



## Board of Commissioners Meeting

*August 14, 2024*

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

Commissioner Cameron

Commissioner Olson

Commissioner Headley

Commissioner Hallanger

Chief Goldstein

DC Huff

DC Stich

Finance Director Ballinger

### **Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings:**

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve the July 24, 2024 board meeting minutes as is. Commissioner Hallanger seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

### **Public Comments:**

None

### **Oath of Office:**

Commissioner Hutcheson administered the Oath of Office to one new employee, Firefighter/Paramedic Aly Tawney. We are excited to have her join our team and thanks to her family for supporting her in her mission to serve our community.

### **Awards & Recognition:**

Chief Goldstein recognized Anna Davis for her work on the address sign program. Recently FEMA sent a note about our good grant management and responsiveness to a recent desk audit. He appreciates her work.

Chief Goldstein recognized Firefighter/Paramedic Mark Jurmu for his work building the new splash house that was used for the first time at the fair. He did a great job constructing it and it looks very nice. He thanked him for this craftsmanship and time spent on the project.

### **Verbal Reports:**

**911 Update:** Darr Kirk was selected as the new Executive Director and will begin on August 26. The Cowlitz 911 Board looks forward to working with him.

## Written Reports:

None

## Action Items:

**Resolution 862-2024: Accept Annexation Petition & Schedule Public Hearing:** Nippon has recently petitioned to annex into the District. This is the first phase of the process, which will accept their annexation petition and schedule a public hearing for August 28. Also included in the Board packets was the SEPA Environmental Checklist. Once the Board adopts this resolution, staff will post notices at least in three public locations as required by law and continue with the next steps in the process.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve Resolution 862-2024: Accept Annexation Petition & Schedule Public Hearing as presented. Commissioner Olson seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

**Purchase a New Brush Truck (Staff Report 8-1-001):** After this staff report was sent out, further information and details were discovered about the timeframe we'd receive this vehicle if we purchased it now, as well as options and the timeline to put the components of this vehicle together. The Board will not be taking action on this purchase and instead, staff will come back to the next Board meeting with a resolution to move this money into Capital Reserves to purchase this when the timing is right. When that time comes, staff will bring back the purchase request for approval since it exceeds the Fire Chief's spending authority.

**Purchase a New Prime Mover (Staff Report 8-1-002):** Staff is requesting to purchase a Ford F-350 vehicle off of state bid, to use as a prime mover, with the total cost not to exceed \$78,000.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion to approve the purchase of a Ford F-350 vehicle not to exceed \$78,000 total cost to place in service as outlined in Staff Report 8-1-002. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

## Chief's Report:

- Currently, we have no remaining full-time positions open, with the last two new people starting in the next month. We will not start recruiting for the part-time positions we have open until after the first of next year.
- We will be hosting an internal recruit academy for six of our newest full-time hires. The one we typically send people to in Clark County is not being held this fall.
- Update on staff that are out on wildland mobes.
- Working on OAP updates that affect Rose Valley after the discussion that occurred at the last Board meeting. Those updates should be ready to present at the next Board meeting.
- It has been 90 days since Medix has taken over transporting in Longview. Chief Goldstein told LFD that 90 days would be the evaluation period for us to consider not charging an Out-of-District fee for our medic units assisting in their jurisdiction. We currently still have six outstanding invoices that they have not paid. After a lot of discussion and questions by the Board, Chief Goldstein stated that he is in support of not charging Longview the Out-of-District response fee as long as the services are being reciprocated. The Board agrees and would like to re-evaluate this decision at a Board meeting in early 2025.

*Commissioner Cameron made a motion directing staff to no longer bill Longview Fire Department for our Out-of-District transport fee as long as the coverage is mutual: the District going out of our area to cover their calls is balanced with Medix (on behalf of Longview Fire Department) coming into our area to cover medical calls, with a re-evaluation to occur in early 2025 by the Board. This does not related to mutual aid for fire calls.*

### **Payroll:**

*Commissioner Olson made a motion to approve payroll totaling \$362,656.12 for warrant numbers 65823-65834 and EFTs dated August 5, 2024. Commissioner Headley seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

### **Vouchers:**

*Commissioner Hallanger made a motion to approve vouchers totaling \$87,443.02 for warrant numbers 65835-65900 dated August 15, 2024. Commissioner Cameron seconded the motion. A question by the Board was answered by staff. No further discussion. Motion carried.*

### **Announcements:**

None

### **Executive Session:**

*Commissioner Hutcheson recessed the regular meeting at 5:23pm. to enter into Executive Session to review the performance of a public employee (per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)) for approximately 30 minutes.*

*Commissioner Hutcheson announced an extension of the Executive Session at 5:53pm for 30 more minutes.*

*Commissioner Hutcheson closed the Executive Session and re-opened the regular meeting at 6:23pm.*

### **Adjournment:**

*Meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Hutcheson at 6:23pm.*

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Commissioner

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District Secretary