

**SOUTH WHIDBEY
FIRE/EMS
REGULAR MEETING
5579 Bayview Road, Langley,
Washington
November 13th, 2019 – 5:30 PM**

Minutes

Attendance: Chairman Mestemacher, Commissioner Simmons, Commissioner Hawley, Chief Palmer.

In Audience: Caitriona Costello, Mike Noblet, Deputy Chief Mike Cotton, Deputy Chief Jon Beck, Barry Pomeroy, Rebekah Pomeroy, Sherrye Wyatt, Cody Wilkie, FF/EMT Carlee Wilkie, FF/EMT Tony McNair, FF/EMT Robbie Husom, FF/EMT Sean McDougald, FF/EMT Billy Piepenbrink, Nicole Hagan, Allen Craig, Heather Zuzel. At 5:37, Suzi Prentiss, Tom Sparks and Mrs. Sparks arrived.

- I. Call to Order. Chairman Mestemacher called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Approval of Agenda. Commissioner Simmons made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented, motion seconded by Commissioner Hawley.
- IV. Public Input. – None.
- V. 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 to be routine, and will be enacted by one motion of the Commissioners with no separate discussion. If 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. Regular Meeting on October 9th, 2019
 - b. Finance Officer's Reports –
 - c. Monthly Vouchers— \$308,742.61

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Commissioner Simmons seconded.

- VI. Unfinished Business –
 - a. **Bayview Fire Station Update.** Chief Palmer stated that Valdez just completed that last bit to work on the upper parking lot that was due to flood damage. The District still owes for the balance of small change orders, as well as the 5% retainer. We are still working through the punch list.
 - b. **Deputy Chief-Operations, update.** Chief Palmer stated that we have received 6 applications for the Deputy Chief-Operations position. All applications were screened, and one application was notified that they were not a qualified candidate. The remaining five applicants are scheduled to attend the assessment center on November 23rd. The ideal start date for the new hire will be as close to January 1st as possible.
 - c. **2020 Budget Presentation.** Chief Palmer presented the draft 2020 budget as well as a PowerPoint presentation. Topics included past and present levy rate, past and present operations expenses, grant history, call volume and number of SWFE responder history and District population statistics.

Commissioner Hawley stated that she had not had enough time to review the budget and did not want to make a motion to approve it at this time. Chief Palmer reminded the Board that a certified budget needs to be submitted to the County by November 25th, along with the property tax levy resolutions. Commissioner Simmons suggested a workshop so that the Commissioners can review the budget in detail with the Chief. After some discussion of availability, it was agreed upon that a workshop will be held on Thursday, November 14th, at 8am. A Special Meeting will be held on Monday, November 18th, at 6pm, to approve the budget and resolutions.

VII. New Business –

- a. **New Members.** The Board welcomed the following new members to the District, who were all in attendance:
 - i. Nicole Hagan, ST35
 - ii. Allen Craig, ST35
 - iii. Heather Zuzel, ST33
 - iv. Barry Pomeroy, ST 36 FF/EMT

- b. **Resolution 2019-15a Levy & Budget Certification.** The Board unanimously agreed to table until the Special Meeting on November 18th.

- c. **Resolution 2019-15b Levy Certification.** The Board unanimously agreed to table until the Special Meeting on November 18th.

- d. **Resolution 2019-16 Increase Property Tax Levy 1%.** The Board unanimously agreed to table until the Special Meeting on November 18th.

- e. **Resolution 2019-17 Substantial Need Levy.** The Board unanimously agreed to table until the Special Meeting on November 18th.

- f. **Ratification and Signature of contract with IAFF Local 5212.** Chief Palmer stated that negotiations with the union and Part-Time Firefighters began in August. The District and the union have come to an agreement, and the agreement has been reviewed by our labor law attorney, who had a few recommended changes that have since been made. Commissioner Hawley stated that she is not ready to make a motion on the union agreement; she received the agreement last week and does not feel she has had enough time to review it and discuss with the volunteer members.

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to table the union contract until the December Board meeting. Motion was not seconded. Motion failed.

Commissioner Simmons stated that the union contract has been discussed many times and would like to evaluate the contract at the workshop. Commissioner Simmons stated that he would like to discuss the contract sooner than the December meeting.

Commissioner Simmons made a motion to table the ratification and signing of the contract with IAFF Local 5212 until the Special Meeting on November 18th, at 6pm. Motion was seconded by Chairman Mestemacher. Commissioner Hawley opposed the motion. Motion carried.

VIII. Announcements: None.

IX. Varia: None.

X. Executive Session: None.

XI. Action taken as result of Executive Session: None.

XII.

XIII. Conclude. Chairman Mestemacher concluded the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Sarah Pedersen,
District Secretary