

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 13, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Skaggs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Russell T. Barstow, Fire Chief Ryan Baskett, Deputy Chief Tony Judd and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

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

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Barstow 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 March 23, 2015, were approved as presented.

CORRESPONDENCE

Invitation to Local No. 726 Awards Banquet on April 18, 2015 – Chief Baskett informed the Board he would be unable to attend. All Board members stated they planned to attend.

Thank you note from a Citizen

Pierce Co. Fire Prevention Bureau Monthly Report for March 2015

Memorandum from Enduris Re: Board of Directors Election

Letter from Pierce Co. Public Works Re: Changes to Surface Water Credit Program –

Chief Baskett asked the Board if they still support opposing the proposed changes to the program. They responded affirmatively. Chief Baskett stated staff would draft a letter.

FINANCIALS

Construction Fund Payables Check #1916 in the amount of \$399,868.72 was presented for approval.

General Fund Payables Checks #19095 through #19160 in the amount of \$59,016.54, Payables (Payroll) Check #19093 in the amount of \$1,389.54, Payroll Check #19092 in the amount of \$659.31, and a Transfer (EFT) in the amount of \$122.30, for a total of \$61,187.69, were presented for approval.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the Construction Fund payables in the amount of \$399,868.72, after proper auditing. Commissioner Barstow seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the General Fund payables in the amount of \$61,187.69, after proper auditing. Commissioner Barstow seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION Chief's Report

Fire Chief Baskett greeted the Board and audience members and then reported on the following:

Invitations for the Department awards banquet on May 2nd have been sent out and the planning committee is working diligently to ensure the banquet is a great success.

A group of Department employees and their significant others participated in the Mercer Island half marathon. They raised \$1,375 for colon cancer research and were recognized as the top fundraising team for the second consecutive year.

Volunteer Firefighter Destry Wilcox submitted his resignation. His resignation letter and exit interview are in the Board's read file.

As part of Battalion Chief Espinosa's executive leadership program through the National Fire Academy, he is working on a research paper on customer satisfaction and marketing. As the Board is aware, during the last election a fire department branding issue was discovered among the citizens. Chief Baskett stated he believes supporting Battalion Chief Espinosa's research project will provide our agency with valuable information. He recommended the Board approve supporting this survey through the Department for a select group of customers. He referred them to the sample Customer Feedback Survey in their Board books.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve Department support of Battalion Chief Espinosa's Customer Feedback Survey. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Chief Baskett explained there will be mailing costs which will be expended from the postage line item.

South Sound 911. Chief Baskett informed the Board the South Sound 911 annual report is in their read file. He stated that at the April 10th Operations Board meeting, they approved a joint fire training position for FireComm and Tacoma Fire. South Sound 911 will pay 50% of the cost of the position. Updated Policy Board meeting minutes are in the Board books behind the SS911 tab.

Volunteer Committee. The Training Division is moving forward with the nine new volunteers to start a joint Graham/South Pierce academy in May. Chief Baskett distributed the application of the nine candidates to the Board for their review. He

explained Deputy Chief Judd has prepared a letter for each candidate for Board approval. The Board members reviewed each application.

Once the Board members had finished reviewing the applications, Deputy Chief Judd read the candidates' names into the record:

Blade Gundermann
Ivan Semerenko
David Holtz
David Walters
Blake Gillespie
Jacob Matheny
Michael Hondel
Tyler Turner
John Schuur

Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the named individuals for membership with the Department as Volunteer Fire Fighters, pending successful completion of the entrance requirements. Commissioner Barstow seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

GEMT Legislation. Chief Baskett stated he had nothing new to report.

ARL Zoning Change. Chief Baskett informed the Board the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association's letter of opposition is going out this week. Chief Baskett distributed to the Board a copy of the letter, a valuation by a private attorney including one for the Graham Fire District which showed a 35% increase in ARL zoning, and an email and associated maps from Bethel School District Superintendent Seigel.

Chief Baskett explained to the Board a group of chiefs representing the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association met with Assessor Mike Lonergan in an attempt to better understand the ARL zoning change and the associated impacts. Chief Baskett stated the meeting failed to provide any answers to the numerous questions asked by the chiefs group. He said it is still unclear the reason for this change. He offered it may be a land preservation move of some kind. Commissioner Skaggs stated this topic came up during community planning meetings and the county was opposed to any commercial and residential growth. Chief Baskett informed the Board he and Chief Vellias of South Pierce Fire & Rescue plan to attend the Planning Commission hearing scheduled for next week and speak on behalf of each agency. He asked the Board if they also oppose the ARL zoning change and if so, could they approach the Pierce County Fire Commissioners Association for their support.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve the Department's support of the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association's letter of opposition to the proposed ARL zoning changes. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barstow moved to honor Chief Baskett's request to approach the Pierce County Commissioners Association for their support of the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association's letter of opposition. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve Chief Baskett to attend the upcoming Planning Commission hearing and speak on the Department's behalf. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

City of Olympia Agreement. Chief Baskett referred the Board to the Interlocal Agreement – HAZMAT Team Services with the City of Olympia. He explained the agreement has been vetted by each of the agencies' legal counsels and all of the policy group chiefs. He recommended the Board approve and sign the agreement.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement – HAZMAT Team Services between the District, as lead agency, and the City of Olympia. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Septic System Review. Chief Baskett explained several problems were discovered during the inspections to certify our station septic systems, as required by county ordinance every three years. Assistant Chief Richards is working with the Health Department and Cascade Septic to resolve any issues. Chief Baskett informed the Board the cost for repairs can be absorbed in the normal operating budget, but some station maintenance line items will run over budget. He listed the expenditures as follows: Station 94 – New pump estimated at \$2,000; Station 93 – Bad check valve estimated at \$1,500; Station 91 – Collapsed line and ground water infiltration estimated repair \$5,000.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 845, Superseding the Ambulance Transport Billing Rates Set Forth in Resolution No. 724 and Setting New Base and Itemized Charge Rates.

Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds read Resolution No. 845, Ambulance Transport Billing Rates, into the record.

Commissioner Barstow moved the approval of Resolution No. 845, Ambulance Transport Billing Rates, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER/PUBLIC INPUT

Commissioner Gustafson requested information from Chief Baskett on the GEMT legislation and asked what it will pay if it goes through. Chief Baskett responded it is a reimbursement from the federal government of up to 60% of the actual cost.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chief Baskett requested a five-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan a strategy for a grievance hearing, with no business to follow, and a five-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt strategy/position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow.

Commissioner Skaggs announced a five-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan strategy for a grievance hearing, with no business to follow, and a five-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.140 to plan or adopt strategy/position for professional negotiations, with possible business to follow. The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 7:40 p.m.

Commissioner Skaggs reconvened the Regular Board Meeting at 7:50 p.m. He stated that during executive session Chief Baskett presented the Board with a new Memorandum of Understanding with Local 726 in regards to the employment of Cory Kennedy, to replace the previously approved M.O.U. of March 23, 2015.

Chief Baskett asked the Board if they wished to rescind the M.O.U. of March 23, 2015, and approve the new M.O.U.

Commissioner Barstow moved to rescind the Memorandum of Understanding with Local 726 in regards to the employment of Cory Kennedy, dated March 23, 2015. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barstow moved to approve the new Memorandum of Understanding with Local 726 in regards to the employment of Cory Kennedy. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of April 13, 2015, was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Robert E. Skaggs, Commissioner

Anthony D. Judd, District Secretary