



Vashon Island Fire and Rescue
10019 SW Bank Road PO Box 1150
Vashon WA 98070 206.463.2405 206.463.2954 fax
www.vifir.org administration@vifir.org

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: 27 October 2021

Time: 18:30

REGULAR MEETING

Present: Andy Johnson, Chair (Webinar)
Candy McCullough, Vice-Chair (Webinar)
Dave Hoffmann, Position 05 (Webinar)
Brigitte Schran-Brown, Position 03 (Webinar)
Camille Staczek, Position 02 (Webinar)
Charles Krimmert, Fire Chief (Webinar)
Rebecca Pollock, District Secretary (Webinar)
Raechel Ehlers, HR Administrator (Webinar)

Absent: Robert Larsen, Assistant Chief of Operations (Webinar)

Welcome

Amendments to the Agenda

- District Secretary Pollock requested item "i. Volunteer Group Status Update" be removed from the Agenda.
- Vice-Chair McCullough requested an item be added under New Business to discuss the Oregon Fire Directors' Association Conference.

Approval of 9/01/2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice-Chair McCullough:

"I make a motion that we approve the special meeting minutes from September 1, 2021."

MINUTES APPROVED, 5-0

Approval of 9/22/2021 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice-Chair McCullough:

"I make a motion that we approve the special meeting minutes from September 22, 2021."

MINUTES APPROVED, 5-0



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Approval of 9/29/2021 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Vice-Chair McCullough:

"I make a motion that we approve the regular meeting minutes from September 29, 2021."

- Commissioner Schran-Brown requests that Ron Smothermon be given the opportunity to make his concerns heard regarding a statement he made at a prior meeting included in the meeting minutes.
- Ron Smothermon clarifies that his comments, as written in the minutes, were both to say that the Chief had done a good job in pulling the Department out of almost bankruptcy and getting the budget back on track, but his intention was also to stop the Chief from using the mandate as the reason why he hadn't gotten his vaccination. Mr. Smothermon states that it angered him that the Chief was trying to use the mandate as an excuse and believes the Chief in making his decision let the department down and the majority of the island down. Mr. Smothermon states that it wasn't until the Chief realized that he was going to lose his job that he chose to be vaccinated and he wishes he had done it sooner and for a different reason.
- District Secretary Pollock points out that the statements being discussed at this time are part of the August 26, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes and not the September 29, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes.

**MINUTES APPROVED, 4-0
COMMISSIONER SCHRAN-BROWN DENIED, 1-0**

Voucher Approval

Motion by Commissioner Staczek:

"I move we approve the referenced vouchers and transfers as detailed in Administrative Memorandum 10.27.2021-1."

MEMORANDUM APPROVED, 5-0

Chief Krimmert's Report:

- *See Chief's Report*
- 3.a.i. correction to the Chief's Report: "This would suggest an end of year count of 1,660, 12% greater than last year's total count of 1,482..."
- 5.b. Two smaller rescue trucks to replace Rescue 355 in 2023 symptomatic of the 26+ years age of the current vehicle.
- 5.c. As soon as the Chassis is received we will be able to more accurately estimate when that new aid car will arrive.
- 8.c. MOU 21-003 to be reviewed and signed this evening is regarding payment terms for overtime earned by members of Local 4189 at King County Testing Sites. The Local and Administration are presenting this MOU to the Board with mutual understanding and agreement of the terms discussed.

- 10.d. Parks, Cemetery, Healthcare, and Fire Districts were all present for the meeting. No decisions were made.
- Commissioner Schran-Brown asks about the difficulties the District has been having the past month and their weighing on the District and what plans the Chief has on dealing with the impact(s) they have had
- Chief Krimmert states that the Pandemic has had significant impact on our responders and when we used to be able to return home to recharge and rejuvenate, it seems that the Pandemic has created a new set of problems and parameters at home.
- Chief Krimmert discusses the impact of the stress of his recent mistake with the beachcomber and the tension it created within the organization. He states “who knows if we’ll ever recover from that?”
- Chief Krimmert also discusses the strain and stress of the Proclamation and how it has impacted members of our organization beyond himself.
- Chief Krimmert also discusses the inability to have things like the banquet and other events due to the Pandemic and how important they really are to establish a family and a camaraderie, but we haven’t been able to have them.
- Chief Krimmert states that he has been having candid conversations with different members and groups of members of the District recently to discuss some of the difficulties mentioned and they have been valuable conversations and hopes to continue to have them.
- Commissioner Schran-Brown asks about the status of the Facilities change/Remodeling project.
- Chief Krimmert states that the project is on hold at this time.

Approval of September 2021 Financial Report

Motion by Chair Johnson:

“I make a motion that we approve the September 2021 financial report as presented.”

FINANCIAL REPORT APPROVED, 5-0

New Business

Public hearing on revenue sources including property tax

- Chief Krimmert presents the budget spreadsheet, levy structure, and current estimated levy based on assessed property value.
- Commissioner Schran-Brown asks about the current recruitment and retention budget and our District’s need for volunteers, particularly on-island volunteers, due to the number of zone 1 callbacks we have had.
- Commissioner Staczek asks about the volunteer points system and if that is a way to increase incentives for volunteers.
- Chair Johnson requests that the Board receive the points tracker policy, form, and stipend reimbursement calculation form for review.
- Vice-Chair McCullough discusses the legal restrictions to volunteer compensation and how much can and cannot be paid to the volunteers for their work, responses, training, etc.



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- Volunteer FF/EMT Lizzy Corliss states that there is a regulation that lays out the restrictions on a compensation system like this. Other volunteer departments have points type programs that are completely different than ours and there are a lot of resources that could help Vashon Fire look into this. Volunteer FF/EMT Corliss states that this is a large issue within our volunteer corps that could be improved.
- Chief Krimmert states that the administration has been looking at a new system and ways to improve the points tracker.
- Commissioner Staczek asks about extra education, training for volunteers and that they have to attend more classes. Reimbursed to attend classes?
- Chief Krimmert states that volunteers earn points for trainings and depending where and when the class is, reimbursement for meals and travel.
- Ron Smothermon asks about \$10,000 of investments, whether it is a safe investment, and where that money is.
- Chief Krimmert states that the County, as our treasurer, takes money from the investment pool we are a part of and invests it. Each month, we receive interest returned from the investment noted on our monthly reconciliation report.
- Commissioner Staczek asks about full time staffing and decreasing our burden on the volunteer corps.
- Chief Krimmert states we would love more people no matter the title or employment status with the District. The question becomes long term budgeting when the District hires career personnel due to the benefits and other costs associated.

Preliminary budget presentation and discussion part 1

- Commissioner Schran-Brown asks about the status of the YourCall program.
- Chief Krimmert states that the likelihood of the program returning is dubious at best due to the legal, research, and administrative requirements on creating and administering such a program.
- Vice-Chair McCullough thanks everyone for being present and asking questions about the budget and requests that they continue to engage in the budget review process for our next hearing next month.

Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(g)

Public Meeting moved into Executive Session at 19:42 pursuant to 42.30.110(1)(i)(g) for 30 minutes in order to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

Extended at 20:12 for 10 more minutes by Chair Johnson.

Extended at 20:23 for 5 more minutes by Chair Johnson.

Extended at 20:31 for 5 more minutes by Chair Johnson.

Executive Session ended at 20:38.



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Decision

- No Decision was made. Chair Johnson will meet with Chief regarding the discussion that was had tonight.

Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)(g)

Public Meeting moved into Executive Session at 20:39 pursuant to 42.30.110(1)(i)(g) for 30 minutes in order to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

Executive Session ended at 21:10.

Decision

- No Decision was made.

Valleycom Fee Schedule Approval

Motion by Chair Johnson:

"I make a motion that we approve that Valleycom Fee Schedule."

Seconded by Commissioner Schran-Brown.

FEE SCHEDULE APPROVED, 5-0

WFCA Membership Dues Approval

- Washington Fire Chiefs Association Membership Dues

Motion by Vice-Chair McCullough:

"I make a motion that we approve this expenditure."

Seconded by Chair Johnson.

DUES APPROVED, 5-0

WFCA Trusteed Application/Open Enrollment Form Approval

- Washington Fire Commissioners Association Medical Benefits Application



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Motion by Chair Johnson:

"I make a motion that we approve the WFCA Trusted Application."

APPLICATION APPROVED, 5-0

Memorandum of Understanding Approval

- Some of our career staff have been asked to be supervisors at the testing sites our members have been working at for the last months and the increase in duties results in a 20% increase in overtime pay. To be reimbursed as usual.

Motion by Chair Johnson:

"I make a motion that we approve the Memorandum of Understanding."

Seconded by Commissioner Staczek.

MOU APPROVED, 5-0

Oregon Fire Directors' Conference

- Vice-Chair McCullough has been invited to present at the conference about the National events. Vice-Chair would like to request reimbursement for meals and incidental expenses.
- All commissioners approve of the costs and thank Vice-Chair McCullough for attending. No objections.

Old Business

Commissioner acting as a Volunteer Compensation

- Based on prior discussions with the Board, the auditors, and legal counsel, the Board has decided not to address this issue at this time.

Article 1001 Review and Approval

Motion by Chair Johnson:

"I make a motion that we approve Article 1001."

Seconded by Chair Johnson.

ARTICLE APPROVED, 5-0



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General Comments

- Vice-Chair McCullough states that the WFCR Conference went well.
- District Secretary Pollock passes along a note from Mr. Allen Riddle's niece that he has passed away.
- Ron Smothermon thanks Brigitte and Dave for all of their years of service.
- Vice-Chair McCullough thanks everyone for their attendance and hard work this evening.

For the Good of the Order

- Chief Krimmert states that Captain Frank Lund, a 26 year veteran of the District, will be laid to rest on Saturday the 30th at 11am.

Documents Signed

Adjourned at 21:30

The next Regular Meeting will be on Wednesday, 24 November 2021, at 18:30

Approved this 24th day of November 2021

A blue ink signature of Andy Johnson, written over a horizontal line.

Andy Johnson, Chair

A blue ink signature of Rebecca Nason, written over a horizontal line.

Rebecca Nason, District Secretary