



## Board of Commissioners Meeting

July 12, 2023

Commissioner Cameron called a regular Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:30pm. This meeting was available to the public via Zoom. The following attended:

Commissioner Hutcheson

Commissioner Headley

Commissioner Hallanger

Interim Chief Graham

DC Huff

FD Ballinger

PUBLIC: Scott Goldstein

### Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the June 14, 2023 board meeting minutes as is. Commissioner Hutcheson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

### Public Comments:

None

### Awards & Recognition:

None

### Written Reports:

None

### Action Items:

**Purchase Command Vehicle (Staff Report 7-1-001):** Staff is looking for approval to purchase a Ford F150 pickup on state bid as outlined in the apparatus replacement plan in the most current OAP. The chassis will cost \$51,500, including delivery and taxes, as well as \$28,500 for customization, equipment, etc. The total cost of this vehicle will not exceed \$80,000, inclusive of sales tax, delivery fees, etc.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Hallanger to approve the purchase of the command vehicle and all necessary equipment not to exceed \$80,000 as outline above, with the chassis to be purchased on state bid. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Verbal Reports:**

**Union Presentation: Brown Grievance Step 2:** The union's attorney advised them not to present their case in an open, public meeting and therefore, will not be making a presentation today on this topic.

## **Closed Meeting:**

*Chairperson Cameron recessed the regular meeting at 4:33pm to enter into a closed meeting to discuss a grievance (per RCW 42.30.140) for approximately 45 minutes. Chairperson Cameron re-opened the regular meeting at 5:18pm.*

## **Action Items:**

**Brown Grievance Step 2: Board Response:** The Board requested additional time to officially respond to the union on this grievance matter. Chris Sweet, union president, gave his verbal okay for an indefinite extension at the meeting while the Board does its due diligence to respond to and resolve this matter. No further discussion or action was taken on this topic.

## **Chief's Report:**

- Station 24 has been painted and it looks great.
- New flooring and painting will occur at Station 21 in the high school classroom next week.
- New Volunteer Coordinator will start August 1. Mike Ellis, a long-time volunteer of the District, has been chosen to fill this role.
- Update on current wildland deployments.
- Currently have four applications for the DC of Ops position which is slated to close this Friday.
- The crews have been busy, with the fourth of July being garnering 42 calls on that day alone. Our total calls for the year are set to be higher than last year.

## **Payroll:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Olson to approve payroll totaling \$278,528.77 for warrant numbers 64336-64346 and EFT's dated June 20, 2023 and \$294,517.43 for warrant numbers 64389-64399 and EFT's dated July 5, 2023. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## **Vouchers:**

*A motion was made by Commissioner Headley to approve vouchers totaling \$49,750.07 for warrant numbers 64347-64388 dated June 29, 2023 and \$136,855.82 for warrant numbers 64400-64437 dated July 13, 2023. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. All questions by the Board were answered by staff. Motion carried.*

## **Announcements:**

- Cowlitz 911 will be hosting an open house next week for partner agencies to come get a tour as well as a public ribbon cutting and open house event on August 1. Please feel free to stop by.
- This will be Interim Chief Graham's last meeting in his current role. Staff wanted to thank him for stepping up to assist the District during the transition and making personal sacrifices to change his schedule to support the mission and our staff. He was a pleasure to have on days and really helped to boost morale. The Board echoes the sentiments of staff.

**Adjournment:**

*Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Cameron at 5:30pm.*

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Commissioner

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District Secretary