

**Board of Island County Fire Commissioners
Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2011**

Call to order at 19:00 at Station 51, 109 N. Main St, Coupeville, WA by CWIF&R Chair Cheryl Engle.

Those present:

CWIFR Chair Cheryl Engle,
CWIF&R Commissioner Paul Messner,
CWIF&R Commissioner Tom Smith,
CWIF&R Chief Ed Hartin,
CWIF&R Office Manager Kim Harpe
NWF&R Chair Bruce Carman,
NWF&R Commissioner Jerry Goen,

NWF&R Commissioner T. J. Lamont
NWF&R Chief Marv Koorn
ICFD3 Commissioner Robert Elliott
ICFD3 Commissioner Kenon Simmons
ICFD3 Chief Rusty Palmer

The CWIF&R Chair Cheryl Engle received consensus approval of the agenda and introduced each of the members present.

Input from the Public: None.

New Business:

A. Regional Mechanic and how that would work between the Districts. Chair Engle shared that the CWIF&R Board felt the pooling of resources and having a regional mechanic on island would be beneficial to each of the districts. Chair Engle stated that before spending time figuring costs and the possibilities of what that could like (i.e., mechanic with a shop on wheels or a fixed shop) the CWIF&R Board desired feedback from the other Boards regarding their interest in this matter. There was collective consensus among the Boards that this was worth investigating. The Fire Chiefs were tasked with answering the following questions prior to the next scheduled meeting:

- How much maintenance currently costs
- How much time is currently spent on maintenance
- Cost of a mechanics salary
- Time saved with no travel time

B. Shared Reserve Apparatus. Commissioner Messner shared if a regional mechanic was in place, that a central reserve apparatus might be useful as well. The idea would be to create a reserve fleet over time that each of the districts could bump their older apparatus too – which would take 5-6 years. The rating bureau would have to be contacted to see if this would impact the districts ratings. After much discussion there were no decisions made on this matter.

C. Collectively Using Our Resources. Chair Engle shared that it would look better to the public if the districts used each others resources whenever possible. Discussion included:

- Cost sharing to hire good talent to come and train the Districts collectively. (Training Officers could take this for action)
- Joint purchase of BA's etc. for a better cost break

D. Stance of Residential Sprinkler Systems. Chair Engle shared that CWIF&R s Board felt that residential sprinkler systems was an important issue and asked the Boards how they felt regarding this issue. Chief Palmer commented that the code currently has the wording needed and Island County has chosen not to enforce it. There was consensus from the Boards on the following:

- Agreement to support the issue of required residential sprinkler systems.
- Supported the addition of omitted language back in to the code.
- Districts need to be involved in plans and training.
- There is more power in getting this change if the districts do it collectively.

Good of the Order/Announcements:

NWF&R Chief Koorn shared that North Whidbey Fire & Rescue recently hired Ray Merrill as their new Training Officer.

There being no further business, CWIF&R Chair Cheryl Engle adjourned the meeting at 20:15.

Next All Island Commissioner Meeting

Date: Thursday – June 16, 2011

Time: 19:00

Place: NWF&R Headquarters

2720 Heller Rd.,

Oak Harbor, WA

Submitted,

Kim Harpe
Secretary