



NORTH WHIDBEY FIRE AND RESCUE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Administration Building, 770 NE Midway Blvd. #1 Oak Harbor,
Washington Phone: 360-675-1131 Email: Admin@nwfr.org

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting Minutes

May 14, 2019

6:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER

- Commissioner Koorn called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Also, in attendance were Commissioner Goen, Battalion Chief Swiger, Secretary Monica Torgerson, Retired BC Zimmerman, FF Hoover, FF Zimmerman, FF Mohlsick, FF Reinstra, Ashely Mohlsick, FF Maletto, FF Pelzer, Larry Morse, Lt Brandhorst, Mike Henderson, Theresa Jenkins, FF Breaux, Chairman Lamont and Chief Kirko were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

- None

MINUTES

- By mutual consent, the Board approved the minutes of the Regular Meeting Held on April 9, 2019, Special Meeting held on April 15, 2019 and Special Meeting Held on April 24, 2019.

APPROVE EXPENDITURES

- After review by the Board the following expenditures, which total \$226,683.49, a motion was made by Commissioner Koorn and seconded by Commissioner Goen to approve the expenditures and vouchers for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW INVESTMENTS

- After review, the Board ratified investment dated 04/24/19 made by Investment Officer Mark Kirko or Alternate Investment Officer Monica Torgerson, a motion was made by Commissioner Koorn and seconded by Commissioner Goen to approve the investment. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The Board reviewed the Financial reports showing the District total equity for cash activity for the months of February and March 2019 which balance to the reports from the Island County Treasurer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Refurbish Trucks



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- BC Swiger reported that everything is on hold. He mentioned, Chief Kirko suggested the District should go for a bond to try to refurbish or replace the trucks.
- Commissioner Goen suggests moving the trucks to different stations for other uses.
- Commissioner Koorn wants a more detailed plan on how much it will cost to refurbish the trucks. BC Swiger will speak to Chief Kirko and continue to work on this project.
- Personnel Leaving
 - BC Swiger informed the Board that Andrea Cabon is leaving because she joined the military.
 - Kevin Smith is leaving because he has no availability in his schedule for NWFR
 - Gerald Smith is leaving because he has no availability in his schedule for NWFR
 - Ariana Mclain is leaving because she has no availability in her schedule for NWFR
 - William Moyer is leaving because he has no availability in his schedule for NWFR
- Whidbey Health Contract
 - BC Swiger stated that Chief Kirko and Chairman Lamont had a meeting with CWIFR and the management from WhidbeyHealth to discuss moving forward and coming up with an agreement for the renegotiation of the contract in place. He briefly summarized what everyone talked about in the meeting with the minutes that were taken that day.
 - Commissioner Koorn said that Roger Meyers the EMS Manager wants more control over the program with the 180k extra that they are willing to add to the contract. Commissioner Koorn disagrees on what Meyers wants however, he suggested “it would be a bad thing if NWFR didn’t have this program and income coming in”. There would be layoffs all throughout the District. Duty crew, administration, new hire process would be affected by not having a contract in place. He would prefer all parties come up with a reasonable solution for this program. He asked the public what they thought of topic. FF Hoover asked if with the new contract would NWFR be more involved and take more calls? Would Meyers having more control over the program be beneficial on how we operate? Or does he just want to have control over the program? Commissioner Koorn did not have an explanation on why Meyers wants more control over the program. He did not attend the meeting and was not sure what Meyers intentions were for the change.
 - FF Zimmerman asked if Duty Crew can go back to Volunteer status if there isn’t a resolution for the WhidbeyHealth Contract? Commissioner Koorn said yes. There is a 120-day notice that has to be given to us or them to terminate the contract and we haven’t sent one to them and we have not received any termination notice.
 - Teresa Jenkins asked if the Commissioner(s) have spoken to the CEO of WhidbeyHealth? Commissioner Koorn said that the new CEO was at the meeting as well.
 - Larry Morse asked if all Commissioners have sat with the CEO of WhidbeyHealth and spoken about the issue. Commissioner Koorn said they have not, this last meeting was only the two Chiefs (NWFR & CWIFR), Meyers, CEO of WH, Chairman Lamont and Chairman Hutchinson.
 - Larry Morse asked if they can summarize what is going on and add it to a local news avenue? Commissioner Koorn said that Chief Hartin is working with Ms. Loomis to discuss public communications in light of probabilities of terminating the contact.
 - FF Hoover asked if WhidbeyHealth is responsible for all supplies for ambulances? He



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also wanted to know how much of the extra money from the new contract would go to supplies?

- BC Swiger mentioned that WhidbeyHealth is responsible for all supplies. He wants FF Hoover to sit down with him and go over supplies and inventory.
- Commissioner Goen mention that he believes there is a lot of negativity and demands from Meyers on how he wants the program to run with the increase in amount and negotiation of the new contract. However, terminating the contract will be their last resort and any layoffs.
- Training Officer Position/Battalion Chief Position
 - BC Swiger mentioned that they are providing the candidates with essay questions and the responses should be coming back in a week. Commissioner Koorn asked about having an assessment center and BC Swiger said that it is scheduled for June 26, 2019. Commissioner Koorn and Commissioner Goen want the process to be placed on hold until the WhidbeyHealth contact was resolved.
- 2019 Budget Review
- The Commissioners do not have any questions regarding the budget. 5 Year Budget Projection
 - The Commissioners do not have any questions regarding the 5-year budget projection
- VFIS Insurance
 - The Commissioners agreed to cancel the Hartford Bond and get a reimbursement from the insurance company.
- Live Fire Containers
 - BC Swiger notified the Commissioners that there was nothing to report. Still working on the project.
- Grievance Policy
 - Commissioner Goen wants more time to change a few things in the policy. He wants this policy to be added to the next meeting in June.
- FF Job description
 - Commissioner Koorn wants the Job description to be revised and have the 3 years diesel mechanic criteria removed and have this position also be an EMT to fill in for Duty Crew. He wants the EMT qualification be done in 18 months.
- Banning Fireworks
 - Commissioners do not want to ban the ability to use fireworks for the fourth of July. They want the district to be able to use fireworks if they chose to do so. Commissioners asked the public and majority agreed with the commissioners. Commissioner Goen suggested reaching out to CWFR and SWFR to see were they stan in this topic
- EF Recovery
 - BC Swiger summarized the invoice from EF Recovery. This tax payer is in a set income and does not have the means to pay off the bill from EF recovery. EF Recovery invoice # 43742 She asked to have it forgiven. Commissioner Koorn and Communion Goen agreed. Motion carried unanimously.
- Travel Policy



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- Secretary Monica asked for more clarity on the per diem for vehicle use when a member takes their own vehicle. Commissioner Koorn will sit down with Secretary Monica and revise the policy.
- Laptop for the commissioners
 - The IT specialist has different options on trying to fix the commissioners laptops. Commissioners chose to go with the cheaper option not exceeding 260 dollars.
 - Lt. Brandhorst mentioned the computers on the rigs need to be replaced as well. Commissioner Koorn wanted those computers to be looked at.
- Chelan/Tulalip conferences
 - The charges for both conferences were approved for both dates. Commissioner Goen will let the secretary know if he is attending the annual conference in October.

CHIEF REPORT

- BC Swiger stated the plumbing for the administration office is complete. He doesn't have the total cost. Commissioner Koorn asked to have in bill sent to them just for review purposes.
- BC Swiger mentioned that the B27 has several problems with it. It is losing pressure, needs new pump, it has an oil leak, the skid unit is not working properly, He did some research and it will be approximately \$80k to replace B 27. Commissioner Goen will talk to Chief Swiger about B27 and how they can come up with a solution. Commissioner Koorn would prefer to have the truck up and running this summer.
- Commissioner Goen asked to have the dealership Ford Frontier in Anacortes be a possible dealership to have leak be repaired.
- BC Swiger asked for approval of use of the District Logo in a T-shirt for one of the FF members. He is doing a Relay for Life and wanted to represent the District. Commissioners approved it.

COMMISSIONER REPORT

- Commissioner Koorn attended the ICOM meeting last week. He had a few things to report back to the District. Back in 2015 ICOM wanted to upgrade their radio systems and they are evaluating the topic again. Commissioner Koorn will speak to Chief Kirko about it.
- He also mentioned to notify John Diamond if we have any new computers that have Spillman.
- He would also like more representation from the Chiefs in the Tack meetings
- He wants Chiefs to talk to JJ about the 100-watt radios. Radio Station 2's conversation is spilling to station 3.
- Commissioner Koorn suggested to bring back the treasures report made in excel. Commissioner Goen asked if BIAS has a similar report. Secretary said yes. They want that report to be added with the rest of the reports in the monthly meetings.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

- None

ADJOURN MEETING

- There being no further business and by mutual consent, the regular meeting of the Board



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adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Attest

Board Secretary/Accounting Manager
Monica Torgerson