

Chief

ISLAND COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No 3

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS, FEBRUARY 3, 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	Chief Erikson	present
	Joseph H. Long	Batt. Chief Gabelein	"
	Kenneth G. McClellan	Lloyd Schumacher	"
		County Road Supervisor	

Minutes of last meeting of January 6, 1977 read by Secretary and approved as read with one minor addition.

Current bills in the amount of \$7,727.16 are on hand and after examination Mr. Long makes motion seconded by Mr. McClellan that they be allowed and vouchers approved and signed, carried unanimously. They are listed on reverse side of this sheet.

Lloyd Schumacher, who is County Road Supervisor, is now asked for comments relative to what he has in mind. He says that if the Fire District doesn't have plans for use of the housing the District provided in the West end of the County machine shed to house the fire truck, that the County would like to have it in which to store chemicals, insecticides, etc. He is authorized to offer \$100.00 for it. Discussion follows, resulting in the information that the cost to the District was approximately \$500.00 for material, labor being donated, nearly three years ago. If it were to be moved some material could be salvaged but not all. In light of this and the fact that some time and effort would be needed to remove, and that the District has no need for the material and no place to store it, the consensus of feeling is: It would be better to let the County have it for \$100.00 than to remove.

Mr. Long makes motion seconded by Mr. McClellan to sell the housing to the County for \$100.00, carried unanimously, and the Secretary is instructed to bill the County for this amount.

Discussion now turns to water drainage onto the Bayview station parking lot from the Gabelein property next east of the lot, and from the Sterba property on the east side of Kramer road, which also runs across Kramer road and the Gabelein property. It appears that the Sterba property runoff is caused by there being no drainage ditch at side of Kramer road to carry it elsewhere. Mr. Schumacher explains that there is no room between Sterba's fence and the Kramer road for a ditch. The Kramer road is County property, but the concrete road going west from the Kramer road to Gabelein's, Fire District lot and Concrete plant is private.

Mr. Hunter suggests as an immediate solution to the before mentioned drainage onto the Fire Station lot would be a low diversion wall, perhaps 3 or 4 inches high at the upper north-east corner of the lot in the shape of a curved wing to divert the water down the concrete road. After it reaches the N. E. corner of the station parking apron the grade is such as to prevent it entering the station lot.

The Chief suggests perhaps having Verlane Gabelein install this small diversion wing.

It is also suggested that the County might be able to do something in regard to this problem.

Mr. Schumacher says He, Mr. Jolly, County Engineer, and County Commissioner Romeo are to meet there tomorrow A.M. to discuss the problem and try to help with a solution.

Mr. Schumacher is now thanked and takes his leave at 8:41 P.M.

Mr. Hunter reports that except for the west large door control in the Bayview station not functioning perfectly, the building contractors task is completed, that an inspection of the building by the Architect, Fire Commissioners and the Contractor, Simmons Builders, is in order and asks if next Wednesday February 9th at 2:30 P.M. would be an acceptable time. This is agreed on. If the inspection reveals everything is satisfactory the building can be accepted from the contractor.

Attention now turns to fencing for the Bayview station lot. Chief Erikson has prices from two suppliers, Lumber "Jack's" at \$700.00 and Clinton Hardware at \$1,314.50. On further consideration it is disclosed that this is for 500 feet of fencing. This includes posts. each 10 feet apart, top, bottom, and end fasteners for wire. These prices are for material only. This would fence nearly all of the property. Mr. Hunter feels that for the present, fence on west property line would be sufficient, as this would prevent traffic across N.W. corner of lot including parking apron. The parking lot has been filled at rear to an approximate depth of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet and will need to be settled and stabilized and then probably a concrete bulkhead installed, which could then support a fence at rear.

After some discussion this is considered acceptable and the Chief is instructed to proceed on this basis.

Mr. Hunter also suggests some sort of concrete bumper or posts at N.W. corner to protect the end of the fence. This is agreed to.

Mr. Hunter now directs attention to radio base station needs. He reviews base station operation and results since 1959 when the District acquired radio communications. The first base station was a 50 Watt unit, which was fairly adequate but with some limitations. After two moves of base station, each one resulting in some improvement in results, and the second move to property purchased by the District and only 40 feet lower than the highest point in the District, this is as far as can be gone to improve location, the antenna of 116 feet is installed here with considerably more improvement. After several years dead spots began to appear in the reception pattern, Inasmuch as a better and higher location is not to be obtained an increase in station power seemed to be in order, resulting in the placing in operation in 1967 of a station of 100 Watts, twice the former power. At that time Mr. Hunter could not find in the District a dead spot. Now 10 years later in time, and 10 years of tree and vegetation growth the Chief reports some dead spots appearing in the reception pattern. With these facts in mind it appears to Mr. Hunter that there are only

two alternatives to solve the problem, 1 - to improve antenna height to the maximum without having to light the tower. 2 - to install a higher powered base station.

In that the higher antenna tower would be a rather expensive installation and would not fill the need for a second, or backup station Mr. Hunter feels this option would not be desirable, and # 2 to be preferred. The new base he feels should be of greater power and installed with equipment providing for switching of control from new base to older base in event of failure of first unit, at the alarm desk, thus strengthening a weak link in our communication system.

Base station power at this point seems to be a choice between 110 Watts or 300 Watts or more. The 110 Watt station is only 10% more power than the one in use so would not provide much improvement. It would provide a backup system.

It is pointed out that there have been several failures of the present station over the years, usually occurring at a bad time of day or week, i.e. late in day or on a weekend.

Mr. Hunter has some approximate prices on base stations as follows, 110 Watt station at \$2400.00 plus tax and 300 Watt station at \$4,300.00 including one solid state remote control unit, installation, including switching arrangement for control at dispatch point, plus sales tax. The above \$2,400.00 price for the 110 Watt is for base station only without any extras.

There is considerable discussion pro and con relative to power needs, etc. resulting in Mr. Long making motion seconded by Mr. McClellan that the District call for sealed bids for the 300 Watt station and related equipment. Bids to be opened at the next regular meeting of the Commissioners on March 3rd and awarding of contract to be made then or deferred to a later time, carried unanimously.

At this time the Chief requests permission to attend the annual Fire Command School to be held at Yakima April 25-26-27-28. The Commissioners agree to this.

He also mentions a Fire Investigation & Prevention School to be held in Vancouver February 16-17-18. There is no action taken on this.

The Chief now reads a letter from the Sunbeam Appliance Company stating that the Fire District could get 1 smoke detector for \$25.00 if the request were sent in on official stationery.

Mr. Gabelein now asks what the District plans to do with the old copier. He is told that we have no plans for it and if he wishes he could take it to the Bayview station and use it.

Business is now concluded and meeting is adjourned at 9:10 P. M.

*Ella E. Hunter*

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