

*Chief*  
ISLAND COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No 3

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS, APRIL 7, 1977

Meeting called to order by Mr. Hunter, the Chairman, in the meeting room in the Clinton fire station at 7:00 P. M.

Commissioners present: Marion E. Hunter  
Joseph H. Long

Others present: Chief Erikson, G. Gabelein, M. Carter, L. Sandberg, F. Landis, B. Thayer, H. Quentin, R. Reis and Carla Willhight, Whidbey Record reporter.

Minutes of last meeting of March 3, 1977 read by Secretary and approved as read.

Current bills in the amount of \$3,865.26 are on hand and after examination Mr. Long makes motion seconded by Mr. Hunter that they be allowed and vouchers approved and signed, carried unanimously. They are listed on reverse side of this sheet.

There are applications from three men for admittance to the fire department. They are Ronald W. Looker for the Freeland station, Mike Parnell for the Bayview station and Larry Pell for the Maxwellton station. These men are acceptable and the applications are signed by the Commissioners.

Under correspondence the Chief reports there is a one day Seminar on Arson Investigation to be held in Mount Vernon on April 12, 1977 that he would like to attend. The Commissioners agree to this.

The Secretary now reports receiving notice of confirmation from RCA of a shipping date of the week of May 16th on the new base station ordered at the Fire Commissioner meeting of March 3, 1977.

The Secretary reads a letter from Ducap Electronics, Inc. of Burlington, stating that they are presently servicing many radio systems for Fire Districts and are available if we have any service problems. They formerly did some receiver servicing for us.

Also a letter from the DNR stating that they have received a federal grant of \$56,800.00 for fiscal year of 1977, which will be used to provide assistance to rural fire Districts and communities. We feel this would not be of any benefit to us as it is for Districts of 10,000 population or less.

The Chief is instructed to get current prices on 2 1/2 inch hose as there is a need for additional hose in the District.

The Chairman reports that the 2 horse siren at Saratoga station still does not work properly. He suggests installing the old siren for the present and taking this one down so he can check it out. If we cannot get it to work right this way will have to take it back to Alden Equipment Company to be serviced, as Mr. Alden said they would take care of this.

There is now discussion relative to insurance for the District which will be due for renewal in June, 1977. In discussion it is brought out by the Chairman that we need insurance that will name volunteer firemen specifically. It was also brought out that the insurance for the District last year was approximately 10% of the District income, and that insurance rates will be considerably higher this year. At the present time we only know of one company that will write this insurance.

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This is United Pacific. Mr. Sandberg requests that the Fire District Commissioners appoint him as agent of record for the District in order that he may be able to place insurance to the best advantage. The Chairman suggests to Mr. Sandberg that he look over our present insurance policy and come up with a figure at which he can supply insurance to the District with the same coverage as we have at present. There was some further discussion and Mr. Sandberg agrees to this proposal. He is thanked for his interest and takes his leave at 8:06 P. M.

Attention is now turned to two bids submitted for concrete bulkheading on the west and south sides of the Bayview station. One is from A. R. Kinskie Construction for \$350.00 for 80 feet on the west side and an additional \$200.00 for 90 feet on the south side, for a total of \$550.00. The other is from Simmons Builders at \$490.60 for 80 feet on the west and \$598.90 for 90 feet on the south, for a total of \$1,088.50. After discussion it is decided by the Commissioners present that the bulkhead on the west side should be extended more than the 80 feet. The Chief is instructed to contact Mr. Kinskie requesting a new bid with an extension of the bulkhead the full length on the west side of the lot. Inasmuch as Mr. Kinskie's bid is approximately one half of the Simmons Builders bid, the latter bid will not be considered further.

Disposal of the 3 phase 10 horse siren the District has, which is considered surplus, is now discussed. It is suggested that the Secretary place a notice in the State Commissioners Association Office bulletin advertising this item. Mr. Hunter says he will contact George Wallace, electrician in regard to disposal of the 3 phase electric service, which is also surplus.

Mr. Hunter states his views on the uses of the various rooms in the Bayview station. The downstairs locker room and dormitory to be used in the event of paid live in firemen in the future, the upstairs office for the time in future when we could be faced with operating an aid car, for the use of the man in charge of this, the other upstairs room for a recreation room and the other lower room for a meeting room for the firemen.

Mr. Hunter suggests that the three Commissioners and Chief get together to make an inspection tour of the various stations in the District and make a list of the needs in order of priority. It is pointed out at this time that the Fire Commissioners are responsible for the entire District operation.

It is felt that the three Commissioners and Chief should get together to meet with Verlane Gabelein in connection with the drainage problem at the Bayview station to see what can or will be done in regard to the water drainage from his property onto our lot. There is also the need to discuss with him the finishing of the road out to the Howard road. This is a County requirement and is also stated in our deed to the District lot that this road is to be put in. The Chief says he has talked to Mr. Gabelein in regard to this and would appreciate the three Commissioners there to enter into this. The Chief is instructed to set up this meeting with Mr. Gabelein and also the time for the inspection tour of the fire stations at a time when all concerned would be available.

and Secretary

The Chairman reports briefly on their attendance at the one day Fire Commissioners Seminar held in Mount Vernon on March 26th. This covered quite extensively the duties and responsibilities of Fire Commissioners. Emphasis was placed on the need for the Commissioners to set the policies and guidelines for the District. These guidelines should set forth what is expected of the Chief. Also included should be dollar limits placed upon purchases without Commissioner approval. This set of guidelines and policies should be accomplished by resolution and should be adhered to until such time need indicates a revision.



Mr. Hunter at this time states that he feels that our present Fire District bylaws, resolution # 13, should be reviewed and updated, incorporating these policies and guidelines and covering other needs not included in these guidelines.

Another point covered in the Seminar was the right of access to District records by the public. It was pointed out that all District original records should be in the District headquarters file, with authority delegated, preferably to the District Secretary, who shall release copies of requested reports only by authority established by State statutes governing such procedures. Records such as fire alarm reports, truck maintenance records, minutes of regular meetings, etc.

Chief Erikson, a member of the Liaison Committee, gives a brief report of the Liaison Committee meeting of March 29th in Coupeville in connection with the hiring of a fire marshall, correcting duplicate road names, etc.

The Chief also reports that the west and center doors in the Bayview station still do not work properly. He is instructed to contact Simmons Builders in regard to this.

The gentlemen from Saratoga, who are firemen from that station now enquire as to the possibilities of an open house in connection with the new addition to their station. This is discussed between they and the Chief and the date of Saturday April 16th was agreed on.

The Chief now reports that it is not required any more to have the annual radio frequency check as it would be taken care of through the regular servicing of the equipment.

The Chief also reports that the town of Langley may be interested in acquiring two of the Districts surplus tubed radios.

Mr. Hunter feels that the District and the town of Langley should negotiate relative to a change in the imbursement cost to the town for fire alarm dispatching. Present cost to the town is \$30.00. It is pointed out that the alarms handled by the dispatcher for the town have increased appreciably in the last several years.

The Chief asks if it would be appropriate to install a flagpole at the Maxwellton station due to the fact that this station is used as a polling place for elections. The Commissioners concur. Mr. Hunter says he will put the flagpole together when the Chief gets the material, which is available at the Bayview Store.

The Secretary reports that the District has received the payment of \$100.00 from the County for the former housing in the County road shed used to house the Bayview truck until the new station was completed.

The Secretary also reports that we have \$24,000.00 of District expense and Bond Fund money invested at this time. This will be back in the expense fund for use in the months when very little in tax money comes in.

Under visitor comments Mr. Landis says Instructor Baty and the Chief have been very helpful to them in their department at the Saratoga station.

Business is now concluded and meeting is adjourned at 9:41 P. M.

*Ella E. Hunter*

Ella E. Hunter, Secretary  
Island County Fire Protection District No 3