

Board of Commissioners Meeting

August 28, 2019

Chairperson Cameron called a regular Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 5:30 pm on August 28, 2019, at Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue Headquarters Station in the high school classroom.

The following were present:

Commissioner Hallanger

Commissioner Olson

Chief LaFave

FA Ballinger

VC Meller

Commissioner Headley

Commissioner Neves

DC Ribelin

DFM Huff

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the August 14, 2019, BOC meeting minutes with edits. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

None

Awards & Recognition:

None

Verbal Reports:

None

Written Reports:

Capital Improvement Project Update: DFM Huff provided a written report that was included in the board packet. At station 25, framing in the living quarters is almost complete. Exterior wall weather proofing, electrical rough and plumbing rough are all ongoing. Siding should start this week.

At station 22, roofing is almost complete. HVAC, plumbing and electrical are ongoing. Insulation has started and sheetrock will start when that's complete. Exterior doors and frames are onsite as well as some interior doors. City of Longview recently authorized electronic signs in residential area. There are size and lighting requirements we will need to follow.

WSRB Rating: The district was recently evaluated for our WSRB rating. Our current class 4 rating has improved to a class 3, which will be effective January 1, 2020. This is great news for

citizens and businesses, as this will help them save money on their property insurance policies. This is a great accomplishment by our organization, especially the planning section. Focusing our efforts on training, staffing, apparatus and water systems all attributed to this result. Only 7% of departments in the state of Washington are a class 3, and we are the only one in SW WA.

Action Items:

Staffing: Chief LaFave is requesting authority to hire a firefighter/paramedic to fill the gap left by an employee that is on a long-term disability with no expected return date at this time. If the board authorizes this position, that would make two positions the Chief will have the authority to fill (previously approved a new firefighter/EMT position at 05/08/19 meeting). Discussion regarding sponsoring people to go to paramedic school and research process for this.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to authorize the Chief authority to hire a firefighter/paramedic as outlined above. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Chief's Report:

- We have 32 high school students signed up for this year's fire science class. 20 first year students and 12 second year. Looking at options to provide instructor support to VC Meller. Chief will be bringing a recommendation back to a future meeting.
- Recently mailed letters to affected agencies for out of district response fees. All parties are notified. In addition, the City of Longview was notified that the interlocal agreement for EMS services will be cancelled effective 10/01/19 since it is not required for this out of district response fee for service.
- Crews having been running a lot of calls recently.
- The generator testing at station 21 was completed Monday, and the final switch over will be occurring tomorrow.
- The ladder truck should be delivered sometime in September.
- Commissioner Headley provided an update on the hiring of dispatchers at Cowlitz 911. They are evaluating updating their CAD system and are still evaluating sites for their new location.

Payroll:

A motion was made by Commissioner Neves to approve payroll totaling \$240,525.05 for warrant numbers 58594 through 58605 dated August 20, 2019. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Vouchers:

A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve vouchers totaling \$121,593.57 for warrant numbers 58606 through 58649 dated August 30, 2019. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- 9/11 ceremony at 06:45 am at station 21.
- 9/11 ceremony hosted by United Way at 8:30 am at Cowlitz County Fairgrounds Arena.
- 10/2 department all call meeting at 6:00 pm at station 21 in the bay.
- 11/23 is the district dinner at the Red Lion with social hour at 6:00 pm and dinner at 7:00 pm.

- Commissioners Cameron and Hallanger will not be at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 6:22 p.m.

Chairperson Cameron

District Secretary