

Board of Commissioners Meeting

November 14, 2007

Jeff Cameron, Chairperson, called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:30 p.m. on November 14, 2007, at the 701 Vine Street Conference Room. The following were present:

Commissioner Olson
Commissioner Bergquist
Chief LaFave
District Secretary Bouchard

Commissioner Hallanger
Commissioner Merritt
Asst. Chief Headley
Vol FF Casey

Approve Previous Minutes:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the October 24, 2007, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Administration of Oath:

None

Awards & Recognition:

Commissioner Merritt requests a thank you letter is sent to the Vote Yes Committee that worked on the levy campaign.

Public Comment:

None

Risk Management:

Two new claims have been filed regarding the Libby Lane bridge. This information has been forwarded to the District's attorney and liability insurance carrier.

Verbal Reports:

Safe Schools: Commissioner Merritt provided an update on the Safe Schools committee. At their last meeting, ESD112 reported that Cowlitz County schools have been awarded a grant of over \$4 million over four years to continue work. This will be for the 42 schools in Cowlitz County and will assist in the required training (under SB5097 passed this year) between first responders and the schools. By 9/1/08, schools must have worked with police and fire on state

mandates. This will also be tied to the school mapping project.

Levy Update: Asst. Chief Headley reported the last numbers released from the Elections Office show Proposition No. 1 passing with 61.5% yes votes. The election is to be certified 11/27/07.

Chief LaFave will request survey information from the State Chiefs on how levies fared in the state.

Written Reports:

None

Action Items:

Ambulance Remount Bids (Staff Report 11-1-001): Asst. Chief Headley reported that both bids predominantly met the bid specifications, however, came in higher than expected. Staff's recommendation is to reject both bids and direct Staff to go out to bid for a new ambulance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the Staff's recommendation and go out to bid for a new ambulance. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. Further discussion regarding options. Motion carried.

Resolution #660-2007 for the 2008 Preliminary Budget: The preliminary budget previously reviewed by the Board was presented to be adopted as the Preliminary Budget for 2008. There are revisions to be made after the first of the year when the cash carry forward balance is known, along with the final assessed valuation for property tax projections.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve Resolution #660-2007. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Resolution #661-2007 Referendum 47: It was determined in discussions with the County Assessor's Office (who also talked with the State Dept. of Revenue) that this Resolution is not necessary as Proposition No. 1 was approved by the voters. *This Resolution was tabled until the next meeting. Staff will contact the State Department of Revenue and the District's attorney for further information.*

Resolution #662-2007 Tax Limit Factor: This Resolution is to reserve capacity in the event we can capture additional property tax revenues at a later date. *This Resolution was tabled until the next meeting. Staff will contact the State Department of Revenue and the District's attorney for further information.*

WFCIA Insurance Renewal: There is a new option for Basic Life/AD & D coverage for Commissioners at their expense. The medical/vision/dental plans to be offered are the same as for 2007.

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve the insurance renewal as presented. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Tabled for Future Meetings:

- New POG: Out of District Responses
- 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:

- Practice burn was held on Sunday with Commissioner Hallanger attending. Also, there was a local ob/gyn physician that took pictures. He indicated he may be interested in some type of volunteer activities with the District.
- Region 6 Forest Service is developing a standard agreement for all fire agencies involved in mobilizations. Chief LaFave is very involved with this effort.
- Meeting Thursday with joint County Chiefs and SW Clean Air Agency to clarify roles and responsibilities with fire agencies and illegal burns.
- There has been an internal group formed to be facilitated by EMS Administrator Ribelin to develop an operational plan; first meeting is 11/20/07. This includes representatives of each shift along with volunteers and staff support. The target is to bring a plan to the Board for the workshop generally held in March.
- Continuing joint planning with Longview Fire.
- Chief LaFave will be the President/Chair of the State Fire Defense Committee next year. He plans to minimize the number of meetings necessary.
- Supreme Court ruled on I-747. Governor Gregoire is requesting agencies refrain from increasing their budgets in excess of the 1% cap in I-747.
- EMS Council is reviewing and planning the delivery system with Chief LaFave as Chair. All agencies are to be involved including AMR to develop an improved system. Chief LaFave indicated Jeff Bissett, AMR's local Operations Manager, has been a great asset to work with and he expects this to continue.
- AMR labor situation is still pending; two groups are looking at picking up the members.
- Chief LaFave has been designated as an instructor for the US Fire Administration's all hazard IMT course. This will require him to attend the Georgia State Fire Academy as a mentor/coach/unit instructor in December.
- Chief LaFave is a candidate for 2008 as IC for the 520 course. This training is to occur January 23 through January 31, 2008, in Arizona.
- The Board agreed to authorize Chief LaFave to continue with the Type 2 Incident Management Team as IC. Commissioner Hallanger requested a list of training commitments from Chief LaFave.
- Chief LaFave reported to the Board that there was a response to a fire at Longview Fibre a few months ago. There was concern after the After Action Review that we shouldn't have been on that fire. It not only took all of our resources, but was very dangerous in a heavy industrial area in which we aren't trained. The Board directed Chief LaFave to send a letter to Longview Fibre indicated that we won't respond unless we have the same training provided to Longview Fire and we will not deplete resources needed for standby for other incidents in the fire district.

- We are trying to affect change in the organization; some people have been uncomfortable with that. We are enforcing standards for the volunteer ranks but are also reviewing the affects on the program.
- Our employees reported that the Harris Fire in California was a positive experience. They operate very differently in these types of incidents down there such as how shifts are scheduled. The State of WA received lots of compliments from CA on how well our resources worked with them.
- Annual recognition dinner went well – the Board thanked Staff for their efforts all year.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the vouchers totaling \$10,633.75 for warrant numbers 25364 through 25367 dated October 31, 2007, for quarterly taxes due. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Drill Points:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the November 2, 2007, drill points warrants totaling \$1,592.50 for warrant numbers 25419 through 25428. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the November 5, 2007, payroll totaling \$182,746.88 for warrant numbers 25368 through 25418. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the vouchers totaling \$7,220.99 for warrant number 25430 dated November 9, 2007, for the VISA payment. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Warrant number 25429 was misprinted and is VOID. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the vouchers totaling \$55,626.99 for warrant numbers 25431 through 25521 dated November 16, 2007. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Merritt reported LEPC met yesterday and he will provide hazardous materials spill type incidents for the next meeting.
- Also, LEPC was awarded a grant to do an exercise next June.
- At the SWFCA meeting last week, the group heard from CRESA regarding radio interoperability. There is currently interoperability from the north through Thurston County and from the south through Clark County. They are now looking for funding to bridge between those two areas.
- Veryl Anderson and Cindy Keeney with the City of Kelso are retiring with a celebration on Friday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Executive Session:

Chairperson Cameron recessed the regular meeting at 6:47 p.m. and opened an Executive Session. The Executive Session was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. to return to the regular meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m. by Chairperson Cameron.

Chairperson

District Secretary