Snohomish County Fire District #4

MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

DATE: Monday, April 15, 2019
LOCATION: Headquarters Fire Station #43 – Lauterbach Room
1525 Ave. D – Snohomish, WA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: MARK HINTZ, Chairman
JIM SCHMOKER, Fire Commissioner
RICHARD E. FLATH, Fire Commissioner

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Simmons, District Secretary/Fire Chief
Mike Gatterman, Deputy Chief

ROLL CALL
Chairman Hintz called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. All members of the Board were present.

ADOPT/ADJUST AGENDA
There were no proposed changes to the agenda. Commissioner Schmoker moved to accept the agenda, second by Commissioner Flath, motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
Discussion: From the April 1st minutes Commissioner Schmoker noted in the Action Item discussion a comment about “LNI” which he believes should be “L & I”, Chief Simmons will make the appropriate correction. He also noted another missed spelling in the last sentence of that same discussion where the notation was “a head” and he would like it corrected to be appropriate in the sentence as “ahead”. This correction will also be made.

Action: Commissioner Schmoker moved to approve the minutes with recommended changes, second by Commissioner Flath. The minutes from April 1 were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Michael Jorve and Kurt Bartelheimer were present for the meeting, but had no comments at this time.
OLD BUSINESS

2019 EMS Levy

Chief Simmons provided a discussion outline that had been used for previous meetings and a DRAFT Resolution for the EMS Levy. He asked for any further discussion or Action by the Board considering that there is one more Regular Board Meeting to be held prior to the May 10th deadline for our Resolution to be submitted to the County.

Commissioner Schmoker questioned the meaning of the last sentence in the Background suggestion of the DRAFT. He believes that this looks like we are asking for an additional levy. After discussion it was decided the language was appropriate. He then asked if the word “Permanent” in the Proposition 1 Levy Question was required to be in Capital, all upper case letters. After brief discussion Chief Simmons was requested to talk with Attorney Snure and do whatever was required.

Action: Commissioner Schmoker moved to approve the submission of a Permanent EMS Levy to the Voters at the Primary Election, August 6, 2019, and that Staff be directed to produce all applicable documents and submit them to the Snohomish County elections office on or before May 10, 2019. Second by Commissioner Flath and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

Financial Business
Accounts Payable
Discussion: Batch #347805 is in the amount of $52,078.32. Commissioner Flath questioned the rental of oxygen bottles in warrant #1. Chief Gatterman explained that the bottles we have are rented and when we have a delivery we get filled ones. He then asked about warranted #15 for a foam proportioner, he asked if all the trucks had these. Chief Simmons explained that this was to replace the old unit that was on the Brush Truck. Item #18 for diesel from Nelson Petroleum was questioned. Chief Gatterman stated that this was for them delivering diesel to our tank at Station 42. Finally he asked about item #31 for the Wave Broadband service. It was explained that all of the stations do not received internet service from the same provider because of their location. This bill is for Station 42.

Action: Commissioner Schmoker moved to accept the warrants. It was seconded by Commissioner Flath and passed unanimously.

Purchase Authorization
Ambulance Intercom System
Discussion: Chief Simmons explained the noise problem we are having in the cab of the new ambulance, how it relates to the siren and what we have been doing to try to resolve the issue in cooperation with Braun Ambulance. Since we have determined that changes to the vehicle and equipment probably will not resolve this then the only solution is to install an intercom system. The system being requested is recommended by the Monroe Shop and would have been the one spec'd by Braun. The Chief explained that this situation was submitted to us by the employees as a safety issue.
Action: Commissioner Schmoker moved to approve the purchase of the intercom system, second by Commissioner Flath, motion passed unanimously.

Transport Fee Waiver Requests
Action: Commissioner Schmoker moved to waive 100% of the fees as recommended for accounts 23-2018-00003843 and 23-2018-00003850. Second by Commissioner Flath, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS
There was no new business.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Kurt Bartelheimer asked if there had been action on the appraisal and status of Station 41. The Chief stated that he would be updating the Board on that.

DISTRICT STAFF AND WORK GROUP COMMENTS
Chief Simmons told the members that the Department of Ecology would be working at the training site this week testing the soil that they notified us about last year. The question was asked if they would be repairing anything that they damaged during testing. The Chief stated that is part of our agreement with them.

The members were reminded about hosting the Sno-Isle County Commissioners on Thursday, May 2, and that our awards event is on May 3 in the Harvey Room. He also stated that there is now a tentative date for a memorial service for Sharon of Sunday, May 3rd at 1400 hours.

The Chief reminded the Board of the training opportunity for them June 1 in Chelan and there was discussion about the new class just posted for May 31.

The Board was invited to look over the Brush and Utility truck. They have both been repurposed to serve us better and are now complete.

The Chief talked briefly about discussions that have been going on at the county and state levels related to the potential for significant brush and wildland fires, including on the West side of the mountains. He stated that he will be working with our Officers to come up with contingency plans that will include up-staffing if found to be necessary.

The Chief said that the appraisal company had come through Stations 41 and 43 last Friday. He said we have about 3 weeks before we may see the appraisal. The Chief stated that he had met with 3 of the City Council members recently about the station ownership issue. They all want to promote the Fire District and work with us. They still desire to have a workshop to get to know the Board, they would like to plan this after the appraisal issue has been worked out.

The Chief stated that he will be meeting with Chiefs Obrien (8) and Meek (7) this week, and Demarco (Everett) next week to discuss operational issues.
Chief Simmons said that he attended a brief ceremony on Saturday at the Boys and Girls Club where the local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) post awarded Chris Jorve and Jason Leighty with Firefighter and EMS Provider of the Year awards. Chris will also receive their state award in Vancouver on June 21 at the VFW State meeting. The state has submitted his application for consideration at the National level.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS
Commissioner Flath asked about our comment cards explaining that it appears that we transport people from other Districts. Chief Simmons explained that we do send cards to everyone that we transport, including when we transport for a mutual aid call.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
At 0835 hours the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned to Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and Deputy Chief applications. The session would last no more than 25 minutes and there would be no expected action.

RECONVENE
At 0900 hours the Regular Board meeting was reconvened with no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

ADJOURN
At 0900 the Regular Board Meeting was adjourned.

MINUTES OF REGULAR FIRE COMMISSIONERS BOARD MEETING,
April 15, 2019

Minutes prepared and submitted by:

Ron W. Simmons

Ron W. Simmons, Fire Chief / District Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY FIRE COMMISSIONER:

Date

04/29/2019