann, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Vice Chair Adam G. Rosenlund, Commissioner Gina Finley (Blanchard-Reed), Fire Chief Pat Dale, Deputy Chief Oscar Espinosa and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

Absent: None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

## **APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Rosenlund moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2021

Financial Documentation:

General Fund:

Payables: Checks #29456 through #29506 =	\$122,988.90
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$122,988.90</u></b>

**Commissioner Portmann moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Finley (Blanchard-Reed) seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Fire Chief Dale welcomed the Board and audience to the virtual meeting and reported on the following:

#### Strategic Priorities of COVID-19

#### Current Events

1. CFO/District Secretary Hiring Process – A conditional offer of employment was made to the top candidate and was accepted. Contingent upon successful completion of the pre-employment requirements, her tentative start date is March 1<sup>st</sup>.
2. New Tender Update – The Tender will be going in service next Monday. A brief, small Push-In Ceremony is planned for late afternoon Monday. More details regarding the event will be emailed to the Board members tomorrow morning.
3. Board of Commissioners' Email Update: Deputy Chief Espinosa addressed the Board. He acknowledged some Board members have experienced difficulty accessing their District email. It was discovered their email passwords were set to expire every 90 days. This setting was changed so they will expire less frequently. If the Board members have any other issues, please contact him.

### **Standing Committees**

Committee Appointments for 2021: Chair Homan read the committee assignments. He then addressed the Policy and Procedure Committee, the Mergers/Consolidations Committee and the Legislative Affairs Committee as follows:

- Policy and Procedure Committee – According to Policy 217, a committee need report to the Board only if the Board Chair activates that committee. He asked them to look at Policy 217 and, with input from each committee, define the parameters of the committees. He also recommended the Joint/Labor Management Committee be eliminated, as allowed by policy, as this is a function of the Fire Chief and Labor, with meetings taking place on a bi-weekly basis. He stated that Policy 224 is still in draft form, and Policy 214 needs to be finished. Chief Dale would like to work with the

committee to potentially revise Policy 212 to ensure it is consistent with our practices. This discussion should also include HR Director Vandenkooy. Chair Homan requested the committee be prepared to report to the Board on these items at the second meeting in March, unless they request an extension.

- Mergers/Consolidations Committee – Central Pierce Fire & Rescue’s Board Chair has contacted him to schedule a meeting. Committee members Homan and Portmann will schedule with them and report back to the Board on their discussion.
- Legislative Affairs Committee – Because of COVID, he is uncertain if there will be a Legislative Day. He intends to meet with Commissioner Rosenlund to define the committee’s parameters. They will keep up-to-date virtually on which legislative issues are before Congress.

Chair Homan stated for all committees, if they anticipate having a report for an upcoming meeting, they should communicate that to him prior to the Friday preceding the meeting.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jasper Stenstrom, IAFF Local 726 District Vice President, commented the District has reached a milestone with the Benefit Charge. He thanked the Board, Management and all members for their work on the Benefit Charge. Labor is excited to move forward with this new funding model to better serve the taxpayers as well as take us into the future.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Portmann thanked staff, particularly Battalion Chief Todd Jensen, for their informative presentation on the Benefit Charge and appeal process tonight. Well done!

Chair Homan concurred with Commissioner Portmann’s comments. He stated he appreciated the assistance staff provided him in preparation for the hearing. He acknowledged the tremendous amount of work accomplished by the Chief and staff to get to this point.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Homan announced a 20-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 (4) (b) to plan or adopt strategy/position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow, and a 15-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 (1) (g) to evaluate qualifications of a public employee or review their performance, with no business to follow.

The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 6:58 p.m.

At 7:33 p.m., the Executive Session was extended eight minutes.

At 7:41 p.m., the Executive Session was extended two minutes.

At 7:43 p.m., the Executive Session was extended two minutes.

The Executive Session was announced as ending at 7:45 p.m.

Commissioner Rosenlund moved to approve the Personal Services Agreement between the District and Sandi Roberts as written. Commissioner Finley (Blanchard-Reed) seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of February 10, 2021, was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

*Robert L Homan*

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Robert Homan, Board Chair

*Pat Dale*

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Pat Dale, District Secretary