SOUTH KING FIRE
December 19, 2024
Station 68 and Virtual

Commissioner Baruso called the regular meeting to order at 1701 hours with Commissioners Gates, Vadino, Gates and Burrus in attendance. Board Secretary Lauri Perry recording.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Crossen

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

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Burrus had no comments.

Commissioner Vadino had no comments.

Commissioner Gates had no comments.

Commissioner Baruso had no comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1701 hours the Board convened 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 Executive Director Ganem, Executive Secretary Perry and Legal Counsel.

At this time, we will recess for 2 minutes to get everyone transferred into Executive Session. We anticipate Executive Session lasting for 30 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 over to the Regular Meeting.

At 1708 hours Commissioner Fuller arrived.

At 1733 hours Executive Session was extended 30 minutes.

At 1803 hours Executive Session was extended 30 minutes.

At 1833 hours Executive Session was extended 10 minutes.

At 1843 hours the Executive Session was extended for 5 minutes.

At 1848 hours Executive Session ended, and we began the transition back to the Special Meeting.

At 1850 hours the Special Meeting reconvened. Commissioner Baruso announced that we are out of Executive Session.

Commissioner Burrus moved to extend Fire Chief Dave Van Valkenburg's administrative leave with pay until Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 9:00 am, subject to further notice due to the ongoing investigation into misconduct that is separate and distinct from the performance evaluation of the Fire Chief presently being conducted by Emergency Services Consulting International. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fuller. Motion carried unanimously

Commissioner Vadino moved to extend Kevin Crossen as Acting Fire Chief, specifically overseeing Fire Operations of South King Fire, working under the direction of Executive Director Ganem to conclude on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 9:00 am, subject to further notice. Executive Director Joe Ganem will retain sole authority to execute contracts on behalf of South King Fire and administer discipline within the organization.

The meeting adjourned at 1859 hours.

COMMISSIONER (CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER (VICE CHAIR)

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

BOARD SECRETARY