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**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 23, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Pierson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Attendance:

Present: Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Fire Chief Reggie Romines, Deputy Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Todd Jensen, District Secretary Kathy Hale, and Support Specialist Jodi Reynolds.

Absent: Deputy Chief Ryan Baskett, Assistant Chief Tom Mason, Assistant Chief Steve Richards, and Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake had excused absences.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Commissioner Skaggs 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 May 13, 2013, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

FINANCIALS:

General Payable Checks #16274 through #16333 in the amount of \$395,017.48, Payable Vouchers #641 through #642 in the amount of \$4,931.84, #647 through #691 in the amount of \$32,365.09, and Payroll Electronic Funds Transfers in the amount of \$386,180.16, for a total of \$818,494.57.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$818,494.57 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:

Chief's Report

Chief Romines reported on the following:

Resident Fire Fighter Jorel Cornier has resigned to take a live-in Resident position with Lacey Fire District 3.

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Resident Fire Fighter Mario Small has been approved for a three-month leave of absence.

District Secretary Hale is on leave from May 24th through June 3rd.

The Marymount Event Center will host the 3rd Annual "Stand With Those Who Serve Event" on August 25, 2013. Commissioner Skaggs serves on the committee for the event.

South Sound 911. Minutes from the recent meeting are in your Board books.

Station No. 21-0. The clean-up work is complete. The NFA is being issued and the grant in the amount of \$200,000 will go out in a few weeks to reimburse the District for a portion of the cost of the work performed.

Joint Impact Fee Committee. Nothing new to report.

VFIS Claim. Glatfelter Claims Management, Inc. sent a letter to the District requesting information in order to proceed with a claim against the insurance company of the person whose vehicle struck the emergency signal utility pole at Sta. 21-6.

Training Report

Assistant Chief Mason was not present but had submitted his report for Board review.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Skaggs stated this Board over the years has endeavored to educate themselves in order to make informed decisions for the Fire Department. They were elected to represent the people, and they are. They have a budget they're working on diligently to make sure they're not miss-spending public funds. They are involved locally and statewide on a number of issues affecting the fire service. Without that involvement, the Fire Department would not be where it is today. He and the Board members are insulted to hear some people think the Commissioners are too involved, they support the administration too much, and they don't provide good benefits and a positive working environment. He stated over the years they have increased benefits for fire fighters across the board and statewide, including survivor benefits and retirement benefits. He suggested if members have an issue they need to come to the Board, file a grievance and tell the Board publicly what is wrong. He stated this Fire Department is run by the Administration and elected officials.

Commissioner Pierson expressed he concurred with Commissioner Skaggs.

Commissioner Gustafson reiterated the Board is involved locally, statewide and nationally. They have gone through training other nearby districts have not.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Fire Chief Romines requested a 10-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with possible business to follow.

Commissioner Pierson announced a 10-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to adopt a position for collective bargaining, with possible business to follow. The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 8:45 a.m.

Commissioner Pierson reconvened the Special Board Meeting at 8:55 a.m. He announced during Executive Session discussion was had regarding adopting a position for collective bargaining.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Skaggs stated the Board had two job descriptions, one for Administrative Support Specialist and one for Board Secretary, to be performed collectively by member Jodi Reynolds.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve the job descriptions for Administrative Support Specialist and Board Secretary, collectively. Commissioner Pierson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Romines informed the Board he had an MOU between the Chiefs' Bargaining Unit and the District for Board consideration. If approved, the MOU would extend the carry-over hours for the members of the Chiefs' Bargaining Unit.

Commissioner Pierson inquired if there was a motion to put the MOU before the Board. No motion was made by either Commissioner Gustafson or Commissioner Skaggs. Commissioner Pierson handed his gavel to Commissioner Skaggs and moved to approve the MOU as presented. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion failed with unanimous "No" votes.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Special Board Meeting of May 23, 2013, was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary