

**VASHON ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

Minutes

Date: 07/25/2017

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: 10020 SW Bank Rd, EOC Room

REGULAR MEETING

1 **Present:** Camille Staczek, Chair

2 David Hoffmann, Commissioner

3 Candy McCullough, Commissioner

4 Ron Turner, Commissioner

5 Susan Wolf, Minute Taker

6 **Absent:** Robert Larsen, Assistant Chief

7 **Guests:** Andy Johnson, Rick Wallace, Will North, Joe Ulatoski, Stan Voynick, Gary English, Jim
8 Dorsey, Susan Reimer and Scott Harvey.

9

10 **Amendments to Agenda**

11 The Chair adds: Resolution 17-372 (Fleet Capital Fund) to New Business.

12

13 **Approval of 07/06/17 Special Meeting Minutes**

14 Motion by Commissioner Hoffmann:

15 "I move we approve the 07/06/17 Special Meeting minutes."

16

MINUTES APPROVED, 4-0

17 **Approval of 7/11/17 Regular Meeting Minutes**

18 Motion by Commissioner Hoffmann:

19 "I move we approve the 07/11/17 Regular Meeting minutes."

20

MINUTES APPROVED, 4-0

21 **Voucher Approval**

22 Motion by Commissioner Hoffmann:

23 "I move that we approve the referenced vouchers and transfers as detailed in

24 **Administrative Memorandum 07.25.2017-1."**

25

MOTION PASSES, 4-0

26 **Chiefs' Report**

27 [Postponed to the end of the meeting due to Chief Krimmert's delay due to a house fire.

28 Commissioner Brigitte Schran-Brown also responded to the house fire and was delayed.]

29

30 **New Business**

31 17-369 Setting Up a Facilities Capital Fund

32

33 Motion by Commissioner McCullough:
34 **"I move we approve Resolution 17-369 setting up a Facilities Capital Fund"**
35 **MOTION PASSES, 4-0**

36 17-370 Setting Up an Equipment Capital Fund
37 Motion by Commissioner McCullough:
38 **"I move we approve Resolution 17-370 setting up an Equipment Capital Fund."**
39 **MOTION PASSES, 4-0**

40 17-371 Surplusing Equipment
41 Motion by Commissioner McCullough:
42 **"I move we rid ourselves of our old AEDs and approve Resolution 17-371."**
43 **MOTION PASSES, 4-0**

44 17-372 Correcting Fleet Capital Fund
45 MOTION by Commissioner McCullough:
46 **"I move we approve Resolution 17-372 correcting the Resolution setting up the**
47 **Fleet Capital Fund."**
48 **MOTION PASSES, 4-0**

49 At 6:50 p.m. The Chair declares the meeting in recess until the chief returns.
50 [7:16 p.m. Chief Krimmert arrives.]
51 At 7:16 p.m. The Chair reconvenes the meeting.

52 **Chief's Report**
53 *Chief Krimmert:*

- 54 • We had another "save." We were toned out for a residential fire and upon arrival it was a
55 working fire with the entire "A" side engulfed in flames. Engine 58 arrived first with
56 volunteer Assistant Chief Brett Kranjceovich. He used the deck gun for an outside attack and
57 took the tank down to 1/3. Then he began laying hose when the others arrived. They are
58 now mopping up.
- 59 • The chief referred to his written report. He clarified that the accident that caused the
60 electrical outage to Station 56 was done by a Charlie's Produce truck that pulled a wire
61 down. That claim has now been turned into our insurance.
- 62 • A/C Larsen sends regrets; he is celebrating his 30th wedding anniversary. As a note to the
63 Board, the chief commented that Bob is performing at an exceptional level and the chief
64 couldn't do what he does without him. Bob took IC at the fire before leaving for his dinner.

65 **Second Quarter Financial Report**

- 66 • The Chief provided a new Excel spreadsheet in the financial report. With all the transitions
67 this year the ALS fund, which is at zero, will be retired. At this point in the budget year, we
68 have spent 51.9% of the budget. We have spent 69% of training because we did not budget
69 for the training officer that we have. Uniforms were also over budget for new hires.

70 [7:18 p.m. Commissioner Schran-Brown arrives.]
71 Motion by Commissioner Hoffmann:
72 **"I move we accept the Second Quarter Financial Report."**
73 **MOTION PASSES, 5-0**

74 **Old Business**

75 17-368 Levy Lid Lift Resolution

76 • Chief Krimmert stated that for the past six months he has striven to understand this
77 District. Too much of the focus and discussion have been on trucks, staff and
78 facilities – all necessary – but we can secure these over time. Today, the bottom line
79 is that the cost of the services we provide are more than the revenue. It’s not news
80 that we are about to run out of money. Before, we had the luxury to pay for these
81 shortfalls with the reserves. But reserves have fallen and we do not have sufficient
82 savings. While there are steps we can take to finance trucks and sell facilities, tax
83 revenues are needed to provide sufficient funds to continue and maintain the essential
84 services we provide. We need to ask the community to help us. He asks the Board
85 for the \$1.50 per \$1,000 assessed value as it is essential. (He repeats) The costs of the
86 services we provide now consume more revenue than we receive and we are about to
87 be out of money.

88 Motion by Commissioner Turner:

89 **“I make a motion that we go to the \$1.50 and increase our tax revenue.**

90 *Comments from the Board:*

- 91 • It is necessary after almost 30 years.
92 • It is critical that we go to the max to provide reasonable services.
93 • The Board thanks the chief for all his hard work.
94 • We have pinched pennies for ten years and now we’re out of pennies to pinch.
95 • As taxpayers, we’re not happy to raise taxes but it is necessary.
96 • One Board member has used District EMS services once for her husband and once for
97 herself. She wants to make sure the rest of the island gets the care her family
98 received.

99 **General Comments**

- 100 • Has the Board checked the Chief’s figures?
101 • The Chief provided the figures and the Board has met with experts for some time.
102 • The Board was asked to approve \$1.38 instead and institute a stepped pay for needs.
103 • The District could try for a bond for new aid cars and engine.
104 • Have a budget beforehand showing where the increases will be used.
105 • How did we get to a crisis position? The Board has to answer this from the public.
106 • Board did not want to raise taxes, but now we’re out of money; it’s the Board’s fault.
107 • It’s taken the new administration to put all the numbers out there in a way the Board
108 members can understand.
109 • The strategic plan efforts were explained and the difficulty with the politics at the
110 time, two retiring chiefs, the clinic closing and the medic transition; all of which
111 prevented the effort going forward.
112 • Most political people don’t place two things on the ballot (such as a levy and a bond)
113 at the same time.
114 • Does the District have a “Plan B?”
115 • Bond elections on this island are more likely to fail than pass.
116 • We have saved the taxpayers about 19 million dollars from requesting the levy lid lift
117 each year for the past 26 years.

- 118 • Two years' operating costs in reserve are a suggested minimum; a comparable district
119 is Duvall has ten million in reserves.
120 • To the question about how much the taxpayer on average will have to pay for a
121 medium priced house, Commissioner Staczek handed out a spreadsheet she had
122 calculated that showed for a \$400,000 it would be \$19 more per month.
123 • The impact of recent school levies and legislative taxes was discussed.
124 • The District will be bankrupt in 2019. Without a levy lid lift, by April 2020 tax
125 revenue will still come in but will not be enough and services would have to be
126 reduced.

127 The Chair reads the first paragraph of Resolution 17-368 and calls for the vote.

128 **MOTION PASSES 5-0**

- 129 • Discussion was had about the option of the six year clause allowing an increase of
130 1%-6% each year with a limit of \$1.50 for the next five years.
131 • The chief had prepared three options for the Board concerning the lid lift.
132 • Revenues haven't gone down; the rate has gone down but costs have risen over the
133 past 26 years.
134 • Rather than talking about the cost while important, in order to make it palatable we
135 need to sell the service. "For this much cost, we can give you this service. If we have
136 three calls, no one is coming."
137 • If you are in Incident Command and problems are thrown at you, you keep adding
138 resources. If you don't have anything in your bucket, you can't help those problems.
139 The only mutual aid is 1.5 hours away.
140 • The prorating will start in 2019 based on the tax rate in 2018.
141 • Discussion was had about the six year "escalator" clause and whether that would
142 make this ballot issue a tough sell in spite of the need.

143 Motion by Commissioner McCullough"

144 **"I make a motion to reverse our decision and review our other options."**

145 The Chair notes that a second is needed because the motion is to rescind a previous motion.
146 Hearing none, the Chair declares the motion failed.

147 **MOTION FAILS**

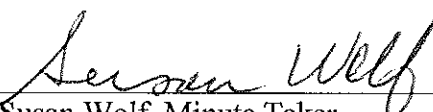
148 Having no further business, the Chair declares the meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

149
150 *The next Special Meeting will be on Friday, 7/28/17 at the Penny Farcy Training Center*
151 *located at 10019 SW Bank Rd, Vashon*

152 *The next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, 08/15/17 at 6:30 p.m.*
153 *at 10020 SW Bank Rd, Vashon, EOC Room*

Approved this 30 day of July, 2017.


Camille Staczek, Chair


Susan Wolf, Minute Taker



Chief's Report
for the
Fire Commissioners' Meeting
of
25 July 2017

As a brief overview of the District, focusing on highlights since the board's last regularly scheduled meeting, please accept the following information:

- 1. Overarching Operational Topics:**
 - a. BR55 was mobilized to the Canyon Creek Fire near Carlton Sunday the 17th. They returned and were back in service on the island on the 19th...
- 2. Overarching Training Topics:**
 - a. Nothing to specifically discuss or call to your attention at this time...
- 3. Service/Call Volumes:**
 - a. As of 07:30, shift change today, the District has responded to 848 calls...
 - i. Based on the averaging of last year's calls we should statistically be around 913, 65 calls higher...
 - b. With regards to the Strawberry Festival weekend we authorized overtime for additional career staff. I am pleased to inform you that the whole of the event/the weekend passed smoothly, nothing noteworthy that I am aware of...
- 4. Staff/Personnel:**
 - a. I have nothing specifically noteworthy at this time...
- 5. Fleet:**
 - a. E58 has been repaired and was put back into service on the 13th...

6. Facilities:

- a. There was a drain line failure/clog to Station 55's Duty Quarters Kitchen sink and dishwasher (12 Jul 17) however it was cleared the following day...
- b. A vehicle accident caused the electrical supply to Station 56 to be seriously damaged, actually ripping service away from the building on 13 July. Repairs have been made and the facility is operational again...
- c. On the 21st we received an email regarding the trimming and/or removal of trees from the Robert Bennedsen House property. We are considering the matter and the implications...

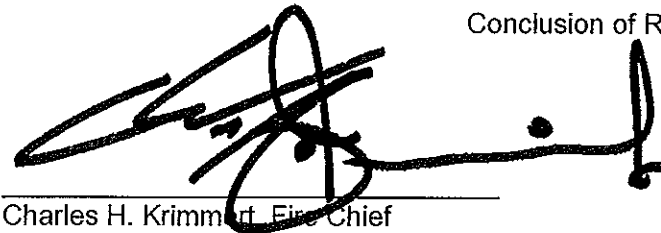
7. Financials:

- a. Independent of this report the agenda includes a mid-year budget review...
- b. It appears that we have failed to invoice against an interlocal agreement with Southwest Suburban Sewer District since 2014 and we are working with them to correct the situation...
- c. For the above we are checking District's interlocal agreements and generally investigating the requirements for such agreements...

8. Miscellaneous/Noteworthy Topic(s):

- a. AC Larsen sends his regrets; I 'waved him off' tonight that he could enjoy his 30th wedding anniversary with his wife. He as earned the night off; AC Larsen continue to excel and has been preforming at an exceptional level, we are very fortunate to have him with the District...

Conclusion of Report



Charles H. Krimm, Fire Chief
Vashon Island Fire & Rescue
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