



Clark County Fire District 6
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MINUTES

Clark County Fire District 6 Commissioners Meeting
Regular Meeting
Station 61, 7:30 p.m.
January 5, 2016

Members present: Chairman Lothspeich, Commissioner Bloemke, Commissioner Collins

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Lothspeich.

Commissioner Lothspeich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

Commissioner Bloemke added the architect selection process to New Business.
Chief Green added Public Education/PIO salary/benefits to Old Business.

Commissioner Collins made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Bloemke, to approve the December 15, 2015 regular meeting minutes and to have them posted for public view and on the website. The motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The Board and Chief received information via email regarding the annual Legislative Day event to occur January 28, 2016.

Commissioners Lothspeich and Bloemke and Chief Green plan to attend the Legislative Day event and requested the Office Administrator to register them.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Safety: None.

Parade: None.

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CONSENT AGENDA:

Number of Calls Report:

Calls, Nov 2014		Calls, Nov 2015		Calls to Date 2014		Calls to Date 2015	
EMS	349	EMS	382	EMS	4118	EMS	4294
Fire	23	Fire	26	Fire	343	Fire	345
Cancelled	105	Cancelled	114	Cancelled	1248	Cancelled	1267
False Alarm	22	False Alarm	22	False Alarm	253	False Alarm	242
Good Intent	28	Good Intent	37	Good Intent	294	Good Intent	329
Other	23	Other	27	Other	288	Other	330
Total	550	Total	608	Total	6544	Total	6807

Commissioner Bloemke made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Second by Commissioner Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

- Posting of Public Education – Public Information Officer Position

Chief Green reported the position is advertised with the WFCFA, the Reflector and the District's public and internal web site. Applications for the position close January 22nd. Commissioner Bloemke asked if it had been advertised with the Washington State Public Fire Educators. It had not, and the Chief will look into that tomorrow. To date, three applications have been received.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Public Education/PIO Salary/Benefits

Chief Green discussed inconsistencies in healthcare benefits which was a topic briefly discussed at the December 15th Board meeting. At that meeting, the Board was favoring wanting a healthcare benefit in which the District would pay 100% of the premium for the employee and 80% for dependents. Currently, all exempt Chiefs and non-exempt, non-bargaining unit staff have 100/100 coverage for the PPO 100 and Kaiser plans. The PPO Plus is 100/80, but has a higher level of benefits.

Commissioner Bloemke stated this change in the percentages of healthcare premium benefit was made when the Board was considering the IT position. The new PIO position and other new positions should be the same as planned for the IT position at 100/80. Existing employees would be grandfathered at their current 100/100 coverage. His did not want to go backwards on the current benefit.

Commissioner Collins asked if the Chief saw any downfall in this position. The Chief responded it seemed unusual to have a different benefit level for just one employee.

Chief Newberry asked if the Board intended for the new Assistant Chief position to receive the lesser benefit they were discussing.

Commissioner Lothspeich stated senior chief positions should be different and believes no change was necessary. It is likely only \$30 to \$40 per month difference between the 100/100 and 100/90 or 100/80.

After further discussion, Chief Taylor asked if his understanding is the Board would keep current employees at the 100/100, but new, non-exempt, non-bargaining unit personnel would be provided the three options offered as in the collective bargaining agreement.

The Board had further discussion on this subject and concluded the senior chief officers will not be subject to a lower premium benefit that would apply to other newly appointed employees.

Commissioner Bloemke made a motion that the medical premium benefit for new employees be per the matrix outlined in Article 11.2 of the collective bargaining agreement. Commissioner Collins seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- November Station 151 Response Report (update)

At the December 15, 2015 meeting, certain response statistics were unavailable from Clark Fire & Rescue due to a change in personnel and assignments in their department.

The Chief provided an updated November response report for Station 151. Individual District responses were as follows:

FD6	Fire: 01/10 (10%)	Medical: 04/35 (11.43%)	Total: 05/45 (11.1%)
CCFR	Fire: 01/02 (50%)	Medical: 02/13 (15.38%)	Total: 03/15 (20.0%)

Total calls in November were 60, compared to 48 in 2014. Year-to-date calls are 508, compared to 445 in 2014.

- Assistant Chief Planning and Logistics.

Chief Green stated he is bringing this before the Board to address some inconsistencies between the vehicle take-home policy and employment agreements regarding the permitted travel time between the employee's home and either the headquarters station or the District's boundaries. The Assistant Chief agreements state a thirty-minute response from home; the Fire Chief agreement states 20 minutes. The agreements all state travel time to the Headquarters station; the take-home policy states response to District boundaries.

The Board had discussion on the merits of changing either the policy or the employment agreements.

Commissioner Lothspeich stated to him it makes no difference if you live in Woodland or Portland, if you are required to be at the Headquarters station in 20 or 30 minutes. He asked the Board to consider a change in the policy regarding the state line prohibition. There was no response from the remainder of the Board.

Chief Green discussed other comparable fire department's policies regarding take-home vehicles.

- Olympia Fire: All Chief officers are issued a vehicle in their compensation package.
- Richland Fire: No contact
- Kennewick Fire: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package.
- King #2 (Burien): All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. 45-minute response requirement.
- King #4 (Shoreline): All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. If they do not, they receive \$500 per month. No time or mileage requirement.
- Woodinville Fire: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. 30-minute response time requirement.
- Marysville Fire District: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. No time or mileage requirement.
- Clark County Fire & Rescue: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. No time or mileage requirement.
- Bothell Fire: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. No time or mileage requirement.

The Chief also provided information for two local fire departments:

- Vancouver Fire: Chiefs are no longer issued vehicles due to City vehicle pool. Any compensation is unknown.
- TVFR: All Chief officers issued a vehicle in their compensation package. If they choose not to have a vehicle, they are compensated at \$480 per month.

The Chief pointed out that three personnel of equal rank should have equal compensation packages. He discussed Kristan Maurer's time served, qualifications, education and certifications and how she is an extremely qualified candidate.

Commissioner Bloemke repeated the earlier comment, "It doesn't matter if they live in Woodland or Portland," to which he disagrees, since there are alternate routes out of Woodland. Portland to Vancouver has only two routes. When the Board passed the policy,

it was made clear the vehicle would not be taken out of state. When then-Commissioner Reed would drive his battalion chief vehicle to Board meetings, there is was not possible he could respond back to his jurisdiction in time.

Commissioner Collins stated taking a vehicle home should benefit the department, not the individual.

Chief Newberry state that when he took his current position, he considered the whole compensation package, including the ability to take a department vehicle home. A person applying from outside the department would certainly do that too.

Commissioner Bloemke described a State Patrol employee whose address was 1.7 miles outside the boundary permitted for him to reside. So he created a residence at a fire station where he parked his patrol car, lived and received mail during the week and went home on weekends.

The Chief asked if the Board's position is to leave the policy as is. Commissioner Lothspeich stated that is the position of two Board members.

Commissioner Lothspeich stated he would make a motion to end the discussion. He moved that Kristan Maurer be compensated \$450 per month in lieu of a take-home vehicle. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Commissioners Lothspeich and Collins voted in favor of the motion; Commissioner Bloemke opposed. The motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Election of Board Officers.

Commissioner Collins nominated Commissioner Bloemke for the position of Board Chair for 2016. Second by Commissioner Bloemke. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bloemke nominated Commissioner Collins for the position of Board Vice Chair. Second by Commissioner Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bloemke asked Commissioner Lothspeich to continue chairing the meeting and he will assume Chair duties at the next meeting.

Commissioner Collins requested appointment to the Risk Management Group as there is a meeting scheduled the following morning at 8:00 a.m. The newly-elected Board Chair appointed Commissioner Collins as Board representative to the Risk Management Group. All other appointments to committees, etc. will be made by the Chair at the January 19, 2016 meeting.

- Appointment of Board Secretary

Commissioner Lothspeich stated with the passing of Richard Streissguth, the Board is presently without a Secretary and asked if the Board desired to consider candidates and/or conduct a search for candidates.

Commissioner Bloemke stated he would like to appoint Chief Taylor.

Commissioner Collins pointed out the Board Secretary acts in the Board's confidence and asked if that may cause any issues, as Chief Taylor reports to Chief Green.

Chief Green stated there would be no issue. Additionally, he had contacted Attorney Brian Snure who said the Board can appoint and pay someone in a current position like Chief Taylor to be the Board Secretary.

Commissioner Lothspeich was concerned that all other chief officers had received a two percent salary increase and Taylor would be receiving more. Chief Green pointed out it would be for a separate job.

Commissioner Lothspeich stated the \$600 that Dick Streissguth was receiving monthly would be too much compensation. Commissioner Bloemke was comfortable in the \$150 to \$200 range. He also pointed out the District was paying for responsibility rather than just time.

Commissioner Bloemke made a motion to appoint Assistant Chief Taylor as Board Secretary. Second by Commissioner Collins. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bloemke made a motion to compensate Chief Taylor with a \$200 salary premium to act as the Board Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:22 p.m., the Chair called for a break and stated it will reconvene at 8:30 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

- Liz Loomis Public Affairs – Scope of Work and Contract

Chief Green discussed the packet provided to the Board regarding retaining Liz Loomis Public Affairs to assist the District with the upcoming EMS Levy. The packet includes a Scope of Work and a contract for services. The Chief pointed out the monthly cost is now \$4,000. The work would begin in February and conclude in August. LLPA charges \$220 per hour for additional work not included in the Scope of Work or the contract.

Commissioner Lothspeich stated since we currently have a PIO vacancy and an employee performing some of the duties, would that employee be responsible for all postings on social

media and media releases.

Chief Green responded the social media posts and media releases would be crafted by LLPA as they were with the Lid Lift.

It was suggested that staff could perform all the necessary work for the EMS levy and we perhaps do not require the services of LLPA. Commissioner Collins commented we should not take the risk and it is money wisely spent.

Commissioner Bloemke asked how we measure what is included and when the “extra” billed time would start.

Chief Green stated no additional work can begin unless approved by the District and he is very aware when that occurs.

In discussion, the Board wants the time period cut from seven months to six – February through July. As the election is August 2nd, the Board saw no reason to extend through August. The Board also stressed they expect their comments and concerns to be respected and considered during the EMS Levy process. Additionally, they do not wish to pay for time and travel for a follow-up visit from LLPA after the election.

The Board seconded and passed a motion to contract with Liz Loomis Public Affairs for February through July for work on the EMS Levy.

- Architect Selection Process

Chief Green reported on the status of the Architect Selection Process. He reported the initial review committee membership consists of: Chief Green, Battalion Chief Maurer, Captain Olafson, Tracey Wood, Jon Bacon, Casey Taylor, Brandon Franck and Jeff Van Laeken. That committee will score the applicants according to guidelines established but will not conduct interviews. The interviews will be conducted by another committee yet to be established. That committee needs a citizen and a Commissioner as members.

Commissioner Collins recommended Arlen Stanek for appointment to the interview committee representing the community. The other Board members concurred. Chief Green will contact Mr. Stanek.

Commissioner Lothspeich suggested Commissioner Collins as the appointee to represent the Board. Commissioner Bloemke concurred. The Chair made the appointment.

Chief Green stated at the Board’s next meeting on January 19th, they will need to approve the questions for the architect reviews and the format for the interview. Commissioner Collins will not be present at the 19th Board meeting and asked the questions be sent to him

for review prior to his departure on the 16th.

ROUND TABLE and GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Santa's Posse. The preparation and deliveries went very well. Commissioner Lothspeich reported a number of comments favorable to participating FD6 personnel were received.
- Commissioner Lothspeich provided a legislative update to the Board.
- Chief Newberry asked the Board to recognize Chief Taylor's 35th Anniversary with the District.
- The Board wished to thank all who participated in Chief Streissguth's memorial service. The family was very pleased with the service and the representation of the District.
- Commissioner Collins noted there is a parade meeting on January 20th. He asks staff to contact Tony of the Hazel Dell / Salmon Creek Business Association's Parade Committee and tell him the SW Contractor's Association desires to be a parade sponsor.

Commissioner Collins brought up an item of Old Business. Regarding Kristan Maurer's temporary appointment to Battalion Chief, he suggested it should be extended until the end of January, pending any actions taken for moving to another position. Motion by Commissioner Collins to extend the appointment; second by Commissioner Bloemke. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None


Commissioner Collins made a motion authorizing Commissioner compensation and authorizing the payment of current bills in the amounts of:

Fund 6212	\$143,347.30
Fund 6242	\$37,065.33
Fund 6257	\$25,830.31

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bloemke and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Dean Bloemke, Chair


David Taylor, Board Secretary

The Local Board for Volunteer Firefighters was convened.

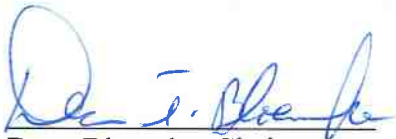
Members present: Chief Green, Commissioner Lothspeich, Commissioner Collins, Mark Puch and Board Secretary Taylor.

Meeting called to order.

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion to approve the Annual Remittance Form for the Volunteer Firefighter Relief and Pension program.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Dean Bloemke, Chairman


David Taylor, Board Secretary