

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Gustafson 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 Ryan Baskett, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake and District Secretary Kathy Hale.

Absent: Assistant Chief Tony Judd and Assistant Chief Tom Mason had excused absences.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 28, 2011, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Invitation to the Bethel Learning Center Groundbreaking, March 21, 2011, 11:00 a.m.
- Letter from Patterson Buchanan Law Firm regarding law suit.

FINANCIALS:

General Payables Vouchers #03001 through #03060 in the amount of \$34,145.23 were presented for approval.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$34,145.23 after proper auditing. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Chief's Report

Chief Romines announced Fire Fighter/Paramedic Suzanne Connors will begin the Bates Academy March 17, 2011.

Chief Romines asked for Board approval to be on vacation the week of March 21st through the 25th. The Board gave their approval.

Chief Romines congratulated the 10 members who participated in the Annual Scott Fire Fighter Stair-climb last weekend. Fire Fighter Georgia Daniels took 1st Place in the women's division for the 13th straight year.

Station 21-0. Chief Romines presented the Board with an e-mail correspondence from the Department of Ecology. The e-mail confirmed the Department is receptive to submitting an extension letter on our behalf to keep us eligible for grant funding should the project go past the 5-year timeframe.

FF Arbitration. Chief Romines informed the Board the Union has decided to use a partisan arbitrator – this information came to him over the past weekend. The deadline to select a partisan was today, so the District was able to appoint theirs. His name is Joe Carillo. Chief Romines asked for an Executive Session to discuss the matter further.

Capital Improvements. Chief Romines presented the Board with an e-mail from Assistant Chief Baskett wherein he outlined the progress of several capital improvement projects which are currently taking place: The Plymo-vent exhaust systems have been ordered and should arrive and be installed the end of April; the portable storage units have been ordered and will arrive next week; the electronic reader boards are out to bid, which closes March 23rd; Engine 98-1 has been repaired and returned back to service; Ladder 09-1 will be returned from repair on Friday; the new medic unit is scheduled for delivery the end of March.

Deputy Wright Service. Chief Romines stated District personnel and apparatus participated in the memorial service for Deputy Wright last Friday. Thank you, Assistant Chief Jensen, for being part of the incident management team.

PPEO Report

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

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC INPUT

Commissioner Skaggs announced Governor Gregoire ruled there will be no rule changes, including WAC 296-305 Standards this Legislative Session. The re-write is on hold until next year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chief Romines requested a 5-minutes Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with no business to follow, 5 minutes under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with possible business to follow, 5 minutes under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations

with business to follow, and 10 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of a public employee.

Commissioner Gustafson announced a 5-minutes Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with no business to follow, 5 minutes under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with possible business to follow, 5 minutes under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for professional negotiations with business to follow, and 10 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of a public employee, for a total of 25 minutes. Executive Session was announced as starting at 7:20 p.m.

Commissioner Gustafson reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to hire the law firm of Patterson, Buchanan Law Firm to represent the District in the upcoming arbitration hearing. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Pierson moved to refuse the offer from T-Mobile to lease property from the District to construct a cell tower at Station No. 21-1. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously

Commissioner Skaggs asked the other Board members to consider placing the EMS Levy measure on the August ballot. He stated there are several districts in Pierce County running their EMS Levies, and that combination along with our Commissioner's race would save the District money. Discussion followed.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to direct staff to prepare the necessary documents for the District to place an EMS Levy on the August ballot. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of March 14, 2011, was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner

Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary