

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

Regular Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting

March 3, 2009

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Larson at 7:05 PM at Station 1-1.

The following were in attendance: Greg Cox, Harry Goodnight, Gary Larson, Victor Rasmussen; Scott Koehler, Bob Jacobs, Dean Thornberry; Brad Baldwin and Frank Billington.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Larson sought adjustments to the agenda.

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Approval of Minutes:
 - February 17, 2009 Local BVFF&ROs Meeting Minutes
 - February 17, 2009 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 3, 2009 Financial Report
- Excuse Commissioner Clancy

MOTION (by Goodnight): To approve the Consent Agenda. SECONDED by Rasmussen. Passed Unanimously.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

There was no public comment.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Washington Fire Commissioners Association—American Recovery & Re-investment Act. The WFCA provided information on State and Federal web-sites from which Fire Districts can obtain notice of funding available for Public Safety projects. Staff will check these web sites to determine if there are programs beneficial to East County Fire & Rescue.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

The following has occurred since the last Regular Board Meeting:

<u>Total Calls</u>		<u>Projected:</u>
FY2007	1.65 Calls/day	605/year
FY2008	1.70 Calls/day	623/year
<u>FY2009</u>		
74 Calls	1.54 Calls/day	562/year

Calls that have occurred since the last Regular Board Meeting:

- 8 EMS
- 2 Brush/Grass Fire
- 1 MVA—Non-Injury (with Fire District #3)
- 1 Structure Fire (with Camas Fire—2 Engines and 1 Rehab)

SAFER Grant Award Appears Unlikely for FY2009
Preparations Underway for Annual Awards Banquet—To Be Held March
Working on FY2009 Fire Prevention Grant Application
Talked/Met with Camas Fire Chief Leo Leon Several Times Regarding Shared Services Issues
Admin Group Met to Discuss Efforts To Organize Both Staffs
Trying to Complete Interlocal Agreement for EMS Levy Funding Transfer
Ongoing Issues with Chiefs Association Relationships
Work on Employee Contracts for FY2009—FY2010
Preparations continue for Start-up of Station 1-5
Dealing with EMS Response/Invoice Issues
Efforts on Hold for Easement for Hanger Project Behind Station 1-1
Drills: Patient Assessment/Refusals & Documentation; PPE & SCBA

Chairman Larson thanked all Members—on behalf of the Board—who responded to the many challenging calls that have occurred since the Board’s last Regular Meeting.

Assistant Chief Bob Jacobs reviewed his written report.

Assistant Chief Dean Thornberry reviewed his written report.

VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:

Brad Baldwin, Volunteer Association Liaison, reported that he, Captain Baldwin and Chief Jacobs met with Chief Thornberry to discuss possible assignment of stations and apparatus to the Volunteers. Baldwin thought the meeting was worthwhile—and will discuss the issues with the Volunteers at tomorrow night’s Drill.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:

There were no miscellaneous reports.

FIRE DISTRICT BUSINESS:

Shared Services with Camas Fire & Rescue. Chief Koehler was contacted by Chief Leon (Camas Fire & Rescue), in mid-February, to advise him that more overtime was being used to staff Station 1-1 than was ever anticipated. Camas City Administrator Lloyd Halverson expressed concern that the contract language—pro-rating ‘system’ overtime, as originally suggested by the Camas City Attorney—was unfair to the City. Halverson requested that ‘actual’ overtime expenses be utilized to ensure that the City paid only its ‘fair share’ of overtime costs.

Chief Leon proposed new language for Section 4.2 of the Interlocal Agreement on Staffing. That language seemed OK to Chief Koehler—and is currently being reviewed by the Fire District’s Attorney. When the Attorney’s review has been completed, the Board will be asked—by the City—to review the new language and, if acceptable to the District, sign a new version of the Interlocal Agreement. The Board plans to take action on the updated language after the Attorney reviews/comments on the verbiage.

Chief Koehler provided the Board with a proposed sign for the reopening of Station 1-5. The sign acknowledges the cooperative effort by ECFR and Camas Fire to bring Fire Fighter/Paramedics to that facility—thus improving the response time for Paramedics into the center and east side of the Fire District. The Board was favorable to the proposed sign.

EMS Response Billing. There were no EMS Response billing issues discussed.

Debt Forgiveness.

There were no Debt Forgiveness requests discussed.

Bear Prairie Satellite Station.

Bid for Professional Services—“As Built” Drawing for Existing Barn and Construction Plan for Remodel. Commissioner Larson has secured the services of Architects Associative and is planning a meeting with that firm to overview the Scope of Work assignment—to ensure both parties are clear on needs and expectations. Larson proposed that Commissioner Rasmussen and Chiefs Koehler and Thornberry participate in that orientation meeting. The Board was favorable to such a meeting. The meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

Ballot Measure for 5-Member Board. Resolution #104-03032009 was provided by the District’s Attorney—directing the Clark County Elections Office to put this issue on the ballot for the Primary Election.

MOTION (by Rasmussen): To adopt Resolution #104-03032009. SECONDED by Cox. Passed Unanimously.

Annual Awards Banquet. Preparations for the annual Awards Banquet continue. Members are being polled to determine the best date for the event. Award Nominations have been provided to all Members of the Agency. The date of the banquet will be announced in the near future.

Surplus Water Tenders. An Out-Of-State Fire District has asked about the District’s plans to surplus one or both of our old Water Tenders. Staff believes that we could surplus one Tender, now, without any problems. The second Tender could be surplused after the new Tender arrives/is placed into service—in approximately September or October.

Chief Koehler asked if the Board was interested in selling one or both of the old Tenders to this Fire District. That District’s is willing to commit to the purchase of both units—with the second truck being removed from local service in September or October. The Out-Of-State Fire District is asking for an Asking Price. Their fiscal year ends in June—and they would like to close the deal and exchange money before that time.

The Board agreed that they would be OK selling one Tender right away. They want to hang onto the second Tender until the new Tender is In-Service. After significant discussion, the Board favored using EBay in an effort to maximize the Sale Price of the Tenders. FF Frank Billington offered to develop the Ebay posting—similar to the one he did for the surplused Seagrave fire engine.

MOTION (by Cox): To place one Water Tender on EBay with a minimum asking price of \$5,000. SECONDED by Rasmussen. Passed Unanimously.

Purchase Requests: Three Beds and Two Lockers. Three new single beds and two 6-door lockers are needed to provide living/sleeping facilities at Station 1-5, which is scheduled to open on April 20th. These items are in line with the Board’s direction to provide Station 1-5 with the same equipment that is provided to other ECFR stations.

MOTION (by Cox): To approve the purchase of three beds and two lockers for Station 1-5. SECONDED by Goodnight. Passed Unanimously.

Paramedic Training Program. The District agreed to fund a Paramedic Training Assistance Program to help current Volunteer and Part-Time Members—who have served this District

well—attend Paramedic School. Providing this educational assistance improves the service that the Fire District can provide to its Customers—without the high costs associated with sending existing Employees through a year of training and having to cover their position during their absence (total cost of \$70,000--\$100,000). The District's Attorney has developed a Program and two separate contracts for participants: one for Volunteers and one for Part-Time Employees.

There is \$30,000 budgeted for this Program in FY2009. Chief Koehler would like to move forward on advertising this Program to ECFR members—due to the fact that Paramedic Class applications are due at the Paramedic Training School in the very near future. The Chief suggests that two potential slots be identified—covering tuition, books and offering a stipend to help offset the cost of school during classroom, clinical and internship.

The Attorney's documents show minimum membership of one year. Chief Koehler suggested that the timeframe be changed to six months for this first offering—to give the maximum number of members a chance at applying. Considering both the size of the Program award AND the long-term commitment that will be required of the successful members—the Chief will ask that applicants fulfill both the minimum time-in-service requirement AND have met ECFR's minimum membership participation requirements (for whatever position they hold) during that six month period.

MOTION (by Cox): To allow the Chief to move forward with advertising two slots in the Paramedic Training Assistance Program. Applicants must have a minimum of six months experience with ECFR—meeting minimum Membership requirements for their assignment. SECONDED by Goodnight. Passed Unanimously.

Surplus Equipment: Gasoline-powered Air Compressor. The District recently purchased a five-unit package of power equipment that had been 'display' equipment. One of these pieces included a gas-powered pontoon air compressor. The District has found no use for that piece of equipment and Staff desires to surplus the compressor to offset the cost of the other machinery that was purchased. The Board agreed and would like to post the compressor on eBay. After some discussion, a minimum selling price of \$500 seemed appropriate to the group. FF Billington offered to develop this Ebay posting, too.

MOTION (by Cox): To adopt Resolution #103-03032009, surplusing a gas-powered pontoon compressor—using Ebay—with a minimum asking price of \$500. SECONDED by Rasmussen. Passed Unanimously.

Saturday Seminar Attendance. Commissioner Larson asked the Board for permission to attend the May 30th Snure Seminar in Chelan. The topics to be discussed include: Legislative Priorities: What Next ? and MRSC: Who We Are & How We Can Assist Your Fire District. Seminar tuition is \$110. There will also be costs for lodging, meals and travel.

MOTION (by Cox): To approve Chairman Larson's attendance at the May 30th Snure Seminar. SECONDED by Rasmussen. Passed Unanimously.

LOCAL BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS

Chairman Gary Larson called the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting to order at 8:28 PM. There were no items of business to discuss. The Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM. The Minutes of the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting are filed separately.

ROUNDTABLE:

There were no Roundtable items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board recessed to Executive Session, per RCW 42.30.110 g—To Review the Performance of a Public Employee, at 8:30 PM. The Board estimated this discussion would take 15 minutes.

BOARD RECONVENES:

The Board reconvened at 8:45 PM.

There was no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Board adjourned at 8:46 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2009, 7 PM, Station 1-1.

Respectfully Submitted,

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

by

Absent _____
John Clancy, Commissioner

Greg Cox, Commissioner

Harry Goodnight, Commissioner

Gary Larson, Chairman

Victor Rasmussen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

DISTRICT SEAL:

Scott Koehler, District Secretary