SOUTH KING FIRE
May 27, 2025
Station 68 and Virtual

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Vadino.

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 April 22, 2025. Commissioner Burrus moved approval of the minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 22, 2025. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Fuller had no comments.

Commissioner Burrus had no comments.

Commissioner Vadino had no comments.

Commissioner Baruso thanked everyone for coming to the meeting on this sunny day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Burrus reported the Insurance Committee met. Jack Stanford did a great job explaining where we are at and what our options are; he's been doing this a long time. As a former Commissioner I believe he has our best interest in mind.

Commissioner Fuller reported that the Hiring Committee met, the report is in your packet.

Executive Director Ganem added that the Finance and Audit Committee met. One of the items discussed was the purchase of a Tele Handler (it's a forklift for the training drill ground). The committee asked what the cost would be if we leased it. It would cost $67,000 to purchase it vs $70,000 to lease it over a two-year period so the recommendation is to move forward with the purchase. Executive Director Ganem asked Director Lee and Fleet Supervisor Brumet to move forward with the purchase of the Tele Handler; it will be taken out of contingency. Also, the Hiring Committee met to discuss what we wanted included in the ESCI contract.

RESOLUTION 666 – ADOPTION OF THE IFC PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE

Fire Marshal Nichols noted that he had sent out a 'warning' letters to everyone and especially to the repeat offenders. He has warned them that he was going to be asking the Board to increase the fines.

Commissioner Vadino moved approval of Resolution 666. Motin was seconded by Commissioner Fuller. Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT

Executive Director Ganem reported that we are still riding high from the Immersive Training that took place over a week ago. It was a tremendous opportunity for our staff to engage and have a better understanding of the work that our Firefighters do.

Last Thursday Executive Director Ganem attended a Trench Rescue Drill in Black Diamond; it was an amazing opportunity to see our Firefighters in action and put their skills to the test. The amount of knowledge that they have and the understanding of their work is fantastic. They talked about different soil types and different conditions and how they impact trench rescue/recovery work.

As part of Executive Director Ganem's fire station visits, he's learning a lot about the condition of our stations and the bathrooms (specifically). When we did seismic retrofits to our stations the past 10 years, the bathrooms were not part of the upgrade. We focused on the retrofit to keep them standing in the event of an earthquake. Now it's time to start paying attention to some of our bathrooms. Executive Director Ganem recommended, with our positive budget position, that we use some of those funds to remodel the restrooms at our stations. He will work with Director Lee and Facilities to come up with a schedule in terms of how quickly we can be attentive to these things and what it might look like.

There was some discussion regarding Director Lee's trip to the Spartan Factory (that he had covered in the staff report) and their lack of quality control.

Commissioner Fuller requested that the Commissioners be notified when public events take place such as Touch a Truck so the Commissioners can attend if they are interested.

MAY BUDGET

Executive Director Ganem noted that we should be at 41.67% of our budget expensed and we are currently at 37.44%; so we are currently 4.23% under budget. This equates to a significant amount which is why I strongly recommend moving forward with the bathroom remodels at Stations 63 and 64.

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

Mid-Month Utility Warrants (#120500-150523) totaling	$245,244.40
Accounts Payable Warrants (#120524-120616) totaling	$1,476,620.46
Payroll Direct Deposit Document for 212 indiv. DD007033-007244 totaling	$1,652,278.03
Payroll Electronic Federal Tax Payment totaling	$370,334.93
Medical Claims as of May 20, 2025	$344,422.98
TOTAL approval	$4,088,900.80

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Baruso requested a Motion and a second to approve tonight's vouchers. Commissioner Vadino moved approval of the vouchers. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1731 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 discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency. The governing body or member acting in an official capacity is or is likely to have a party with public knowledge regarding discussions likely result in an adverse legal or financial consequence.

Joining the Board in Executive Session will be Executive Director Ganem, Executive Secretary Perry and legal counsel. Executive Session will end at 1801 hours unless extended.

At 1801 hours Executive Session was extended until 1816 hours.

At 1816 hours Executive Session was extended until 1831 hours.

At 1831 hours Executive Session was extended until 1846 hours.

At 1846 hours Executive Session was extended until 1901 hours.

At 1901 hours Executive Session was extended until 1916 hours.

At 1916 hours Executive Session was extended until 1926 hours.

At 1926 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that we are out of Executive Session and have resumed the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Baruso made a Motion to approve the Second Amendment to Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement signed by Executive Director Ganem on May 23, 2025, providing for an extension through June 6, 2025. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion passed.

Commissioner Fuller made a Motion to extend the time and attendance audit report until September 1, 2025. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion passed.

Commissioner Burrus made a Motion for Executive Director Ganem and legal counsel to enter into settlement discussions with former Chief Church and legal counsel over the amounts determined from the state audit findings. Motin was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motin carried.

Commissioner Vadino made a Motion for Executive Director Ganem to amend the vehicle use policy to incorporate after hours emergency response provisions that allow Chief Officers to take district vehicles home. This provision will be limited to a 25-mile radius from their assigned duty station.

The updated policy shall be effective immediately. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fuller. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 1928 hours.

COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

BOARD SECRETARY

SOUTH KING FIRE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER