

## CLARK COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 6

### RESOLUTION 2016-07

#### **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 6, CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON, SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION #2011-01, AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS OF A NOMINAL SUM FOR A UNIT OF SERVICE PERFORMED FOR THE DISTRICT**

**Background:** The Board of Commissioners recognizes that the proper operation of the Fire Protection District is dependent upon services received from its volunteer firefighters.

The Board further recognizes that in rendering such service, the volunteer firefighter will incur expenses in the following areas:

1. **Transportation.** Automobile expenses incurred in traveling to and from emergency responses, drills, educational meetings, seminars, stand-by duty, and station visits for familiarization with the equipment and facilities. The actual expense incurred will include vehicle depreciation, gas, oil, lubrication, licensing, insurance, maintenance, tires, batteries and traction devices.
2. **Clothing Expenses.** While the District does provide protective outer clothing, helmets and boots for emergency situations, it does not provide underclothing, socks, shoes, street clothes, coats and hats that are used by the volunteer when attending classes, traveling to and from emergencies, drills and stand-by duty. This clothing, supplied by the volunteer, is subject to additional wear and tear, damage, fire, staining, and soiling when used by the volunteer during emergency and non-emergency service to the District and community. The volunteer must pay for the cleaning, laundering, repair and replacement of such clothing.
3. **Food and Meals.** Volunteers, out of necessity, must buy meals and food. This is food that would not normally be purchased if it were not for the service to the District and is in addition to the food regularly purchased by the volunteer for his/her family.
4. **Haircuts.** The Fire District has a hair maintenance code for the safety of the volunteer. This code requires the volunteer to keep his/her hair to relatively short length, thereby forcing the volunteer to obtain haircuts more frequently than might normally be the case.
5. **Home Utility Expense.** When a volunteer firefighter returns to his/her home after a drill or particularly after a response to a fire, the volunteer incurs additional home utility expenses for showers, heat, lights and water. The volunteer firefighter also incurs additional home utility costs when studying, learning, and reviewing Fire District operation procedures and rules and regulations.

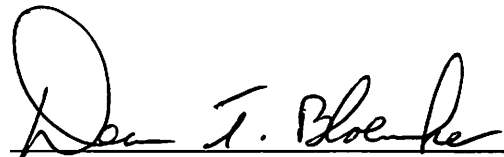
The Board recognizes that the logistics of documenting these many out-of-pocket expenses is difficult. To require each firefighter to record these expenses and to require the District to consolidate and compile the records would be impractical and unreasonable if not impossible. The intent and purpose of the reimbursement method adopted by this Resolution is to create a practical method of reimbursement expense without creating an impractical records system.

The Board also recognizes the need for a nominal stipend system to be given for certain activities which exceed the normal expectations of members.

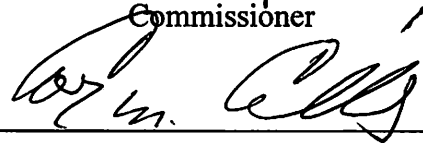
RCW 49.46.010 provides in part that if a local government body pays its volunteers a nominal amount of compensation per unit of voluntary service rendered that the employer-employee relationship is deemed not to exist for the purpose of the minimum wage law.

**Resolution:** NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of Clark County Fire Protection District 6, in order to avoid the cumbersome record keeping requirements needed to reimburse volunteer firefighters for actual expenses incurred in the performance of duty to the District, and to provide nominal stipends for additional activities performed, hereby adopts the attached system (Attachment A) for volunteer members.

**Adoption:** ADOPTED at a regular meeting for the Board of Commissioners of Clark County Fire Protection District 6 on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2016, the following Commissioners being present and voting:

  
Chair

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Board Secretary

## **Attachment A: Volunteer Reimbursement**

Volunteer Personnel are reimbursed for their expenses and are paid nominal stipends for services. Volunteers **may not** be paid a reimbursement plus a nominal stipend for the same activity.

1. Reimbursable events include attending drills, responding to stations for coverage and responding to calls.
2. Nominal stipend activities include (but are not limited to) the following and must be pre-approved:
  - a. The Hazel Dell Parade of Bands
  - b. The Fire District 6 Open House
  - c. Public education activities
  - d. Public relations activities
  - e. Specific training activities which may include:
    - Preparation for a training class
    - Coordination of a training program
    - Presenting a training class
    - Attending specialized training
3. The nominal stipend amount for volunteer personnel depends on their classification.
4. In consideration for the additional time and effort required of volunteer officers and apparatus operators, the Fire Chief (or designee) may assign the following nominal stipends:
  - a. Four (4) stipends per month for volunteer captains
  - b. Two (2) stipends per month for volunteer lieutenants
  - c. One (1) stipend per month for volunteer apparatus operators
5. Reimbursement and Nominal Stipend Rates
  - a. \$7.00 is paid for reimbursement
  - b. \$12.00 per activity is paid to Support Services volunteers
  - c. \$22.00 per activity is paid to EMS members
  - d. \$22.00 per activity is paid to Firefighter members
  - e. \$32.00 per activity is paid to Firefighter/EMT members
  - f. \$42.00 per activity is paid to Apparatus Operator and Officer members
6. Between nominal stipends, reimbursement and other compensation, total compensation to any volunteer may not exceed \$8000.