

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
April 25, 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 Tom Mason, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake and District Secretary Kathy Hale.

Absent: Assistant Chief Tony Judd had an excused absence.

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

**APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA:**

**Commissioner Pierson moved to approve the Agenda as presented.**

**Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 11, 2011, were approved as presented.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Letter from Pierce County Auditor's Office

**FINANCIALS:**

Construction Payables Vouchers #04005 through #04008 in the amount of \$3,594.17, General Payables Vouchers #04061 through #04155 in the amount of \$472,004.29 and Account Transfers in the amount of \$469,423.33 for a total of \$945,021.79, of which \$622,274.15 was for Payroll and \$322,747.64 was for Payables, were presented for approval.

**Commissioner Pierson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$945,021.79 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:**

**Chief's Report**

Chief Romines stated the promotion of Lieutenant/PM Waltrip to the position of Battalion Chief will take place on May 1, 2011. The promotion of Fire Fighter/Paramedic Kolibas to the position of Lieutenant will take place on May 1, 2001. The pinning ceremony will

happen at the May 9, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. The promotion of Battalion Chief Richards to the position of Assistant Chief will take place on June 1, 2011, with the pinning ceremony at the June 13, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. Assistant Chief Richards will be assigned to the Fleet & Facilities Division.

Chief Romines informed the Board Volunteer Helena Woods has resigned to seek full-time employment.

Chief Romines stated Mt. View Cemetery will be hosting a Presentation Ceremony and Public Unveiling of their Memorial to the First Responders of Pierce County on April 28, 2011. He is planning on attending. Commissioner Skaggs stated he will be attending also.

Chief Romines requested to be absent from the May 9, 2011 Regular Board Meeting. He has been asked by the Executive Director, Mike Brown, Washington Fire Chiefs' Association, to represent the organization and participate in the North West Burn Foundation Fundraiser that day. The Board gave their approval for Chief Romines to attend and be absent from their May 9, 2011 Meeting.

Regional Efficiencies. Chief Romines presented the Board with an email from Chief Thorson, East Pierce Fire & Rescue, detailing discussion items between the three agencies; East Pierce, Orting Valley Fire & Rescue, Graham Fire & Rescue.

Mitigation Fees. Chief Romines presented the Board with an email from Deputy Chief Franz to Pierce County Councilor Roger Bush seeking his support of the Mitigation process. Deputy Chief Franz stated he has heard back from Councilor Bush, who informed him when the process is able to come back before the Council again in two years he will no longer be a Council Member, and therefore, he needs to seek support from some other member(s).

Station Sign on 224<sup>th</sup>. Chief Romines explained that recently a citizen was unable to locate Station No. 21-4 and inquired if a sign can be placed near the intersection of 70<sup>th</sup> and 224<sup>th</sup> to help other citizens locate the station. Chief Romines asked for Board approval for staff to look into the cost and required process to install a directional sign. Assistant Chief Baskett stated he has spoken with Brian Stacey from the County and he will review our options and get back to him. The Board gave their approval.

GBA Presentation. Chief Romines informed the Board our Peer Fitness Advisors will be presenting a health and nutrition program at the Graham Business Association meeting on June 15, 2011. The Executive Board of GBA had made the request.

TCC Contract. Chief Romines presented the Board with an affiliation agreement with Tacoma Community College for their review. He stated the agreement is the same as in the past and allows paramedic students to precept with our agency. He asked for Board approval for him to sign the Agreement.

**Commissioner Pierson moved to approve the Affiliation Agreement with Tacoma Community College and Chief Romines to sign on behalf of the District. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Pierce County Contract for Services. Chief Romines presented the Board with a contract for services with Pierce County. He explained the contract is for fire and life safety response to Pierce County Facilities that lie within our District. The amount is \$10,363, which is slightly lower than last year due to a decrease in assessed value.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve the Contract for Services with Pierce County in the amount of \$10,363. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Plumbing Repair/Install. Chief Romines explained he had authorized the emergency repair of the upstairs showers at Station No. 21-1 as they were leaking and causing water damage downstairs. Harrell & Sons Plumbing quoted a price of \$1,967.40 to complete the work, with the funds coming from the Emergency Repair Line Item No. 522.50.48.34.

Chief Romines requested Board approval to have an outside faucet installed at Station No. 21-6. Assistant Chief Baskett explained it was an oversight on his part during the construction phase, that an outside faucet was not installed at the east side of the building. In order to wash the rigs, the crews extend a hose through the bay, which potentially causes an accident hazard. The cost to install the faucet is \$1,420.90. Chief Romines recommended Board approval of the expenditure with funds coming from the Construction Fund.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved to have an outside faucet installed on the east side of the building at Station No. 21-6, with funds coming from the Construction Fund. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Charity Care Notice. Chief Romines requested Board approval to update our Charity Care Notice schedule to meet the 2011 Department of Health & Human Services guidelines. This pertains to transport fees.

**Commissioner Pierson moved to approve the updated Charity Care Notice, as presented. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

District Boundaries. Chief Romines informed the Board he had met with Chief Vellias of South Pierce Fire & Rescue who relayed he has identified several properties within his District where property owners are not paying taxes for fire and EMS service. Chief Romines inquired of the Board if they would like staff to have a professional survey done of our south and east borders in order to assess if there is a “no-man’s land” area between the two districts, and identify properties not currently paying property taxes.

The Board asked staff to obtain a cost estimate of a survey for their review.

### **Training Report**

Assistant Chief Mason presented the Training report for Board review.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

None

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Medicare Payments. Chief Romines informed the Board he signed a contract today on behalf of the District allowing Systems Design to submit transport claims and receive benefit information electronically to/from Medicare for Railroad Workers/Retirees. He stated this is not a new enrollment, just updating our previous agreement.

Audit, Exit Interview. Chief Romines stated DS Hale received a request from the Pierce County Office of the State Auditor's Office to schedule the exit interview for our 2007 & 2008 Audit. Available times are next week, Tuesday through Friday. DS Hale reported there were no findings presented in the report.

The Board agreed Chairman Gustafson should attend the meeting. DS Hale will coordinate a date and time.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC INPUT:**

Commissioner Skaggs announced Bill 2097 is still on the floor. This Bill, in general, is requesting LEOFF I and LEOFF II be rolled into one program.

Commissioner Pierson stated the Education Committee for the Pierce County Fire Commissioners' Association will be sponsoring a workshop/training session for Region 7 on June 11, 2011. The session will be held at Dupont Fire Department. More information to follow.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Chief Romines requested a 5-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with no business to follow.

**Commissioner Gustafson announced a 5-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140, to adopt a position for collection bargaining, with no business to follow. The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 7:35 p.m.**

Commissioner Gustafson reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:40 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of April 25, 2011, was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.**

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Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner

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Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary