



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY
CONSOLIDATED FIRE
DISTRICTS 26 & 28**

Po Box 376
Gold Bar, WA 98251
(360) 793-1335



Business Meeting Minutes, November 8, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 19:25. Present were Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, Vice Commissioner Chair Pat Sample, and Commissioners Molly Olson, Kate Hayes, Michelle Adie, Mike Moore, Doug Rupp, and Leigh Christianson. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Assistant Chief Ernie Walters, and Secretary Karen McPeters (Recorder). The absences of Commissioners Dean Johnson and Tim Folsom were unexcused. The business meeting was preceded by a brief meeting of the Joint Board of Sky Valley Rescue.

Public Commentary: There was no public commentary.

Chief's Report

EMAC Request for CA and OR Fires: EMAC (Emergency Management Assistance Compact), a nationally adopted interstate mutual aid agreement, was used to request aid for the fires in CA and OR. Since the request required 3-4 people per vehicle, volunteers from King Co. 50 and Snoh. Co. 22 were temporarily hired to respond along with FD 26/28. The EMAC request pays "portal to portal," or from the departure to the return to WA. Total payroll for these mobilizations will be reimbursed, along with L&I and Medicaid for the firefighters responding.

This represents a large unbudgeted expenditure, which will probably result in the district needing to use reserve funds to meet regular operating expenses early in 2018. Commissioner Chair Tubbs expressed some concern about the district's ability to wait for reimbursement, which is often extremely delayed in these large events. The Chief believes the funds held in reserve will be adequate to finance the district until reimbursement.

Additionally, this large unbudgeted expenditure late in the year may create the appearance of poor fiscal management for the 2017 reporting year, however, given the emergency nature of the request, the district felt compelled to respond to the highest degree possible. And the all-volunteer departments responding with 26/28 have no means for issuing payroll, so it was necessary to take them on as temporary hires and bear the burden of covering their payroll until reimbursement. Under the legal advice of Snure Law Office, and interlocal agreement with FD 22 was set up to cover the mobilization, and was signed by the commissioners at this meeting.

Budget Hearing: The budget hearing for the 2018 FD 26 budget is tonight, as posted. No members of the public are in attendance.

SNOPAC/Snocom Merger: SNOPAC and Snocom have approved a merger, beginning Jan 2018. A new interlocal agreement with the new organization, Snohomish County 911, will be presented for approval and signing tonight.

Commissioner-Elect: Tom McMaster Stone was elected commissioner for FD 26, but has moved from the district due to illness. The Chief researched this situation and determined that Mr. McMaster Stone can resign in writing, or can be excused by the commissioners after 3 unexcused absences. Then the board would have 90 days to fill the position.

Thank You Note: The district received a very nice letter from the Church of the Holy Cross, after receiving a donation of some decommissioned fire hose that remained unsold after a surplus sale held by the department. The church is using the hose to irrigate a garden growing food for donation to food banks.

Brush Truck Chassis: A new chassis has been ordered for Brush 54. The deck, skid unit, equipment boxes and other equipment from 54 will be reused on the new chassis.

GEMT: The district will be participating in a program to recoup reimbursement for Medicaid transports. The program has been approved by the DOH, and will be retroactive to July 2016. The district may contract out for the calculation of cost reports, which will be due in March of 2018.

Surplus Sale: The department is planning a surplus sale for Dec 2, at station 54. A list of items to be surplus was presented by Asst Chief Walters, and was approved by a unanimous vote of the commissioners. Any items remaining unsold after the surplus sale will be sold for scrap or recycled. The sale will be advertised to the residents of the fire district.

Firefighter Academy: 18 have graduated from the academy, 12 of whom are now volunteering with the district.

Drone Training: There are 4 district members registered for drone training, who can then train others in the technology, to aid in locating victims on the river or in remote locations, and for overhead view of fires.

Leadership Training: The annual officer retreat and leadership training is scheduled in March.

Secretary's Report

Merger Timeline: The NOI for BRB has been submitted, and the district is waiting for the initiation of the 45-day comment period.

FD 28 is assisting the state auditor's office with a regular financial audit of 2015 and 2016.

Consent Agenda

Vouchers: Bill moved to approve District 26/28 vouchers 580-17 through 635-17 for a total of \$76,041.01. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Bill moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$152,746.63 and with a second from

Kate, the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Molly moved to approve the minutes from the October 11 Consolidated District 26/28 meeting, and with a second from Doug, the motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

District 26 Tax Resolutions: Bill moved to approve Resolution 07-2017 Fire Levy, Resolution 08-2017 EMS Levy, and Resolution 09-2017 to utilize banked capacity for EMS Levy. With a second from Molly, the resolutions were unanimously approved.

District 28 Tax Resolutions: Pat moved to approve Resolution 2017-04 Fire Levy, Resolution 2017-05 EMS Levy 1, and 2017-06 EMS Levy 2. With a second from Doug, the resolutions were unanimously approved.

Snohomish County 911 Interlocal/ FD 26: The new interlocal agreement with Snoh Co 911 was approved unanimously.

Snohomish County 911 Interlocal/ FD 28: The new interlocal agreement with Snoh Co 911 was approved unanimously.

Mobilization Interlocal with Snohomish County FD 22: The commissioners unanimously approved an interlocal agreement with FD 22.

Policy 14 Apparatus Replacement: The commissioners unanimously approved Policy 14 as presented.

Discussion Items

2018 Budget: The budget was presented for discussion. There are small changes to the allocations from this year, including a raise for Assistant Chief Walters, and \$114 monthly compensation for the commissioners, as allowed by state law. The final budget approval will be at the December meeting.

Watch D.O.G.S: Michelle requested volunteers for Watch D.O.G.S, a program to bring fathers and father figures, into the elementary school to interact with the students.

Other Business

Railway Timbers: Molly brought up the wood near the train tracks. It may present a fire hazard.

The next meeting of the combined District 26/28 will be on December 13 at 19:00 at the Index Resident House.

Meeting adjourned at 20:18.