

# Board of Commissioners Meeting

October 28, 2020

Chairperson Cameron called a regular Board of Commissioners meeting to order via zoom at 5:30pm. The following attended:

Commissioner Hallanger

Commissioner Headley

Chairperson Olson

Chief LaFave

DC Sanders

DC Ribelin

FA Ballinger

## Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the October 14, 2020 board meeting minutes as is. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## Public Comments:

None

## Awards & Recognition:

None

## Verbal Reports:

None

## Written Reports:

**Lid Lift:** An overview of single and multi-year lid lifts, including advantages and disadvantages to each, were included in the packet for review along with a detailed article from MRSC. Election dates and ballot resolution deadlines were also provided. Staff is unaware of any potential ballot measures from other government entities but will look into this. The Board would like to wait to make a decision about moving forward and with which option until the vacant Board position is filled. This will be brought back in early 2021 for discussion and consideration.

## Action Items:

**Fire Chief Employment Contract:** Chief LaFave gave his official notice of his intent to retire on April 1, 2021. There was interest expressed by Scott Neves to replace Chief LaFave. The Board negotiated an employment contract with him and was included in the Board packet. The intent is to have Scott Neves start his employment on February 1, 2021 as Deputy Chief, then take over as Fire Chief on April 1 when Chief LaFave retires.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to authorize the Fire Chief Employment Contract with Scott Neves as presented. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**Station 21 Bay Door Modification:** As discussed at previous meetings, staff has been pursuing the option of the bay door modification project to have the ladder truck at station 21. The intent is to have the bay doors where the current command rig and water tender sit to be modified and the ladder truck would be housed where the water tender currently resides. There will need to be some apparatus moves to accommodate this, but staff will work out those details.

Staff reached out to five vendors on our Small Works Roster and only two responded. Staff recommends awarding the project to Pacific Northern Environment (PNE) which is the lowest, responsible bidder with a quote of \$168,323, excluding tax and necessary permits.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to award the Station 21 Bay Doors Modification Project to Pacific Northern Environmental (PNE) for \$168,323 plus sales tax and necessary permit fees. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Chief's Report:**

- A letter was sent to industrial area businesses that contracts for fire protection service and are Tier 2 reporters, about the need to help fund our HazMat program since their insurance requires this service. None of them appear to want to assist in funding the program, which would cost about \$10,000 for each business. Discussion about the future of the HazMat program. The Board would like this brought back to a future meeting for further discussion when the new Board member has been selected and can participate in the decision making of this issue.
- Well update at station 24 and water needs of the Kelso School District at Rose Valley Elementary.
- Chief LaFave reminded the Board that he has been appointed as the District Secretary so the Board can decide how they want to assign this position when he retires.
- Update on this year's property tax collection as of yesterday.

## **Payroll:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Headley to approve payroll totaling \$330,359.94 for warrant numbers 60563-60575 and EFT's dated October 20, 2020. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Vouchers:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve vouchers totaling \$450.00 for warrant number 60576 dated October 22, 2020 and \$106,730.21 for warrant numbers 60577-60615 dated October 30, 2020. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. All questions by the Board were answered by staff. Motion carried.*

## **Drill Points:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve drill points totaling \$16,027.89 for*

warrant numbers 60616-60629 and EFT's dated October 30, 2020. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

**Announcements:**

- Commissioner Headley gave an update on Cowlitz 911 dispatcher staffing, the executive director search, new software and the new 911 facility status. They anticipate opening bids for their new facility in mid-November. Update on 911 statewide outage last week.

**Adjournment:**

*Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Cameron at 6:27pm.*

---

Chairperson

---

District Secretary