

Board of Commissioners Meeting

September 23, 2009

Chairperson Cameron called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:33 p.m. on September 23, 2009, at 701 Vine Street in the conference room. The following were present:

Commissioner Merritt
Commissioner Hallanger
Asst. Chief Headley
EMS Administrator Ribelin

Commissioner Olson
Chief LaFave
District Secretary Bouchard
Section Chief Kelly

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the September 23, 2009, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Administration of Oath:

None

Awards & Recognition:

A list of the awards and recognition from the quarterly all call meeting on August 18, 2009, was given to the Board.

Chief LaFave reported that on a call today, Lt/Medic Hicklin, P/T FF Satcher, and Vol FF Wolden on Medic 23 were close to a working structure fire call that was dispatched. They responded, found the victim and executed a rescue as the first engine in was on initial attack. Great job guys!!

Public Comment:

None

Risk Management:

None

Verbal Reports and/or Discussions:

Logistics Storage Issue:

Current warehouse space for all C2FR resources is inadequate; we are looking at storage options including temporary situations. Essentially, we need a warehouse building on a long-term basis with the best location at Station 21. This would be a centrally located facility that would support the six locations and 150 personnel we have.

Update on L.I.D. and New Station 25 (Lexington):

There is nothing new on the grant information yet. The land transfer with Cowlitz County is still in process. Chief LaFave will be following up to find out the status and try to move this along more quickly.

At 6:00 p.m. during meeting, the Board entered into a conference call with Nancy, an LID attorney with the Foster, Pepper law firm. She has consulted with a mass appraiser on the issue of forming an LID to build a new station in Lexington. Nancy indicated the statute clearly allows construction of fire facilities. This mechanism for funding is typically formed to finance improvements that specifically benefit property.

The process would be to get a bank loan, then after improvements are constructed, add up costs, determine how to allocate costs, and send hearing notices. The owners of any properties can object with the assistance of an expert appraiser. We can also have expert appraisers but would have to prove the benefit to individual property if an owner objects. The risk would be in incurring all expenses prior to assessment of the LID. The positive note is that this risk only affects those that object. If only a couple individuals object and win, they are the only assessments needed to revise. You can confirm the LID formation earlier in the process, however, you may not know the total costs yet. In that case, a supplement can be done if the costs are under-estimated.

Commissioner Merritt made a motion to direct staff to develop and LID plan, schedule and proposed method of assessment. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Public Hearing

The regular meeting was recessed at 5:49 to open a Public Hearing for the Chinook Ventures annexation petition.

With no public comment, the Public Hearing was closed at 5:50 p.m. and the Board reconvened the regular meeting.

Written Reports:

None

Action Items:

Resolution #686-2009; Chinook Ventures Annexation: Asst. Chief Headley distributed a map of the proposed annexation. Staff's ongoing concern has been cleaning up the boundary lines. When a call comes in for this location, there is uncertainty as to whether the situation is in the fire district or not. This annexation will make it very clear.

Commissioner Hallanger made a motion to approve Resolution #686-2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Lease/Purchase Option for PPE: Staff is proposing to enter a lease/purchase option for the replacement of bunker gear on a five-year rotation. The lesser used gear will be replaced on a ten-year rotation. Commissioner Hallanger expressed concern over adding the amount of interest to be paid on this type of purchase on top of the annually funded PPE budget with a commitment of five years. After discussion, this issue was tabled pending completion of gear inspections and may be brought back to the Board at a later date.

Renewal of High School Program Agreement with Kelso School District: The only change to the agreement are to the effective and termination dates. All other terms remain the same.

Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve renewal of the agreement with the Kelso School District for the high school fire science program. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #685-2009; Transfer of Funds: To cover the costs of previously approved expenses to be paid by the Volunteer Incentive Fund, this Resolution authorized transfer of these funds to the General Expense Fund. The payments have already been made for these purchases.

Commissioner Merritt made a motion to approve Resolution #685-2009. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #687-2009; Annexation Final for Mt. Pleasant and Ravenwood: Upon receipt of the Boundary Review Board's determination, this Resolution authorizes final approval of the requests for annexation for areas in Mt. Pleasant and Ravenwood as identified in the attached legal descriptions.

Commissioner Hallanger made a motion to approve Resolution #687-2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No 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:

- Chief LaFave and EMS Administration Ribelin visited Systems Design in Silverdale today. Staff has had some concerns with multiple customer service issues which were discussed and some archive records were brought back to the District. There was also a contract issue to discuss regarding payments from Medi-Cal. Our account has fallen behind and service just has not been the same since the personnel we used to work with have left. Also, Dave and Becky met with Lisa Rogalsky, who is one of the people we used to work with at Systems

Design. She is now working for EF Recovery to develop transport billing services for their company. They will probably be ready to begin these services by the end of December, which is also when our contract would be scheduled for renewal. It appears at this time we may actually have another choice of service providers in the area of transport billings. Staff will keep track of the contract expiration date and requirements.

- Chief LaFave, Asst. Chief Headley, EMS Administrator Ribelin, and Section Chief Kelly met today with Longview Fire Chief Daryl McDaniel, Batt. Chief Phil Jurmu, Jim Kambeitz and Brian Smith without any outcomes or solutions.
- Reach Air Ambulance is apparently working with SW Medical Center in Vancouver to put a helicopter there. Staff is looking at how that affects the regular EMS plan for Cowlitz County.
- Fire season still has some potential although that's diminishing.
- The H1N1 vaccine will initially be a nasal spray and will be available through Region IV Public Health. We may have a point-of-distribution here for dispensing the vaccine. This will not include the seasonal flu vaccine though.
- Chief LaFave briefed Governor Gregoire and the Secretary of the Dept. of Health for fire and our region. We are apparently the only region putting together an IMT to deal with these activities.
- We will be looking at purchasing a "prime mover" truck to tow the trailers when needed. This would be funded by the Dept. of Homeland Security.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve payroll totaling \$95,607.57 for warrant numbers 30340 through 30376 dated September 18, 2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve vouchers totaling \$119,967.46 for warrant numbers 30377 through 30430 dated September 25, 2009. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

None

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 7:27 p.m.

Chairperson

District Secretary