

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
July 10, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Blanchard-Reed called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Present: Commissioner Gina Blanchard-Reed, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Adam G. Rosenlund, Commissioner Ryan Portmann, Fire Chief Pat Dale, Deputy Chief Oscar Espinosa, District Secretary Brenda Barker and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

Absent: Commissioner Russell T. Barstow had an unexcused absence.

Commissioner Blanchard-Reed led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience.

APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Portmann moved to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2019

Approval of Financial Documentation:

General Fund:

Payables: Checks #26565 through #26610 =	\$69,834.77
Transfer (EFT) =	<u>\$267.42</u>

General Fund Total: \$70,102.19

Construction Fund:

Payables: Check #26564 =	\$22,166.66
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Construction Fund Total: \$22,166.66

GRAND TOTAL: \$92,268.85

Commissioner Portmann moved to approve the Consent Agenda in the amount of \$92,268.85 after proper audit. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Fire Chief's Report

Chief Dale welcomed the Board and audience members and reported on the following:

The Department participated once again in the Eatonville 4th of July Parade. Commissioners Blanchard-Reed, Gustafson and Rosenlund attended. Commissioner Blanchard-Reed stated

she really appreciates the Volunteers that make it all happen and fun for everyone. Commissioner Rosenlund added the last minute adjustments ensured everything went perfectly.

Ten recruits graduate this Friday night from the Bates Academy. The graduation ceremony will take place at the Bates South Campus. Please note the location change from Central Campus to South Campus, 2201 South 78th Street, Tacoma.

Standing Committees

Budget, Finance and Audit – No report
Policy and Procedure – No report
Mergers/Consolidations – No report
Joint Labor/Management – No report
Strategic Leadership Plan – No report
Legislative Affairs – No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution No. 932 – Surplus Tender and Motor Home

District Secretary Barker briefly described the two vehicles for surplus. Assistant Chief Richards has researched their fair market value. There are a couple of interested parties for the vehicles.

Commissioner Gustafson stated that the motor home is used for a number of things including storage during the fair. He does not understand why they want to get rid of it. Fire Chief Dale explained the interested party is Local 726; and, if they purchase it, we can borrow it from them. This seems to be a good solution. Commissioner Gustafson asked about the lengthy structure fires our personnel are on when the motor home is used for R & R. Deputy Chief Espinosa explained the frequency is very low. In the ten years we have owned the motor home, it has been out only one to two times per year and is getting old. He would like to lead us in another direction with hydration and nutrition. Commissioner Rosenlund suggested there may be less of a need for this due to the increase in number of personnel that can be moved through the incident more quickly. Deputy Chief Espinosa explained the rigs now carry more water and nutrition. In addition, the Command rig carries a cooler with ample hydration. He is leading Support Services towards replenishing that during longer duration events and other solutions for Firefighter safety, health and support, and away from coffee pots and chicken tenders. We no longer need the motor home. Actually, it sits in the back lot at Station 94 decaying. We have evolved.

IAFF Local 726 Vice President Luke Wahl commented the emphasis from the IAFF is to eliminate exposure and absorption of carcinogens through the skin by getting Firefighters back to their stations to decontaminate and shower as soon as possible. One in eight Firefighters will get cancer, the leading cause of death in the industry. In the past, Firefighters spent more time on scene, unaware of the exposure danger. Today, the emphasis is on putting the fire out as quickly as possible, getting the scene mopped up and returning to the station to get decontaminated. No longer are they hanging out and formally rehabbing at the scene due to the exposure dangers posed to them. Commissioner Blanchard-Reed responded that this makes sense and thanked Mr. Wall for his insight.

Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds read Resolution No. 932, Surplus Tender and Motor Home, into the record.

Commissioner Rosenlund moved the approval of Resolution No., 932, Surplus Tender and Motor Home, as presented. Commissioner Portmann seconded the motion. Commissioners Blanchard-Reed, Rosenlund and Portmann: Yes; Commissioner Gustafson: No. Motion carried by a majority.

Resolution No. 933 – 2019 Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility List

Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds read Resolution No. 933, 2019 Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility List, into the record.

Commissioner Portmann moved the approval of Resolution No. 933, 2019 Firefighter/Paramedic Eligibility List, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion.

Discussion was held on the motion. Commissioner Portmann asked Chief Dale about the five or six invited to the Assessment Center, and whether they did not pass or did not show. Chief Dale explained only one candidate attended the Assessment Center. Of the 18 that applied, all but one dropped off prior to the Assessment Center for various reasons, primarily job offers elsewhere. Commissioner Portmann inquired about the current ratio of Firefighters to Paramedics. Chief Dale responded we are in need of hiring Paramedics. This is a problem not only for us, but for agencies throughout the greater Puget Sound area. Commissioner Rosenlund agreed.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

QUARTERLY REPORTS

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gustafson stated he was going through the finances, and for the first six months we are already in the minus in several categories for overtime. So, we need to dial it back a bit. Commissioner Blanchard-Reed asked if he would like this topic added to the Agenda for the next meeting for discussion or if he had a specific question for staff. He said he had no questions, just a statement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Gustafson requested a 10-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 (1) (f) to receive and evaluate complaints/charges against public employees or officials, with no business to follow.

Commissioner Blanchard-Reed announced a 10-minute Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110 (1) (f) to receive and evaluate complaints/charges against public employees or officials, with no business to follow.

The Executive Session was announced as beginning at 6:51 p.m.

At 7:01 p.m., the Executive Session was extended five minutes.

At 7:06 p.m., the Executive Session was extended five minutes.

The Executive Session as announced as ending at 7:11 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of July 10, 2019, was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Gina Blanchard-Reed, Commissioner

Brenda L.B. Barker, District Secretary