

**SOUTH WHIDBEY
FIRE/EMS REGULAR
MEETING
December 8, 2022 – 5:30 pm
Minute – DRAFT**

In Attendance: Commissioner Noblet, Commissioner Towers, Chief Walsh, and Kathryn Nguyen.

Audience: Chief Beck, Chad Glahart, Craig Cyr

Zoom Audience: Commissioner Erickson, Chief Ney,

Call to Order.

Commissioner Noblet called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Approval of Agenda.

Commissioner Erickson motioned to approve the agenda; Commissioner Towers seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Public Input

Chad Glahart, said he would like to improve communication throughout the Districts. He expressed concerns about significant water equipment damages due to quick water release on fire hydrants.

Andy, from Freeland Water District, explained how several hydrants in Freeland have incurred damages due to water hammer issues. A water line experienced water hammer damage while the department was responding to a fire and using a hydrant. Additional problems have surfaced from hydrants not being completely closed after use. Andy expressed his desire to work with the department to ensure proper hydrant usage.

Chief Walsh addressed Andy by stating he had previously reached out requesting training for the department but did not receive a response.

Andy continued

Chief Beck asked how many water pipes had burst at random.

Andy replied, stating there had been some, but most were results from water hammer.

Commissioner Noblet agreed that there is an issue and would like to ensure that future department training and planning be taken.

Commissioner Erickson requested that the item be added to the following month's agenda for updates.

Chief Walsh is happy to meet and develop a plan moving forward.

Consent Agenda. All matters listed within the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each member of South Whidbey Fire/EMS's Board of Commissioners for reading and study. They are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion of the Commissioners with no separate discussion. If a separate discussion is desired, that item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request.

- a. Approval of Minutes.
 - i. Special Meeting on November 15, 2022
 - ii. Regular Meeting on November 10, 2022
 - iii. Special Meeting on November 9, 2022

- iv. Special Meeting on October 22, 2022
- b. Finance Officer's Reports
 - i. Budget position Report
 - ii. Treasurer's Report
- c. Monthly Vouchers
 - i. \$1,453,731.21

Commissioner Noblet motioned to approve the Consent agenda; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Member Update

- d. Nina Holmstrom
- e. Cory Jennings

Chief Walsh stated that Holmstrom and Jennings had gone through all the processes and would go to the fire academy in February.

Commissioner Noblet motioned to approve; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- f. Resolution No. 2022-23- Support of Firework Ban

Commissioner Noblet invited Craig Cyr to speak to the Board.

With Safe and Human, Craig Cyr requested the department's support in banning personal fireworks in Island County. The Island County commissioners are considering banning personal fireworks. Fireworks are severe threats to the wildland, environments, pets, first responders, and veterans.

Commissioner Towers request data on fireworks incidents.

Chief Walsh stated that the records manager reviewed the department's records and found two fireworks-related fires.

Commissioner Erickson stated she had a modification to the resolution but did not have any additional questions.

Commissioner Noblet acknowledged the effects of fireworks and the possible reduction in fire incidents alleviating personnel to respond to other significant calls that do not pertain to fireworks.

Commissioner Towers requested additional time to think on the matter and table the resolution until after the executive session.

Resolution tabled.

The Board revisited the item at 6:45 pm.

Commissioner Towers expressed his support from a fire department stand and not a political one.

Commissioner Erickson questioned if other districts have created a supporting resolution as well.

Sunny explained that resolution requests to other departments had been made, but no responses were received

at the time.

Commissioner Erickson requested the date that Island County would act.

Sunny explained that the County still needed to make an official date for action. The requested resolution is to support action being taken by the County.

Commissioner Towers motioned to approve; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

g. Resolution No. 2022-22- Warrant Cancellation

Commissioner Towers motioned to approve Resolution No. 2022-22; Commissioner Noblet seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

h. Resolution No. 2022-21- Transfer of Funds

Chief Walsh stated that the resolution was to transfer funding from the Capital account to the General account for the engine repairs.

Commissioner Towers motioned to approve; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

i. 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Noblet motioned to approve; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

j. SWFE New Logo

Chief Walsh explained that the logo was designed with department members' input.

Commissioner Towers asked if the department plans to change the logos on all apparatus.

Chief Walsh plans to transition the logo slowly as time and funds allow.

II. Announcements:

Chief Walsh stated that the Santa's Sleigh event was taking place from December 8, 2022, until December 10, 2022.

III. Comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Erickson expressed her satisfaction with the new website.

Commissioner Towers stated that the Board must schedule Chief Walsh's Performance Review for January 2023.

Commissioner Noblet stated that a Special Meeting should be scheduled before the next Regular Meeting on January 12, 2023.

Commissioner Erickson and Towers stated that January 5, 2023, would be most convenient for the Special Meeting.

Commissioner Towers requested that a Capital budget plan be established.

Chief Walsh stated that the department would like to take the first quarter of 2023 to compile data and documents for the Capital budget plan.

IV. Executive Session:

- a. RCW 42.30.110 (b) "To consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased

price;”

Commissioner Noblet called for an executive session at 6:30 pm for 15 minutes until 6:45 pm.

Commissioner Noblet called the meeting back to session at 6:45 pm.

Action taken as a result of the Executive Session:

No decisions were made.

Adjourn

Commissioner Towers motioned to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Erickson seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

The Regular Meeting of the Board was adjourned at 6:55 pm.

Kathryn Nguyen,
District Secretary