

# Whatcom County Fire District 4

## Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners

### July 17, 2019

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, Harry Andrews and Anna Melillo; Interim Fire Chief Joe Noonchester, Division Chief Jason Van der Veen and Division Chief Herschel Rostov.

The Chair opened the board meeting at 12:00 p.m.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

#### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2019 Regular Meeting

2. Staff Reports - Chiefs / Operations / Training / Technical Support

3. Financial Reports

4. Vouchers

District #4 Commissioners Direct Deposit Payroll \$768.00

District #4 Expenditure Voucher: \$463,430.00

The Board received clarification on the following items:

#### **Staff Reports:**

Chief Noonchester informed that Firefighter Blake Scott received his promotion to Lieutenant. D.C. Van der Veen updated the Board on the tree removal. The dead trees have been removed by another company at a cheaper cost than previously quoted. D.C. Van der Veen explained the fire blocks to the Board.

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

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **2019 Levy Reimbursement from Whatcom County**

Chief Noonchester updated the Board that the department received payment for the levy reimbursement from the county.

Ongoing Discussion for Paramedics:

D.C. Van der Veen informed that the program is moving forward and that other meetings are scheduled. This program is funded by the County EMS program. An AMP course is scheduled for the end of August 2019 and the program will start in January 2020 or 2021 due to other government agencies involved. The department is hoping to build a 5<sup>th</sup> Medic Unit with NWFR as agency. This is a step into ALS for NWFR. The Chief's will keep the Board informed.

Department Master Plan:

The Master Plan is under way and the administrative staff provided their data into electronic drop boxes. The company will compile the information and reports and the next step are site visits by the company. They will provide us with data to make decisions for the department. The process will take approximately 6 months. Commissioner Andrews stated that we have to keep the election timeline in mind in regards to a merger.

First Amendment to the interlocal agreement for fire and emergency medical services between Whatcom County Fire District 4 and North Whatcom Fire and Rescue:

A meeting between the Chairs of both departments will be arranged for informal discussion.

Chief Noonchester stated that one gentleman is running for the Fire Commissioner position.

Chief Noonchester informed the Board that there is an annexation meeting scheduled. He will provide the Board with more details.

The department will review the agreement that was signed between the Bellingham Fire Department and NWFR regarding the use of the training tower at station 12. Chief Noonchester will do some research and report back to the Board. The options for additional revenue from the training grounds use were discussed.

**Next Board Meeting:** August 14<sup>th</sup> at 12 p.m.

**SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

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Mary Beth Neal, Chair

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Kris Parks, Board Secretary

**Motions and Directives:**

Consent Agenda:

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