

Board of Commissioners Meeting

November 8, 2006

Bill Hallanger, Vice Chairperson, called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:32 p.m. on November 8, 2006, at the 701 Vine Street Conference Room. The following were present:

Commissioner Olson
Asst. Chief Headley
Driver Operator Neely

Commissioner Bergquist
District Secretary Bouchard

Approve Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve the October 25, 2006, 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:

Chief Headley reported that during the high water, Engine 25 was in water over the top of the rear duals which entered the generator compartment. The Shop dried it out and serviced the engine with no apparent residual effects.

Verbal Reports:

C & C Railroad Derailment: - This was the first full activation of the Emergency Management Zone (EMZ) at the Columbia Heights station. This was a Unified Command with the County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Patrol and C2FR. There was a Delegation of Authority signed by the appropriate parties including Weyerhaeuser, with Weyerhaeuser paying the costs above and beyond normal operating expenses. The good news is that there weren't any injuries; also property damage was minimal, limited to the rail cars. There were a few minor glitches and technical issues during the operation, but overall, it went very well.

Also, the generator at Columbia Heights has been hooked up using propane; the natural gas will be hooked up next week.

[Commissioner Merritt arrived at 5:38 p.m.]

Annexation Issues: - Chief Headley distributed maps showing the annexation area proposed by petition in yellow; the City of Longview's proposal is shown in green. Values are to be determined and will be brought back to the Board. The Longview City Council is aware the annexation will affect the fire district financially. They are also looking at their loss of dollars due to the premium on utilities and the library district losses.

Chief Headley reported we will probably be expanding our citizens' advisory group to include Longview members and Local 828 members for a joint planning group. Commissioner Merritt asked for information regarding the group's efforts and direction for clarification.

Written Reports:

None

Public Hearing:

Commission Vice Chairperson Hallanger recessed the regular meeting at 5:46 p.m.

Vice Chairperson Hallanger opened a public hearing to discuss the budget at 5:46 p.m. The hearing was closed with no public comment at 5:46 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Hallanger.

Vice Chairperson Hallanger reopened the regular meeting at 5:47 p.m.

Action Items:

Preliminary Budget for 2007: – The Preliminary Budget for 2007 was distributed to the Board in their packets. The only change from the last draft was to include additional revenue in property taxes, offset by a higher ending fund balance, to allow for the full levy request. It is understood that the Assessor's Office will limit the levy request to the amount allowed by law.

Commissioner Merritt made a motion to approve the Preliminary Budget for 2007 as submitted by Staff. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #650-2006 Preliminary Budget: – Formal action for the above referenced budget.

Commissioner Merritt made a motion to approve Resolution #650-2006. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #651-2006 Referendum #47: – As required by law to maintain the allowable levy limit for real and personal property taxes.

Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve Resolution #651-2006. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #652-2006 Tax Limit Factor: – This resolution is included to preserve the 6% limit allowed prior to the passage of I-747. Due to I-747 being declared unconstitutional, this resolution may allow the district at a later time to recoup some or all of the additional requested tax funds up to the previous 6% allowed.

Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve Resolution #652-2006. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

POG #4001; Access Policy: – Final draft which includes all previously discussed items and recommendations. Chief Headley also discussed this final draft with Chairperson Cameron. Chief Headley will take to the County Commissioners meeting next week when they review their policy.

Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve POG #4001. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Vice Chairperson Hallanger requested District Secretary Bouchard put this on the calendar for review in 12 months to see how it's working or if it needs revisions.

Tabled for Future Meetings:

- Email Issues
- Private Fire Protection Contract – Eyer (Chairperson Cameron has provided verbiage to include in this contract.)
- New POG: #4008 – Emergency Vehicle Driving

Chief's Report:

- Busy with flooding issues and slides. Nothing new and unusual; the normal areas that slide or flood are involved.
- We've had daytime volunteer staffing at Station 25 (Lexington) during the high water.
- Yesterday (11/7/06), Volunteer Captain Murphy and Volunteer FF Bauman were in the EMZ for assistance. Also, there was a volunteer crew available for additional response from Station 23 (Columbia Heights).
- Vice Chairperson Hallanger asked Chief Headley to pull out the evacuation plans for Station 21 and review for accuracy and updates.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the payroll of November 3, 2006, totaling \$161,030.30 for warrant numbers 22734 through 22787. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the vouchers totaling \$26,165.42 for

warrant numbers 22788 through 22842 dated November 13, 2006. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Merritt reminded the Board of the January 18, 2007, SWFCA meeting at Clark #12 with the issue of private roads and bridges standards on the agenda. Chief Headley will prepare a Power Point presentation for that meeting.
- Driver Operator Neely reported the District will be hosting the second bike giveaway on December 16, 2006. There will be two programs this year, one at 10:30 a.m. and one at 2:00 p.m. Brad Neuman, who donated 100 bikes last year, is donating 200 bikes this year.
- Also, December 2nd is the annual Walk ‘n’ Knock program; volunteers will be using Station 25 (Lexington) as part of this effort.

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Hallanger.

Chairperson

District Secretary