SOUTH KING FIRE
August 26, 2025
Station 68 and Virtual

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by District Chief Andersen.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Baruso asked for a Motion and second to approve the July 29, 2025, minutes. Commissioner Gates made a Motion to approve the Board meeting minutes for July 29, 2025. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion passed.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Gates had no comments.

Commissioner Vadino had no comments.

Commissioner Burrus had no comments.

Commissioner Fuller encouraged everyone to read the Firehouse Lawyer August edition, which is published by our distinguished attorney.

Commissioner Baruso thanked everyone who attended Chief Macks Funeral, he had the pleasure of honoring Chief Mack by presenting the State Flag to his widow.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Vadino reported that the Policy & Procedure committee met, we found and fixed the policy so they will probably go out tomorrow. The Policy & Procedure Committee also met and reviewed the credit card policy which is on the agenda to approve.

Commissioner Vadino added that the Hiring Committee met with ESCI and have started the process.

The Budget, Finance and Audit committee also met, the notes are in your packet.

APPROVAL OF CREDIT CARD ACCEPTANCE POLICY

Executive Director Ganem noted that Budget, Finance & Audit committee met and reviewed the Credit Card Policy which imposes a 3% transaction fee. When there are financial implications, we bring these types of policies before the Board. There is another policy, Donation Policy, that will be

forthcoming. It was determined that there are too many connections to the Commissioner Guidelines. Once the guidelines are updated, we will bring this policy to the Board.

Commissioner Vadino made a Motion to approve the Credit Card Policy. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Burrus. Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL BUILDING RENOVATIONS BID

Executive Director Ganem noted that this was another item that was discussed during the Budget, Finance & Audit committee meeting. We received bids for the renovations to the Fire Admin Building, formerly called the Olympic Building.

Commissioner Fuller inquired what the options are. After some clarification Director Lee explained what Add Alts were – "additive alternates". These amounts are not included in the base bid they were broken down as we weren't sure if we wanted to include all these options in the renovations.

Commissioner Baruso asked if we looked to see if the contractor was unionized. Finance Manager Barrett added that the contractors must submit reports to L&I on the apprenticeship and the percentage that they are using. The contractors must have an apprenticeship program to bid on a public works project over $2,000,000. Commissioner Baruso had further questions in regard to utilizing unionized labor and apprenticeship. Legal Counsel shared that the apprenticeship utilization requirements are set forth under RCW 3904 and essentially, we do have an apprenticeship requirement, however it does not dig into the specifics of who those apprenticeships must be, it is left up to the contractor.

Commissioner Burrus made a Motion to award Boyce the contract for the renovations of the former Olympic Building. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Vadino. Motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT

Executive Director Ganem congratulated Chief Michaels and Chief Suckoll. We have already had several meetings since the announcement last week.

We have kicked off the conversations with Kidder Mathews to represent the district on the sale of the 320th Property and the property acquisition for a future fire station.

We have completed reviewing the bond funding documents and expect to sign them sometime between tomorrow and next week.

Unfortunately, Chief Smith didn't join us tonight for his last Commissioners meeting, he retires in September. He is going to be using some vacation time, please congratulate Chief Smith on his upcoming Retirement.

Also, our HR Benefits Administrator Mary Stevens will be retiring at the end of October. Executive Director Ganem is working with HR on what a restructure would look like.

AUGUST BUDGET

Executive Director Ganem noted that we are third quarters the way through the year already which would put us at 66.67%; we are currently at 60.97% or 5.70% under budget. We have several vacant positions, Operations Overtime is also tracking very well, and we have not expensed the funds budgeted for the Olympic Building renovations, which among other things accounts for the positive budget position.

Finance Manager Barrett read into the record the list of expenditures for the month of August.

Mid-Month Utility Warrants (#120825-120843) totaling	$83,385.80
Accounts Payable Warrants (#120844-120918) totaling	$1,477,861.53
Payroll Direct Deposit Document for 226 indiv. DD007676-007901 totaling	$1,862,910.07
Payroll Electronic Federal Tax Payment totaling	$434,228.66
Medical Claims as of August 19, 2025	$172,480.52
TOTAL approval	$4,030,866.58

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1736 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that the Board will convene into Executive per RCW 42.30.140 (4) (b). That portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations or grievance or mediation proceedings or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress. Action may or may not be taken after Executive Sesson.

Joining the Board in Executive Session will be Executive Director Ganem, Executive Assistant Perry, District Chief Winter and Finance Manager Barrett. Executive Session will end at 1746 hours unless extended.

At 1746 hours Executive Session was extended until 1751 hours.

At 1751 hours Executive Session was extended until 1756 hours

At 1756 hours Executive Session was extended until 1806 hours.

At 1806 hours Executive Session was extended until 1811 hours.

At 1811 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that we are out of Executive Session and have resumed the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Vadino made a Motion to approve the 2023-2026 BC Contract. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gates. Motion passed. Executive Director Ganem thanked the Board for approving the contract and he thanked President Bastin and his team for a successful negotiation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1813 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 Secretary Perry and legal counsel. Executive Session will end at 1850 hours unless extended.

At 1850 hours Executive Session was extended until 1900 hours.

At 1900 hours Executive Session was extended until 1915 hours.

At 1915 hours Executive Session was extended until 1925 hours.

At 1925 hours Commissioner Baruso reported that we are out of Executive Session and have resumed the Regular Meeting with no further action the meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 1925 hours.

COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

BOARD SECRETARY

SOUTH KING FIRE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER