

Whatcom County Fire District 4
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners
June 4, 2020

The special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held on the above date via Zoom. Those who attended were as follows: Commissioners Harry Andrews, Dave Hanson and Mark Chamberlain, Board Secretary Kris Parks and Chief Van der Veen.

The Chair opened the special board meeting at 2:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Appointment of Legal Counsel

The law firm of Chmelik Sitkin and Davis has withdrawn as general counsel for District 4 for projects that pose a conflict of interest with another client of their firm. Rich Davis recommended the law firm of Quinn & Quinn who is familiar with fire service representation and represented District 4 in the past. The cost of the services will be paid out of the NWFR budget.

Commissioner Andrews moved to approve the appointment of the law firm of Quinn & Quinn as legal counsel and Board Secretary Kerstin Parks as the point of contact for the district; Commissioner Chamberlain seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting with NWFR to discuss the current Interlocal Agreement

The Boards or Chairs of District 4 and NWFR are planning to hold a meeting regarding the review of the current interlocal agreement. In order to prepare for the meeting the District has requested documents from NWFR. Once the documents have been reviewed the Districts will schedule a meeting.

Commissioner Chamberlain directed a question regarding the apparatus to the Chief and Chief Van der Veen provided clarification regarding the apparatus stationed at Station 12. Commissioner Hanson stated that the District has to look at the options to provide service to the district residents. Commissioner Chamberlain supports a RFA (Regional Fire Authority).

Update on WSRB

District 4 sent a letter to WSRB informing the agency that Station 11 is not staffed by full-time staff or volunteers, is no longer a responding station, and that the fire department responds from Station 12. The District will inform the residents regarding the changes either by mail or social media.

Chief Van der Veen made no recommendations regarding Station 11 yet since the Board was not complete. Currently Station 11 has no benefit to the District.

Rental letter and Station 12 inspection

Commissioner Hanson suggested to the Board to use the services of a commercial real estate agent to provide the District with a rental letter in order to provide the District with the rental value of the administrative office.

Commissioner Andrews moved to approve the evaluation of the office space; Commissioner Chamberlain seconded. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Dave Hanson, Chair

Kris Parks, Board Secretary

Motions and Directives:

Appointment of Legal Counsel

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