

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting

February 2, 2010

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gary Larson at 7:00 PM at Station 91.

Commissioner Larson led the group in a flag salute.

The following were in attendance: Mike Berg, John Clancy, Gary Larson, Vic Rasmussen; Scott Koehler, Dean Thornberry; Tammy Dinius, Martha Martin; Zach Allen, Brad Baldwin, Mike Carnes, Jeffrey Johnson, Paula Knapp, Ryan Murray and Jeff Walton.

AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Larson sought adjustments to the Agenda. There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Approval of January 19, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of January 19, 2010 Local BVFF&RO Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of February 2, 2010 Financial Report
4. Excuse Commissioner Hooper

MOTION (by Rasmussen): To approve items 1-4 from the Consent Agenda. SECONDED (by Clancy). Passed Unanimously.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

There was nothing discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

CHIEF OFFICER REPORTS:

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 (+2.9% over 2007)
FY2009	1.79 Calls/day	655/year (+5.1% over 2008)
<u>FY2010—YTD</u>		
43 Calls	1.3 Calls/day	475/year

Calls that have occurred since the last Regular Board Meeting:

7	EMS
3	Injury MVA
1	Non-Injury MVA
1	Power Line Down
1	Garbage Truck Fire

- 2 Chimney Fires
- 1 Structure Fire (w/Washougal)—School Portable—E91, Air 93 and Rehab 93

Received over 180 Applications for Part-Time Office Assistant

Evaluated Resumes/Interviewed Top Seven Candidates using Third-Party Evaluators

Worked with Fire District's Attorney on: Bear Prairie CUP, Mt. Norway Water Tank and PT-er Benefits

Corresponded with Chief Leon on Shared Services Proposal—Seeking a Meeting with Camas' BCs

Insurance Broker is Phasing-Out of his VFIS Accounts—A New Representative will be Taking Over.

Wellness Physicals Being Conducted—per AFG Grant.

Working on Fitness Incentive Program

Awards Banquet Scheduled for March 19th. All Members are invited.

Vancouver Fire has laid-off 12 Administrative and Support Staff due to the economy.

The Consortium Nurse will be moving to Clark County Fire & Rescue to Continue PT Service

Presented Strategy & Tactics Class—Had 20 Students in Attendance (2 from Skamania Co FD #4)

Preparing to Present FEMA All Hazards PIO class for Region

CERT Class Operating with 25 Students—Student Feedback has been very positive

Working with Brad Allen on IV Tech Class

Attended a Cadet Program Meeting with the Skills Center

Will serve as County Mobe Officer, again, during FY2010

Meeting with DNR to Review Jackson 3 Fire on Thursday

Attended WFCA/WFC's Legislative Day

Finalizing Agency ID Cards for All Personnel—Just Waiting for Final Photos to be taken

Drills: OTEP—CPR; Physicals/Wellness Evaluations & Physicals

Captain Carnes provided follow-up on the Cadet Meeting. The Skills Center has decided NOT to make significant changes in the Program. None of the five training sites will be discontinued.

Assistant Chief Jacobs could not attend the meeting. The Board reviewed his written report.

Assistant Chief Thornberry reviewed his written report. He also welcomed Zach Allen, a new Part-Time Fire Fighter/EMT, to the District.

Finance/HR Manager Tammy Dinius reviewed her written report.

VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION:

Brad Baldwin, the Volunteer Association's Liaison reported that the ID badges will be issued shortly. Jeff Johnson is obtaining the last of the pictures and will then produce the badges at Wafer Tech. He wants to do badge production in one session, if possible, to not burden Wafer Tech's staff.

The Association will finalize their FY2010 goals at the February Association Meeting. They would like to do a Poker Night Fund Raiser. Neither the Chief nor the Board had an issue with hosting such an event at a District facility—as long as script was used in lieu of money.

SAFETY REPORT:

Assistant Chief Jacobs could not attend the meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:

There were no miscellaneous reports.

FIRE DISTRICT BUSINESS:

Washougal Water Tower. Commissioner Larson asked if the Board had any discussion about the water tank—or—the citizen feedback that was given to Mayor Guard at the last Regular Board Meeting. Commissioner Clancy noted that the need for more/better communication between the City and ‘The Water Tank Neighbors’ was painfully obvious.

Clancy is willing to make a motion ending ECFR’s involvement in this discussion. It was suggested that—with nothing on paper—the District had no definitive offer to consider.

MOTION (by Clancy): To notify the City of Washougal that the Fire District is not interested in having the City’s Water Reservoir constructed on Fire District property. SECONDED (by Rasmussen). Passed Unanimously.

Shared Services with Camas Fire & Rescue. Assistant Chief Thornberry is still trying to coordinate schedules with the three Camas BCs—to hold a meeting to discuss the workability of Chief Leon’s proposal—from an Operations perspective. Two of the BCs have been off—but should be back soon.

Commissioner Larson advised that City Council Member Don Chaney desires to talk with the Fire District about the status of the Joint Staffing Agreement—as well as about Shared Services issues. Commissioners Larson and Rasmussen plan to meet with Chaney in the near future.

Adopt Policy: Health & Wellness Incentives. Chief Koehler presented the Board with proposed language for a Health & Wellness Incentives Policy. Such a policy would, hopefully, encourage ALL Members of the Agency to undertake efforts to maintain—or—improve their health. Coupled with the AFG Program (which provided exercise equipment and physicals) the chance exists to reduce the likelihood that our folks might suffer a catastrophic medical emergency related to Emergency Response (heart attacks account for half of all Line-Of-Duty-Deaths in the Fire Service).

There would be two incentive focus areas: every Member would receive prizes for participation in the earliest stages of policy implementation (when habits are being formed)—with eligibility for gift card drawings (by level of participation) later in the Program. A second set of gift cards would be offered for special activities (Biggest Loser, Greatest Achievement in Meeting Personal Health Goals, etc). Criteria for the special activities would be suggested to the Chief by the Health & Wellness Committee.

Chief Koehler believes that the proposed language offers an equal opportunity for ALL Members (FT, PT, Volunteer, EST, Commissioners, etc) to be recognized and rewarded for trying to maintain or improve their health. The language needs to be placed onto the proper policy template—for issue.

MOTION (by Clancy): To adopt the proposed policy language, establishing Health & Wellness Incentives for the Members of ECFR, with publication occurring after the language is entered into the standard policy template. SECONDED (by Rasmussen). Passed Unanimously.

Approval to Hire: Part-Time Office Assistant II. Finance/HR Manager Tammy Dinius discussed the application process and the candidate interviews that occurred for the Part Time Office Assistant II position. She noted that Danette Beckwith was the candidate that both scored well AND seems to be the best fit for the Agency. Dinius requests that the Board offer Mrs. Beckwith a Conditional Offer of Employment for this position.

MOTION (by Larson): To Offer Danette Beckwith a Conditional Offer of Employment as the Part-Time Office Assistant II. SECONDED (by Clancy). Passed Unanimously.

Bear Prairie Satellite Station. Chief Koehler advised that the Fire District's Attorney sees no way to challenge Clark County's Development Code regarding the need for a Conditional Use Permit for the storage building/garage at the Bear Prairie Satellite Station. The County's Code is based upon 'intended usage' of the building—which will be to store fire apparatus. Thus, a CUP is required for that 'intended usage' on residential property. The Attorney feels that the Board should talk with County Commissioners, on an individual basis, to seek relief from the \$29,000 in charges—for the CUP process—for this \$40,000--\$60,000 building. Commissioner Larson stated that he will seek a meeting with the County Commissioners to discuss this issue.

PERS Membership for Commissioners. Chief Koehler reminded the Board that they must, individually, indicate IF they desire PERS coverage. Commissioner Larson suggested that Staff send Board Members a form to fill-out documenting their decision. Such action will get this item off the Agenda. Finance/HR Manager Dinius will send documentation to each Board Member.

Approve Resolutions for Surplus Equipment. Chief Koehler provided the Board with Resolution #121—02022010, surplusing a list of equipment that is no longer needed by the District. The list was presented to the Board at the last Regular Board Meeting. Some Minor Pagers and various parts have been added to the list. These pagers are outdated and no longer serviceable.

MOTION (by Clancy): To adopt Resolution #121-02022010. SECONDED (by Rasmussen). Passed Unanimously.

Review of FY2010 Goals & Objectives. Chief Koehler presented the Board with the Final Draft of Goals & Objectives proposed for FY2010. The Board has had these goals for several weeks—pending Koehler's final review of the timelines (to avoid overloading Staff and Members—ensures that the workload is spread throughout the year). A couple of deadlines have been changed and four more activities have been added: Volunteer Appreciation Gathering, Board Appreciation Event, Updating the Fire District's Strategic Plan and Developing a Fire Authority Plan.

MOTION (by Clancy): To adopt the proposed Goals & Objectives for FY2010. SECONDED (by Larson). Passed Unanimously.

Awards Banquet Update—March 19th. March 19th has been chosen for this year's Annual Awards Banquet. All Members are invited to attend. Rib City will be contacted to supply the food. The Fire District is allowed, by State Law, to cover the Member's meal costs. Family members (typically the Significant Other) must be paid for by the Member. Invitations for this event will be going out to current Members and Retirees.

Report on WFCA/WFC's Legislative Day. Commissioner Larson reported that he, Commissioners Clancy and Hooper, and Chief Koehler participated in the WFCA/WFC's Legislative Day. Contact was made with most of the State Legislators who represent this area. Our Fire District voiced support for several bills that impact the Fire Service.

Update on HB 2825: Move Board for Volunteer FF & Reserve Officers to DRS. No letter has been sent to our Legislators regarding HB 2825—based upon information received from Chief Dave LaFave (Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue). We were advised that the Lobbyist, who was working on this issue, had some incorrect information. Once that information has been corrected, the District can decide what action to take on this bill.

EMS Response Billing – Debt Forgiveness. There were no issues to discuss tonight.

Closure of Larch Honor Camp. There was discussion on the current status of the Larch Honor Camp. Despite a significant amount of support—from the Fire Service—to maintain Fire Fighting Crews at Larch, Inmates are—already—being moved to other camps. DNR has stated that Fire Crew activities are self-supporting—it is the Department of Corrections that has decided to close the camp.

LOCAL BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS

Chairman Gary Larson called the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting to order at 7:50 PM. There were no items of business to discuss. The Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM. The Minutes of the Local Board for VFF&ROs Meeting are filed separately.

ROUND TABLE

Quarterly Roving Board Meeting, February 16th, 7 PM, Station 94
SW Washington Fire Commissioners, February 18th, 6:30 PM, NWRTC

It was noted that the SW Washington Fire Commissioners Meeting will be discussing the possible inclusion of a new provider—for Medical Helicopter services—in our Region. None of the ECFR Commissioners were available to attend this meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2010, Station 94, 7 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

by

Gary Larson, Chairman

Absent _____
Jack Hooper, Vice-Chair

Mike Berg, Commissioner

John Clancy, Commissioner

Victor Rasmussen, Commissioner

ATTEST:

DISTRICT SEAL:

Scott Koehler, District Secretary