

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
JULY 22, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Pierson 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 Ryan Baskett, Deputy Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Tom Mason, Assistant Chief Steve Richards, Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake, and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds.

Absent: Assistant Chief Todd Jensen and District Secretary Kathy Hale had excused absences.

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

APPROVAL OF THE 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 July 8, 2013, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Pierce Co. Assessor Property Valuations for Graham Fire & Rescue Properties

FINANCIALS:

Payable Vouchers #827 through #873 and #890 through #900 in the amount of \$266,009.40 and Payable Checks #16501 through #16528 in the amount of \$190,749.74 and Payroll EFT's in the amount of \$580,079.78, for a total of \$1,036,838.92, of which \$926,470.24 was for Payroll and \$110,368.68 was for Payables, were presented for approval.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$1,036,838.92, after proper auditing. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:
Chief's Report**

Administrative Services Director Kathy Hale. Chief Baskett acknowledged Administrative Services Director Kathy Hale will officially retire July 31, 2013. He expressed his appreciation for her dedication, experience and significant contributions to the organization over the years. He wished her a future full of happiness, good health and much personal satisfaction. The Board expressed their appreciation as well. Congratulations on your retirement, Kathy! You will be greatly missed!

South Sound 911. Chief Baskett informed the Board the latest meeting minutes and newsletter are located behind the tabs in their Board books.

DuPont Fire Request. Chief Baskett reported to the Board he had not received a response from DuPont Fire on the proposal and considers this matter closed until DuPont Fire initiates contact.

SAFER Grant. Chief Baskett stated to the Board the SAFER grant application period is still not open, and staff is continuing grant preparation.

IT Proposal for Orting Valley Fire & Rescue. Chief Baskett informed the Board Orting's Fire Chief Gibson emailed him with a question and stated he may take the proposal to their Board on August 6, 2013.

Mercedes Hose. Chief Baskett notified the Board we have not yet received a response from the manufacturer of the defective hose.

Dormant Business:

- Joint Impact Fee Committee
- Tacoma Fire Paramedic Course
- Health Care Reform
- Station No. 21-0

Pierce County Fair. Chief Baskett reminded the Board preparation for the Pierce County Fair will begin soon. He commented Public Prevention Education Officer Merdian-Drake is confident she will be under budget on fair supplies again this year. He inquired whether the Board would support staffing the fair at the same level as last year. Commissioner Skaggs acknowledged the importance of the District's participation in the fair. The Board agreed to staff the fair at the same level as last year.

Divisional Updates

Chief Baskett stated he intends to present the Divisional Updates monthly, and since all three Assistant Chiefs have been on vacation, he will present the next updates at the Regular Board Meeting on August 12, 2013. The Board agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Baskett informed the Board our part-time runner and backup receptionist is on a personal leave of absence for the next eight to twelve weeks. He requested Board approval to fill her position temporarily by offering it to one of the Department's Resident Fire Fighters, based on seniority. The Board members gave their approval.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Pierson reported to staff the Board of the State Fire Commissioners Association met last Saturday and announced their health insurance program is in exceptionally good shape again this year, with about 85% of the total in claims. Even if this increases to 90%, which is not anticipated, in 2014 there will be no increase in premiums and no decrease in benefits, and either January, February or March will be a premium-free month for participants covered by WFCA insurance in 2013. This is equal to 8.3% of the District's insurance budget. Commissioner Pierson also stated the State Board announced that for those who are LEOFF 2 and choose to retire early, they may stay on the WFCA plan and pay the same rate as the District pays for employees, or up to a maximum of 3% more, until age 65.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chief Baskett requested a ten-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan strategy for collective bargaining, with no business to follow. Chief Baskett requested a two-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt strategy/position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow. Chief Baskett requested two separate four-minute Executive Sessions under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of a public employee or review their performance, with no business to follow.

Commissioner Pierson announced a ten-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan strategy for collective bargaining, with no business to follow; a two-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt strategy/position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow; two separate four-minute Executive Sessions under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of a public employee or review their performance, with no business to follow.

The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 7:20 p.m.

Commissioner Pierson reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:40 p.m. He announced that during the Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140, discussion was had regarding adopting a position for professional negotiations.

Commissioner Skaggs stated the Board members had before them a Supplemental Agreement to the Personal Services Contract for Deputy Chief Judd.

Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve the Supplemental Agreement to the Personal Services Contract between the District and Deputy Chief Judd. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of July 22, 2013, was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

Anthony D. Judd, District Secretary