# SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE

August 20, 2015
Station 68

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Thompson.

Commissioner Gates stated that he would like to take a minute to remember the three (3) firefighters that lost their lives in Twisp, pray for their families, think about and pray for those that have been injured and to pray for all of the first responders and ask for the safe return of our own South King Fire crew.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gates asked for the approval of the July 28, 2015 Regular Meeting minutes. Commissioner Thompson made a Motion to approve the July 28, 2015 minutes; Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fossos. Motion passed 3-1 with Commissioner Freitas voting in opposition.

## COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Fossos noted that his heart goes out to the families.

Commissioner Thompson noted that it seems like every year we say it is bad for wildland fires but this year is really bad for wildland fires because of the drought and the lack of funding. Pierce County had a wildland fire the other day and they lost a fire engine to the fire. Everyone is doing the best they can with what they have to deal with. He reminded everyone to clean up around their house, keep bushes away from their houses and call the fire department is you see something; we would rather get 20 - 911 calls for the same emergency than no one calling because they think someone else has already called.

Commissioner Freitas congratulated John Strub for his appointment to the Fire Marshal's Office. He added that it is great to see the department has scheduled an outreach event for Saturday in Twin Lakes, he added that he has a number of groups that he would like someone to meet with, who should he give the contact information to? Commissioner Gates replied, to the Board Secretary.

Commissioner Gates noted that he met with Chief Church and with the upcoming changes on the Board he (Chief Church) is willing to make the following unilateral changes to his Public Services Contract effective September 1, 2015. The current Contract states that if Chief Church was terminated without cause he would receive 24 months' severance pay, he is

willing to change it to the same severance pay that any other chief officer would receive. The need to have 24 months' severance pay no longer exists, the rest of the contract remains intact as previously agreed and implemented. Commissioner Freitas asked for this information in writing.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Neyman reported that he was out of town when Prop 1 failed, but he was looking at the voting materials and it lacked a lot of information, he had to do some research to find Resolution 501. Resolution 504 sounds like voters are giving the fire department the okay to raise whatever amount we want. He noticed an article in the Federal Way Mirror that stated for the $53M Bond it would cost approximately $79 on $250,000 house. But he can't see voting for an open ended tax on any proposition. Commissioner Gates thanked Mr. Neyman for his comments and suggestions and added this is not an open tax, we look at the amount of the total bond, then it is broken down by cost of assessed valuation, for the $53M Bond the average house in Federal Way is worth $250,000 which would equate to roughly $78-$79 per year. (Editor's Note: for cost per home owner the $39M Bond, is .16 per $1000 AV or for a $250,000 house the cost is roughly $40.00 per year).

**COMMISSIONER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioner Gates noted that he and Commissioner Freitas attended the Budget, Finance & Audit Committee meeting with the Auditor for the Exit Conference, he is happy to report a clean audit. The final copy of the audit has not been published yet, hopefully we will see it around the end of August.

**RECOGNITION ON APPOINTMENT AS DEPUTY FIRE MARSHAL JOHN STRUB**

A/C Pennington requested John Strub to please come forward; he is our newest Deputy Fire Marshal. A/C Pennington read the certificate into record.

**ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM REPORT**

A/C Pennington noted that our five (5) new fighters started this week; they will be headed down to Bates in early September. We have 1 crew with A/C Kahler in Eastern Washington; they were originally deployed to Chelan and were moved to Twisp. Our thoughts are with our crews and the fallen and injured firefighters. As of September 1st Captain Goodsell will be promoted to Fire Marshal/Battalion Chief. The process to replace him has already begun and Chief Church will be back for the September meeting.

**AUGUST BUDGET**

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

| | |
|---|---|
| Mid-Month Utility Warrants (107641-107661) totaling | $35,227.05 |
| Accounts Payable Warrants (107662-107759) totaling | $759,443.00 |
| Payroll Direct Deposit Document for 154 indiv. DD010329--010482 totaling | $956,235.78 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Payroll Warrants for 3 individuals #100138-100140 | $2,676.25 |
| Payroll Electronic Federal Tax Payment totaling | $221,893.09 |
| TOTAL approval | $1,975,475.17 |

We are .34 percent under budget for the month of August.

Meeting adjourned at 1720 hours.

_____
COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

_____
COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

_____
COMMISSIONER

_____
COMMISSIONER

_____
COMMISSIONER

_____
BOARD SECRETARY