

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
May 12, 2021 (Virtual)**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Homan called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**FLAG SALUTE**

**ROLL CALL BY CHAIR**

Present: Chair Robert Homan, Commissioner Adam Rosenlund, Commissioner Gerald Gustafson, Commissioner Gina Finley, Fire Chief Pat Dale, Deputy Chief Oscar Espinosa, District Secretary Sandi Roberts and Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds

Absent: Commissioner Ryan Portmann had an excused absence.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL/MODIFICATION OF AGENDA**

**Commissioner Finley moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Rosenlund seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2021

Financial Documentation:

General Fund:

Payables: Checks #29900 through #29957 =	\$119,114.69
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$119,114.69</u></b>

**Commissioner Rosenlund moved to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Finley seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Fire Chief's Report**

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

Strategic Priorities of COVID-19

- These priorities are still in place. Over the past couple of weeks, approximately one dozen of our members are/were in quarantine, which is as high a number as we have had in total over the past year. These members had communal exposure outside of work.

## Current Events

- EMT to Paramedic Program at Tacoma Community College (TCC): Our first three members to participate in this pilot program, Joe Coffey, Max Thompson and Matthew Lester, graduate next month. The graduation ceremony on June 10<sup>th</sup> at TCC will be virtual except for the participants and one family member each will be allowed to attend in person.
  - Congratulations to Patrick Daly and Alex Hutchinson for being accepted in the TCC Paramedic Program for the 2021/2022 academic year.
- Graham Fire is partnering with the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to hold a Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinic at Frontier Park on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

## **Standing Committees**

Legislative – Chair Homan reported this would be the committee’s final legislative report for the year. He provided an update on the following bills:

- HB 1159 – Signed into law by the Governor
- HB 1168 – Delivered to the Governor for signature
- SB 1189 – Expected to be signed by the Governor
- SB 5338 – Signed into law by the Governor
- SB 5384 – Signed into law by the Governor
- SHB 1410 – Expected to be signed by the Governor

Pierce County Fire Commissioners Association (PCFCA) – Commissioner Gustafson reported on the highlights of the last PCFCA meeting.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- Fire Chief Selection Process

Human Resources Director Annie Vandenkooy reported that today was the deadline for submitting an application and she received one complete application packet. She is in the process of finalizing the interview questions from all interested groups including the Board of Commissioners, Labor Local 726 and the community via the Graham Business Association. She is working with the interview panel members to finalize a date and time for the interview, which will likely occur either June 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>. The interview panel consists of six personnel: two Commissioners, two from Labor, one community member and two Administrative Staff members.

Chair Homan suggested, because only one candidate is under consideration, having just one panel interview instead of two as was originally planned. After the panel vets the candidate, they will make a recommendation to the Board either to hire the candidate or not, and then the Board will take the recommendation into consideration and make their decision. The Board concurred.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Fire Commissioner Position 4

- Recognition of Commissioner Finley – Fire Chief Dale (virtually) presented Commissioner Finley with a Certificate of Appreciation and read the content aloud.
- Resignation of Commissioner Finley – Chair Homan stated Commissioner Finley had submitted a letter of resignation, effective this evening, and invited her to read it aloud. The Board members, individually, wished her well.

- Appointment of Russell Barstow – Chair Homan explained the Board previously discussed appointing Russell Barstow to the vacated position on the Board. Mr. Barstow would fill the position at least until the general election in November, when he plans to run for Commissioner Rosenlund’s position.

**Commissioner Finley moved to appoint Russell Barstow to fill Position 4 vacated by the resignation of Commissioner Finley. Commissioner Rosenlund seconded the motion.**

Discussion was held on the motion.

**Motion carried.**

- Oath of Office: Fire Chief Dale administered the Oath of Office to Russell Barstow.
- 2021 Fire Protection Services Contract with Pierce County  
District Secretary Roberts provided a summary of the annual contract with Pierce County to protect the Frontier Park property. The District will receive \$6,194 for these services.

**Commissioner Rosenlund moved to approve the 2021 Fire Protection Services Contract between the District and Pierce County. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

IAFF Local 726 Vice President Jasper Stenstrom thanked Commissioner Finley for her service to the District and support of Local 726. He then welcomed Commissioner Barstow back to the District. He informed the Board that on Sunday, Station 95 personnel reunited with a cardiac arrest patient from March and his wife who had performed life-saving chest compressions prior to the arrival of EMS. Firefighter Stenstrom had suggested to Chief Dale the wife be invited to a Board Meeting, once they are in-person, to receive special recognition for her efforts saving her husband’s life, and he agreed.

Citizen Robert Benum thanked Commissioner Finley for her service to the District and stated he appreciated her efforts supporting the citizens. He also asked Chair Homan how many applications were received for the Fire Chief position. Chair Homan responded that there was one, and the application period ended today.

Citizen Carolyn Benum commented she appreciated Gina Finley’s accomplishments on the commission and she would miss her. She then welcomed back Russell Barstow.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Gina Finley thanked the constituents and stated she will advocate for the fire service wherever she goes.

Commissioner Gustafson stated the new (South Sound) 911 building is nearing completion and an Open House is planned for either June 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 2:30.

Chair Homan reported the Tulalip Resort rooms reserved for the WFCM Conference in October are sold out. The resort expects to open up additional rooms. In the meantime, Commissioner Gustafson has a reservation at the Holiday Inn Express. Chair Homan requested the remaining Board members contact Board Secretary Jodi Reynolds if they want to attend the conference.

Chair Homan explained, with the addition of Commissioner Barstow to the Board, he made changes to the Board Committees assignments and stated the changes.

Chair Homan stated Board participation at the Standard of Cover stakeholder meetings is limited to one representative due to the size of the group. Commissioner Portmann will represent the Board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to come before the Board, the Regular Board Meeting of May 12, 2021 was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.**

*Robert L. Homan*

---

Robert L. Homan, Board Chair

*Sandi Roberts*

---

Sandi Roberts, District Secretary