

Whatcom County Fire District 4

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners

March 10, 2017

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on the above date at the district office. Those who attended were as follows: Commissioners Mary Beth Neal, Steve Ness and Harry Andrews; Board Secretary Kris Parks, Chief William Pernet, Assistant Chief Joe Noonchester and Division Chief Henry Hollander.

Commissioner Andrews called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Meeting Minutes
 - January 11, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
 - February 8, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
2. Staff Reports - Chiefs / Operations / Training / Technical Support
3. Financial Report Vouchers / Payroll
 - District #4 Commissioners Direct Deposit Payroll \$416.00
 - District #4 Expense Voucher: \$5,233.96

Commissioner Neal moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Ness seconded; motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Levy – Interlocal Agreement

The Chief informed the Board that the agreement was reviewed and amended by our legal counsel and that the agreement is now with the county legal department.

Collective Bargaining Contract 2017 – 2020

Chief Pernet stated to the Board that the contract negotiations are confidential and informed that the district filed for mediation. The first meeting is scheduled for the end of March or beginning of April.

Washington Survey & Rating Bureau

Chief Pernet informed that the WSR was at the district for two days to regrade. We are currently waiting for the score which will take about a month. The Chief will update the Board as soon as he has the results.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Phones

The Chief informed the Board that the department is in the process of having emergency 911 phones boxes installed on the outside of the district 21 stations near the public entrance. These are important in case a district resident (who may not have a phone) has an emergency and comes to the fire station for help. There are many times when the crew is not in the station to assist them or it is a volunteer station. The phones are housed in a weather proof enclosure and dial 911 directly.

The Chief asked the Board if they would also like to install these phones at the district 4 stations.

The cost for one phone is \$1,000. The Board approved to install the emergency phones. It will also be announced on social media.

Commissioner Ness moved to approve the purchase of the emergency phones. Commissioner Andrews seconded; motion passed.

OTHER

Chief Pernet handed out a letter from the Whatcom County Auditor's Office which informs about the resolution submittal deadline dates for ballot measures for the 2017 ballot.

District 4 needs a new fire commissioner in 2018.

Commissioner Neal inquired about combined response time activities, the average number of responders for fire and EMS and the response times per station. Chief Pernet gave her the information on the stats.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Board Meeting: April 12th - 12:00 p.m.

The joint board meeting is scheduled for April 20th at 7:00 p.m. at station 61 in Blaine.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:42 p.m.

Harry Andrews, Chair

Kris Parks, Board Secretary

Motions and Directives:

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Neal moved to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Ness seconded; motion passed.

Emergency Phones

Commissioner Ness moved to approve the purchase of the emergency phones. Commissioner Andrews seconded; motion passed.