

Board of Commissioners Meeting

June 9, 2010

Chairperson Cameron called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:30 p.m. on June 9, 2010, in the back classroom at the headquarters fire station at 701 Vine Street in Kelso. The following were present:

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| Commissioner Merritt | Commissioner Olson |
| Commissioner Hallanger | Commissioner Bergquist |
| Chief LaFave | Asst. Chief Headley |
| District Secretary Bouchard | EMS Administrator Ribelin |
| Deputy Fire Marshal Graham | Operations Chief Kelly |
| Driver Operator Neely | Part-time FF/EMT Bauman |
| FF/EMT McWain | FF/Medic Huff |

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve the May 26, 2010, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Administration of Oath:

None

Awards & Recognition:

None

Public Comments:

None at this time.

Verbal Reports and/or Discussions:

None

Written Reports:

None

Action Items:

Contract with MontanaSky Networks, Inc.: A need has been identified to expand our current training delivery methods to include web-based training to better accommodate training mandate compliance. Staff has worked with MontanaSky Inc. and the District's attorney to develop the necessary contract for services. Staff will also work to develop the interlocal agreement necessary to allow other jurisdictions to participate.

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to authorize Chief LaFave to sign the contract with MontanaSky Networks, Inc. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Further discussion was regarding private information that may be available through this site. It was noted there will not be any personal information that can be accessed through this website.

Station 25 Replacement Project: In our process to replace the existing facility in Lexington, we have worked through a number of public outreach processes including a citizen advisory committee, two open houses, and a public hearing. During this time, much of the feedback provided by the citizens in the area served has consistently been that they generally recognize the need for a new facility or improvements to the existing facility to allow full-time staffing, however they do not support the use of a Local Improvement District as the means to fund the project. It has also been stated numerous times that due to the current state of the economy, this adds an additional hardship to many of the people that we serve.

While we can't afford to fund a project of this nature from our general fund, it is more important to recognize we can't afford to lose the public's trust. If we move forward with the advisory ballot, I am confident we would not receive enough protests to prevent creation of the LID. However, in doing so we would be ignoring important aspects of the issue that would likely cost us the future support and trust of those we serve. A new station is needed in Lexington, but staff recommends that we delay further action on funding the station until after the economy improves, and re-evaluate the needs of all of our stations and consider a district-wide capital bond vote.

Staff will continue to pursue grant funding for this station and will keep the information developed to date on file for future use. The special use permit is good for one year with progress on the project.

Chief LaFave noted the message from the residents of Lexington was very clear – they support the fire district, however, the timing and process are problematic.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to direct Staff to discontinue efforts to move forward with the LID process for a replacement fire station in Lexington. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Chairperson Cameron indicated he supports the recommendation of Chief LaFave. We need to give this project some time and continue to provide services to the best of our ability and resources.

Ezra Brewer (who attended this meeting) indicated he appreciates the forthrightness of the District. He does support the firefighters and the station in Lexington, just not this way. Discussion of the current tax rate and how this is calculated. Chief LaFave noted the primary focus for Staff is to maintain the public's trust. Jim Zintz (also at the meeting) said if we put this to a vote now (District-wide), Lexington residents would vote for it. They just didn't want to share the resources but bear the burden of the costs.

Kelso School District Contract Renewal: Each year the Kelso School District provides an updated contract for services that the Fire District provides for instruction of the emergency services high school program. The attached contract is identical to the 2009 agreement with appropriate changes in listed dates.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to authorize Chief LaFave to sign the contract renewal with the Kelso School District. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Medtronic Physio-Control Agreement: The previous 5-year maintenance agreement for our cardiac monitor/defibrillator equipment expires on 6/19/2010. The agreement needs to be renewed at a cost of \$29,564.88 over the term of the 5-year contract (will expire 6/18/2015).

Cardiac monitor/defibrillator equipment is expensive to purchase (\$25,000 for a Life-Pak 12) and requires preventative maintenance to keep it in working order. We have purchased a service agreement from the vendor through which we also have purchased cardiac equipment. (We currently have six Life-Pak 12s and two Battery Support Systems covered under this agreement). The agreement also provides for an exchange of batteries and 15% discount on electrodes/accessories. The service provided by Physio-Control, Inc. has been excellent. They provide prompt service when contacted regarding a problem. They provide loaner equipment if needed and shipping on all repairs has been at no charge to C2FR. The positive issues related to service are numerous. The current agreement reflects a \$7,382.62 cost increase to cover the additional maintenance on one more LP 12, three additional battery support systems, and the expected economic increase over five years.

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to authorize the contract renewal with Medtronic Physio-Control. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Tabled for Future Meetings:

- New POG: Out of District Responses

Chief's Report:

- Additional Info – a new LifePak 12 costs about \$26,000; our initial replacement schedule is for a five-year life, however, due to the level of maintenance we receive from Medtronic Physio-Control, this equipment is kept in very good shape with the expectation to increase the life to twice the original estimate.
- We've had a number of fires lately resulting in cause and origin investigations for Deputy Fire Marshal Graham. This is working well and shows the excellent efforts by Graham.

- We are geared up for the wildland season with refresher training completed.
- We received a \$52,000 grant to equip the mobile cache unit. There is only one other unit like this one in the State. Having this unit available should benefit us locally and in the region. Our agency has more nationally qualified personnel in this region than any other agency. This project will be cost neutral as we will be reimbursed by the State for deployments with the mobile cache.
- Tomorrow, June 10th, is the large-scale “Big MAC” exercise that is being funded by Homeland Security. There are four counties involved in this regional mass casualty exercise.
- The annexation of the Northwest Alloys site is now complete.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve payroll totaling \$181,603.98 for warrant numbers 32313 through 32372 dated June 4, 2010. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve vouchers totaling \$46,991.82 for warrant numbers 32373 through 32436 dated June 11, 2010. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Merritt provided information from the WFCAs seminar in Chelan.

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 6:03 p.m.

Chairperson

District Secretary