SOUTH KING FIRE
November 26, 2024
Station 68 and Virtual

Commissioner Baruso called the regular meeting to order at 1700 hours with Commissioners Fuller, Vadino, Fuller and Burrus in attendance. Commissioner Gates was excused. Board Secretary Lauri Perry recording.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Battalion Chief Charoni.

To listen to the full meeting, please visit our website.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Baruso asked for a Motion and second to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from October 29, 2024, and the Special Meeting Minutes from November 13, 2024. Commissioner Burrus moved approval of both sets of minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fuller. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Fuller reported that he agreed with what the Chief said at the end of the report. He said that your hard work, compassion and commitment are inspiring, and Commissioner Fuller added an exclamation mark to that statement.

Commissioner Burrus reported, like he said last meeting, it is nice to see all of the chairs full.

Commissioner Vadino had no comments.

Commissioner Baruso thanked everyone for their work during our windstorm, it is much appreciated.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nich Gullickson, Vice President of Local 2024, thanked the Board for the work they are doing as it pertains to the Fire Benefit Charge right now. I know that implementing a new tax structure is not the easiest thing in the world to do and I commend you guys for the work that you're doing. I also want to thank you guys for your commitment to the future of this organization and allowing us to work with ESCI this last couple of weeks. It is very much appreciated. And I would also be remiss if I didn't recognize my members who continue to be part of the local government process and show up here month in and month out. I think it's really important for everyone to understand, much like you just said about having all of the seats filled, that you know the decisions that this Board makes not only affect the citizens we represent, but also the employees that work here. So again, thank you for the work that you guys are doing.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

RESOLUTION 656 – ADOPTING THE 2025 BUDGET

Chief Van Valkenburg read Resolution 656 into record. Commissioner Burrus moved adoption of Resolution 656. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Commissioner Fuller added that he has been around enough times to know the budget. He appreciates everyone having input into the budget and allocating funds to those projects based on priorities and what people need, thanks to the Administration folks. Motion was approved 4-0

RESOLUTION 657 – IMPOSING A BENEFIT CHARGE ON PERSONAL PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS TO REAL PROPERTY WIHIN THE DISTRICT IN 2025

Chief Van Valkenburg read Resolution 657 into record. Commissioner Burrus made a Motion to approve Resolution 657. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fuller. Motion carried

RESOLUTION 658 – REGARDING REAL PROPERTY TAX

Commissioner Burrus moved approval of Resolution 658. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Commissioner Fuller asked what is included in real property. Chief Van Valkenburg wasn't sure and deferred the question to Executive Director Ganem. Executive Director Ganem replied that it is real property (land) and the regular taxes levied. Motion carried.

LADDER TRUCK PRESENTATION

Chief Van Valkenburg introduced Captain Todd Williams and Lt. Brian Moore; they gave a presentation on the work that the Apparatus committee has done in regard to the District ordering a Ladder Truck. Please visit our website to listen to the recording of the meeting for their full presentation.

ADMINISTRTIVE REPORT

Chief Van Valkenburg added that the Commissioners should have received their Staff Report, and he asked if there were any questions. Chief Van Valkenburg reported that he, Deputy Chiefs Crossen and Smith, District Chief Andersen, IT Manager Tucker, Ravin, and Chris met to discuss our Emergency Operating Center and things that worked and things that needed to be looked at. We also have our Semi-Annual Recognition Event on December 5th, where we will recognize years of service and promotions. Commissioner Fuller inquired about the (new) shift bid process, what is it? Chief Van Valkenburg responded that the process is going well, BC Michaels is managing the process we are now doing vacation picks.

Chief Van Valkenburg added that he will be holding one on one meetings with the Deputy Chiefs to have more consistent communication. The Executive meetings will also expand to include all Chief Officers, Fire Marshal and Director Lee.

NOVEMBER BUDGET

Executive Director Ganem thanked the Board for approving the budget; this is going to be our largest budget in our 75 years at $55M. Next year we will have our largest employee head count at 207 people. We couldn't do it without the public's support.

Financially, we've been tracking pretty good as we enter the last month of the year. At this time, we would expect to be at 91.67% and we are currently at 91.02%, so we are .47% under budget. Kudos to everyone for sticking to their budgets and being attentive to it. It's important when we develop the budgets that we adhere to them as best as possible. This contributes to our financial stability.

Finance Supervisor Kelsey Barrett read into the record the list of expenditures for the month of November.

Mid-Month Utility Warrants (#119844-119864) totaling	$ 115,434.51
Accounts Payable Warrants (#119865-119955) totaling	$1,448,490.24
Payroll Direct Deposit Document for 213 indiv. DD005749-005961 totaling	$1,625,745.76
Payroll Electronic Federal Tax Payment totaling	$ 362,227.33
Medical Claims as of November 19, 2024	$ 276,130.53
TOTAL approval	$3,828,028.37

Voided Direct Deposit Numbers 005535-005748 due to Software Issue

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Vadino made a Motion to approve the vouchers. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1732 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that the Board will convene into Executive Session per RCW 42.30.11. (1) (c). To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public; Action may or may not be taken after Executive Session.

Joining the Board in Executive Session will be Chief Van Valkenburg, Executive Director Ganem, Director Lee, Executive Secretary Perry, Legal Counsel, Matt Andersen and Evan Schneider.

At this time, we will recess for 2 minutes to get everyone transferred into Executive Session. We anticipate Executive Session lasting for 15 minutes action may or may not be taken after Executive Session. At the end of Executive Session, we will take a 2-minute recess to get everyone transferred back to the Regular meeting.

At 1749 hours Executive Session ended, and we began to transition back to the Regular meeting.

At 1751 hours Commissioner Baruso announced that we are back in the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Vadino made a Motion on behalf of South King Fire, I move to direct Executive Director Ganem to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the 320th property with MK Holdings. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1753 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that the Board will convene into Executive Session per RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i). To discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is or is likely to become a party when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. Action may or may not be taken after Executive Session.

Joining the Board in Executive Session will be Legal Counsel.

At this time, we will recess for 2 minutes to get everyone transferred into Executive Session. We anticipate Executive Session lasting for 60 minutes. At the end of Executive Session, we will take a 2-minute recess to get everyone transferred back over to the Regular Meetings.

At 1757 hours Jim Walkowski joined the Executive Session.

At 1855 hours Jim Walkowski left Executive Session, and it was extended 30 minutes.

At 1925 hours Executive Director Ganem and Executive Secretary Perry joined Executive Session.

At 1955 hours Executive Session was extended 15 minutes.

At 2010 hours Executive Session was extended 15 minutes.

At 2025 hours Executive Session was extended 5 minutes.

At 2030 Executive Session ended and we began to transition back to the Regular Meeting.

At 2032 Commissioner Baruso reported that we are back in the Regular meeting. Commissioner Vadino made a Motion to commission the services of a third-party investigator for purposes of supplementing the ongoing internal audit presently being performed by District Administration. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion carried.

Commissioner Fuller moved to direct Executive Director Ganem and staff to work with legal counsel to update policies for Board review and adoption at the December 23rd regular meeting. Policies to be included are Fuel Policy, Procurement Policy, Travel Policy and the Credit Card Policy. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion carried.

Commissioner Burrus moved to direct Executive Director Ganem and staff to work with legal counsel and provide the Board with an updated Non-Represented Handbook for review and adoption at the December 23rd Regular Meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2036 hours.

COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

Laura W Perry

BOARD SECRETARY

SOUTH KING FIRE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER