

Board of Commissioners Meeting

March 11, 2009

Vice Chairperson Hallanger called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:40 p.m. on March 11, 2009, at 701 Vine Street in the training room. The following were present:

Commissioner Olson
Commissioner Merritt
District Secretary Bouchard

Commissioner Bergquist
Chief LaFave
Section Chief Kelly

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the February 25, 2008, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Administration of Oath:

None

Awards & Recognition:

None

Public Comment:

None

Risk Management:

Commissioner Hallanger reported that at the quarterly risk management meeting, he told the Clark County Risk Management group that we are seriously looking at going back to having a local agent. Chief LaFave said that Chief Mason (Clark #11/12) called him to find out how serious the Board is in making this change. He indicated the 2.5% additional fee to the broker is off the table. Chief LaFave told him we are concerned that it cost the pool approximately \$39,000 to add Cowlitz 2, however, they charged us approximately \$52,000. The difference was spread among the other departments as savings. We do receive more coverage, however, with the formula they use for dividing the cost, we appear to pay more with other agencies receiving savings. Asst. Chief Headley is following up to determine when the actual notice deadline is to withdraw from the group.

Verbal Reports and/or Discussions:

None

Written Reports:

Calls Report, February 2009: Staff provided a new calls report that reflects not only dispatches to Longview, but also the actual transports from those Longview calls. Questions from the Board were answered by Staff.

Action Items:

Resolution #681-2009; Annexation: The previously accepted petition for annexation of four parcels on Mt. Pleasant Road was presented to the Board in Resolution #681-2009.

Commissioner Bergquist made a motion to approve Resolution #681-2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Tabled for Future Meetings:

- Additional Services Contract with Cowlitz County
- New POG: Out of District Responses
- Email Issues
- New POG: #4008 – Emergency Vehicle Driving

Chief's Report:

- All 18 of our members made it to the top of the bank tower in Seattle for the annual stair climb. Great job to all who participated.
- Staff and the Executive Board from the union have worked on developing the part-time program guidelines. The labor group in general was not supportive of the program although our attorney has indicated that we do not have to have their support in order to implement the program. Essentially, we are simply changing titles of the current Shift Volunteers to part-time employees. They will be performing the same duties as they currently are and will not be taking work from the labor group.
- Chief LaFave was in Olympia over the last three days over legislative issues talking with our State Representatives regarding the stimulus package. Per Dean Takko, we should write a letter to Brian Blake, who is on the Ways & Means Committee, regarding the Station 25 project.
- There is potential under the Hazard Mitigation Plan that we may be able to get funding for a new Station 25 (Lexington). This is a program that allows for mitigation of future disasters such as what might occur at Station 25 during an earthquake. Apparently, this project fits perfectly within the scope of that plan.
- Governor's comments at the Legislative Day were very candid regarding the economy. The stimulus package opportunities will be very limited with strings attached to many of them. Dean Takko indicated the project at the Longview Wye is still moving forward although the timing has been pushed back.
- We are continuing to work with other fire districts on joint training. The other districts have standardized their volunteer drill nights to Wednesday nights. On July 1, we will also be moving to Wednesday night drills.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve payroll totaling \$186,389.93 for warrant numbers 28881 through 28936 dated March 5, 2009. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve vouchers totaling \$34,186.16 for warrant numbers 28937 through 28997 dated March 13, 2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- County Board of Commissioners sent our Board a Government Summit Invitation for elected officials to explore innovative ways of delivering services. The summit will be held on March 25, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at the Cowlitz County Event Center which actually conflicts with our next Board meeting.

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairperson Hallanger at 5:59 p.m.

Chairperson

District Secretary