

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
July 8, 2020 (Virtual)**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Portmann called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL BY CHAIR**

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

Absent: Commissioner Adam G. Rosenlund

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Citizen Robert Benum stated he wished to thank Graham Fire & Rescue personnel. He said Carolyn (Mrs. Benum) got a free ride to the hospital the other day. Five very, very qualified, dedicated personnel did a superb job. He said he can't say thank them enough for who and what you people are. On another note, today he was informed that the talk around the community is we are trying to merge with Central Pierce. Is there any fact there? Chairman Portmann responded there is no discussion about a merger at this time.

**APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Homan moved to approve the Agenda as written. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**PRESENTATION**

Letter of Commendation – Firefighter Tyler Allwine

Fire Chief Dale provided background on how he became aware of this remarkable story and then described the circumstances in which Tyler Allwine rescued an injured rock climber. He then read the Letter of Commendation. He requested Tyler say a few words. Tyler thanked Chief Dale for his kind words and recognition and for the opportunity he has been given the past two years as a member of Graham Fire & Rescue. Had it not been for the training and mentorship he has received, the situation may not have gone as well as it did.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 24, 2020  
Financial Documentation:

General Fund:

Payables: Checks #28399 through #28447 =	\$185,306.08
Transfer (EFT) =	<u>\$71.32</u>

**TOTAL: \$185,377.40**

**Commissioner Blanchard-Reed moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as submitted. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion.**

Commissioner Homan identified a typographical error in the first sentence at the top of page three of the Minutes. He stated it should read "Commissioner" Rosenlund, not "Commission."

**Commissioner Blanchard-Reed revised her motion. She moved to approve the Consent Agenda, with the correction to the Minutes, but otherwise as submitted. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Fire Chief Dale welcomed the Board and citizens to the virtual meeting.

He referred to his Strategic Priorities at the front end of his Chief's Report and stated we are still operating very differently due to Covid-19.

He proceeded to Current Events and explained these are based on the excellent outreach work by Firefighter Jasper Stenstrom and Community Outreach Officer Brianna Baker. He highlighted the headlines including the WSRB Rating Announcement, Birthday Parades, Fireworks Public Safety Announcement and Benefit Charge. He also noted some positive remarks received on social media.

Chief Dale then reviewed the highlights of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2020 Outreach, Education and Communications Report prepared by Community Outreach Officer Baker. He encouraged all to review the very impressive analytics provided in the report.

### **Standing Committees**

Budget, Finance and Audit – No report

Policy and Procedure – Commissioner Homan reported Policy 214 is under review.

Mergers/Consolidations – No report

Joint Labor/Management – No report

Strategic Leadership Plan – No report

Legislative Affairs – Commissioner Blanchard-Reed reported the ballots for the primary election will be out in the mail in approximately ten days.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Benefit Charge Discussion**

Chief Dale explained his presentation tonight would address questions brought up at the previous meeting and further refine his message. He proceeded with his PowerPoint presentation.

Chief Dale concluded his presentation. Chairman Portmann requested the Board ask questions at this time. Discussion ensued and concluded.

Commissioner Blanchard-Reed thanked Chief Dale for being proactive and meeting early with groups who may potentially be opposed to the benefit charge. She encouraged him to continue thinking that way.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Citizen Robert Benum had a comment regarding home alarm systems and how they might relate to the benefit charge. Battalion Chief Todd Jensen will follow up at the next regular meeting.

Citizen Carolyn Benum thanked the Department for their care and professionalism. She named Dylan Reed, Cole Richardson, Andrew Kolibas, Kyle Olson and Adam Korby in particular and stated they are fantastic.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Blanchard-Reed expressed her appreciation of the District’s policy for mask usage and the crews’ consistent professionalism.

Commissioner Homan related his appreciation that Mrs. Benum had a positive experience with the District’s responders and also complimented the District’s social media campaigns. He thanked Chief Dale for meeting with him and Commissioner Gustafson regarding the benefit charge and thanked Commissioner Gustafson for attending that meeting with him.

Chairman Portmann reminded everyone that next Tuesday is the Special Board Meeting and Public Hearing starting at 6:00 pm. He will be working on the Agenda with Chief Dale and Attorney Joseph Quinn.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of July 8, 2020, was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.**

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Ryan Portmann, Board Chairman

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Brenda L.B. Barker, District Secretary