

Board of Commissioners Meeting

December 10, 2008

Chairperson Cameron called a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 5:32 p.m. on December 10, 2008, at 701 Vine Street in the conference room. The following were present:

Commissioner Olson	Commissioner Hallanger
Commissioner Merritt	Commissioner Bergquist
Asst. Chief Headley	EMS Administrator Ribelin
District Secretary Bouchard	
Weyerhaeuser Guests: Vance Marlow, Mike Karnofski	

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve the November 12, 2008, Board meeting minutes. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Agenda Action Items Taken Out of Order:

Weyerhaeuser HazMat Agreement: The agreement has been received back from Weyerhaeuser without any changes to the draft. It has now been through our attorney and Weyerhaeuser's attorney and is ready for Board approval.

Commissioner Bergquist suggested tabling the agreement because he hasn't had a chance to review it. Weyerhaeuser personnel present indicated their disappointment with this option as they worked very hard to get the agreement to our Board tonight at the request of Chief LaFave and Asst. Chief Headley.

The agreement provides \$330,000 in funding from Weyerhaeuser along with supplying a vehicle and equipment for the Fire District to provide services. Of that amount, \$70,000 is designated for Vancouver Fire Dept. and \$53,000 is designated for training with an additional amount for firefighter physicals.

Commissioner Bergquist asked about other County jurisdictions' involvement with developing the agreement and inquired if we have asked them. Asst. Chief Headley indicated Chief McDaniel with Longview Fire is well aware of the agreement along with Columbia River Fire, and Fire District #5 (Kalama). Bergquist stated he had concerns about life safety issues and backup with other agencies.

Commissioner Hallanger made a motion to approve the hazmat agreement with Weyerhaeuser Company. Commissioner Merritt offered an amendment to include further conversation and planning with the Fire Chiefs Association and the LEPC. Further discussion.

Commissioner Bergquist indicated he feels we're rushing into this agreement without planning as we should.

At this time, Chief LaFave joined the meeting by conference call. He explained the history and legislative action on hazmat issues. Commissioner Merritt withdrew his amendment. Chairperson Cameron acknowledged Commissioner Bergquist's concerns about spreading ourselves too thin and asked what the response difference would be if we were to receive a call today without the agreement versus a call with this agreement in place. Actually, with the agreement in place, we will have personnel that are better trained to respond. Chief LaFave explained each jurisdiction has a designated hazmat IC agency, which for us is the State Patrol.

A revised motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to authorize Chief LaFave to sign the agreement with minor corrections as discussed. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bergquist requested District Secretary Bouchard ensure the record noted that he abstained from voting because he feels he does not have enough information for a decision.

Columbia River Mutual Aid Agreement: As previously discussed by the Board of Commissioners, the agreement is now ready for signature.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bergquist to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement with Columbia River as revised. Commissioner Merritt seconded the motion. Further discussion. Motion carried.

Revisions are to page 1, item 4, delete sentence after "units". Section 1.2(b), strike first sentence.

Administration of Oath:

None

Awards & Recognition:

None

Public Comment:

None

Risk Management:

(See action item below.)

Verbal Reports and/or Discussions

Annexations: A new annexation is in progress in the Ravenwood area off Bodine Rd. Captain Hembree is working with homeowners on petitions.

Life Flight Update: We've withdrawn our special use permit with the County due to procedural errors at the County. Life Flight is now seeking permanent quarters at the airport. If there are any glitches that come up with their application, we can resubmit our application, however, Life Flight has indicated they are not interested in pursuing the Columbia Heights Station 23 option any longer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to direct Staff to continue working on the special use permit process and working with Life Flight. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Station 25 Project Update: Committee meeting last night continuing to work with the group to develop a report for the Board for presentation at the January 14, 2009, meeting. Everybody on the committee agrees with the LID option and many would continue working on the marketing piece. We will also be working with Jim Flaherty of Vancouver Fire for the public relations portion. We are exploring potential options of grant money that may be available through the State and Asst. Chief Headley hopes to talk with Dean Takko next week.

Action Items:

Asst. Chief Headley reported the Clark County Risk Management Group keeps having on the agenda a discussion regarding an additional percentage fee to go to the agent/broker, Jim Palmer. Commissioner Hallanger indicated we didn't see the savings we had anticipated although our coverage has increased. However, he would rather shop local to possibly keep our business with local agents. The termination clause indicates 90 days written notice prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Staff will be following up on this item.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve renewal with the Clark County Risk Management Group. 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/Phone Issues
- New POG: #4008 – Emergency Vehicle Driving

Chief's Report:

- City of Yacolt has expressed interest in contracting for their annual commercial inspections. There are nine businesses and possibly the school. Staff will explore this option further
- Asst. Chief Headley met the new Kelso City Manager, Denny Richards, at an open house reception. We will be further developing that business relationship.
- LifeFlight has inquired about possibly periodically renting an ambulance from us when their helicopter can't fly. They would also contract for maintenance on their ambulance. We do

have reserve capacity at this time. This item is being further developed.

- Asst. Chief Headley received another subpoena on an access issue and will be following through as required. More information will be provided to the Board as we receive it.
- FF/Medic Jeremy Huff has been temporarily assigned to days to work on Logistics issues. He has already saved us thousands of dollars by organizing our supplies and returning items that were well overstocked. His medical expertise has proven to be very valuable in this position and he's doing a good job.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Merritt to approve the November 20, 2008, totaling \$86,123.01 for warrant numbers 28186 through 28208 and December 5, 2008, payroll totaling \$193,551.49 for warrant numbers 28265 through 28323. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve vouchers totaling \$74,663.78 for warrant numbers 28209 through 28264 dated November 26, 2008, and totaling \$18,848.35 for warrant numbers 28324 through 28375 dated December 12, 2008. Commissioner Bergquist seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- Commissioner Merritt will have a report on legislative issues at the first meeting in January.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting, December 24, 2008, was cancelled by Resolution at the last November 12, 2008, regular meeting.

Executive Session:

None

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 7:02 p.m.

Chairperson

District Secretary