

# **SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE**

October 28, 2014  
Station 68

Commissioner Gates called the meeting to order at 1700 hours with Commissioners Rickert, Fossos and Freitas in attendance, Commissioner Thompson is present via conference call. Board Secretary Lauri Perry recording.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Freitas.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Gates noted that we have two sets of minutes to approve tonight from the September 23<sup>rd</sup> Regular Meeting and the October 15<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing/Budget Workshop. Commissioner Fossos made a Motion to approve the September 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes and the October 15<sup>th</sup> minutes as submitted; Motion was seconded by Commissioner Freitas. Commissioner Freitas requested that the September 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes be corrected, under his comments the program that he was referring to was the Senior Falls Program, not the Fall Factor Program. And, on the October 15<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing, he would like the minutes to note that everything stated was from the Chiefs presentation; there were no Commissioner comments in the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

## **COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

Commissioner Thompson thanked Chief Church for the hard work that went into developing a balanced budget it maintains our minimum staffing levels for serving the public.

Commissioner Fossos reported that he attended the King County Fire Commissioners Executive Board meeting, they had a good discussion about future events, he also attended the Special EMAC Meeting, which was called to go over 2014-2015 issues, the Regular EMAC Meeting and the Advancing Leadership Dinner; he really enjoyed the event.

Commissioner Rickert had no comments.

Commissioner Freitas noted that he attended the Injury & Violence Prevention Teleconference yesterday morning, lively discussion about injury and violence prevention on the state trauma level. Some of the current events discussed had to do with the response of medevac and protocols when to call for an ambulance. The State Chiefs, Labor and all of the medical providers are involved in it. He hopes the Policy & Procedures Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the Commissioner Committee agenda packets being released to the public as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Gates noted that he attended the Advancing Leadership Dinner, it was an excellent dinner, and he had never seen a dessert sold more than twice, and it wasn't a full dessert, it was a great way to raise additional funds.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Wayne Corey reported that the Des Moines Farmers Market closed on Saturday and he announced that the Des Moines Farmers Market Chili Cook-off raised \$2,200, for charity and he thanked the Department for all of their support.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Gates reported there were two (2) Budget, Finance and Audit Meetings, on September 24<sup>th</sup> an Exit Conference and on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, they met to review the 2015 draft budget. The information is in your packet. Commissioner Freitas asked about the report dated September 16, 2014, which is noted on page 18 of the Financial Statements and Federal Single Audit Report he would like to request a copy of this report, he has already asked CFO Lawson for this report. Commissioner Freitas added that in the Auditors Report it refers to Hotline comments inquired is there is a way to find out what the hotline complaint was. CFO Lawson reported that the Auditor receives the complaint and they don't share the source with us. Commissioner Freitas asked if we know what the hotline complaints are, Commissioner Gates added that there was only one complaint and it was in regards to the Chief's contract and the complaint was found to be unsubstantiated.

## **RESOLUTION #497 ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR 2015**

Chief Church read Resolution #497 into record, Commissioner Fossos made a Motion to approve Resolution #497, Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rickert. Commissioner Fossos requested a roll-call vote be taken. Commissioner Freitas added that this budget shows a lack of leadership by this department, financially it is balanced however we are putting all of eggs in one (1) basket or all of our eggs in the reserves to fund this budget, he will be voting against the budget. Commissioner Gates asked for clarification on his comment, Commissioner Freitas added that if the General Obligation Bond does not pass, we will have to go into our Reserves \$1.6 million in supplemental budget later in the year to fund this, which would come out of the Reserves. He would like to see a little more conservative budgeting than the current budget. Commissioner Freitas added that there are issues that we have trapped ourselves into such as the labor contract, the number of employees, the projections for revenue. Commissioner Gates asked if we should cut back on the number of employees and do you think that all of the employees shouldn't have gotten a 2% raise? Commissioner Freitas replied yes, he does think that, our employees are well paid, they risk their lives, they work hard but that is not the nature of the recession and the times we have been through. Commissioner Gates added that during the recessionary times our staff gave up their raises for a number of years and we have basically come out of the recession, the market is up, home sales are up our assessed values are up, how long would you wait to give staff a raise? Commissioner Freitas replied, the issue of going into our emergency reserves if GO bond does not pass is a risk that he is not willing to take.

Commissioner Fossos added that he takes high offense to Commissioner Freitas comment on lack of leadership; that is on you (Freitas) for not being more informed on the issues that we have taken on. We have already put off Capital Improvements for fours (4) years, we can't do that any longer. This budget reflects a very well balanced approach to funding this organization and keeping us moving ahead, instead of falling behind. Our AVs are up and the

people expect a first rate department. For you to say this department has a lack of leadership is not right, these men and women of this department serve our community, they deserve 2% they will never ever make up what they lost during the recession, they did that to give back to this department and we gained from that.

Commissioner Rickert added that he appreciates the time that was spent calculating the budget and everything that went into it. He feels that it is a very conservative budget; he didn't see any big expenditures. This budget funds what we need, what we have to pay for; it is right in line with the Assessed Value allowance. We have received a couple of grants that are expiring, so those funds have to come out of our budget. The AV's support these numbers, the budget is not excessive and he supports the budget.

Commissioner Thompson added all managers worked really hard on the budget, it is important that they get what they need and it is important that we keep our response times low. This is a tight budget and meets the goals that we established.

Commissioner Gates requested a roll-call vote:

Commissioner Freitas – nea

Commissioner Rickert – yes

Commissioner Gates – yes

Commissioner Thompson – yes

Commissioner Fossos – yes

Motion passed 4-1 with Commissioner Freitas voting in opposition

### **RESOLUTION #498 ADOPTING PROPERTY TAXES TO BE COLLECTED IN 2015**

Chief Church noted that now we have a budget approved by the majority of the Board, we need to fund it so he read Resolution #498 into record. Commissioner Fossos made a motion to approve Resolution #498 as presented; Motion was seconded by Commissioners Rickert and Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT**

Chief Church reported on the following items:

- Thanked the Board for establishing our budget for 2015 and he thanked his entire Admin team for their efforts, it was a lot of work. It has been a tough 4-5 years but things are falling into line. We are protected from pro-rationing, we have made up for the loss the two (2) SAFER Grants and we are moving forward.
- We have a Bond Meeting on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 1300 hours; he is looking forward to the meeting and the presentation from Rice Fergus Miller Representatives (Dave and Ed) to answer all of the questions that were raised by the Board at the last Bond meeting. They will have all of the costs so hopefully the Board can wrap their arms around a plan.
- Captain Crossen is already kicking to high gear getting everything ready for the Annual Food & Toy Drive; he puts in an incredible amount of time into this project.

- Thanks to both the Foundation and the Aid Fund, the Foundation is moving forward with Operation Warm. The will be delivering coats to kids at Wildwood Elementary and the Aid Fund is going to be providing coats for a school in Des Moines. Our staff stays engaged and gives back to those in need.
- Congratulations to B-Shift for winning the Federal Way Chili Cook-Off. Tomorrow night will be the check presentation for FW Chili Cook-off, the funds will be split between both charities, the Foundation and the Aid Fund. Also a special thanks to the Commissioners for putting together a team.
- Thanks and congratulations to CFO Lawson, A/C Plumlee and Mary for all of their efforts at the Des Moines Chili Cook-Off, their chili was the best, however they didn't win.
- Thanks to the Commissioners that assisted with the Advancing Leadership Dinner, it looks like they raised about \$25,000.
- On Veterans Day the City of Federal Way is hosting a Flag Raising event, in the Sears parking lot, this should be a great celebration for our community
- Thursday is our PSERN Meeting at Station 67.

**OCTOBER BUDGET**

CFO Lawson reported that the October budget is 1.68% over budget; he read into the record the list of expenditures for the month of October.

Mid-Month Utility Warrants (106456-106746) totaling	\$53,262.18
Accounts Payable Warrants (106477-106583) totaling	\$605,942.12
Payroll Direct Deposit Document for 156 indiv. DD008766--008921 totaling	\$917,362.99
Payroll Warrants for 0 individuals totaling	\$0
Payroll Electronic Federal Tax Payment totaling	\$199,078.17
TOTAL approval	\$1,775,645.46

Meeting adjourned at 1733 hours.

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COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

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COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

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BOARD SECRETARY

SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER