

ISLAND COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No 3

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS NOVEMBER 4, 1965

Meeting called to order by the chairman Mr. Capp at 7.00P.M. at the public meeting room of the Whidbey Telephone Company at Bayview.

Commissioners present: Lloyd S. Capp  
David C. Henny  
Joseph H. Long

Minutes of the last meeting on October 7 read, and approved as read.

Mr. Orville R. Hunter, Battation Chief from the Clinton station is present as a guest, at the request of the Dept. Chief.

Island County Treasurers report is on hand and shows a balance on hand of \$ 2497.55, with warrnats in the amount of \$ 78660 outstanding as of Sept 30.

Current bills in the amount of \$ 769.16 ~~are~~ to the firms and individuals listed on the reverse side this sheet are examined, and Mr. Henny makes motion seconded by Mr. Long that the bills be allowed, and vouchers for same be approved and signed. Carried unanimously.

The tax structure under the new laws was discussed for a time but nothing constructive developed, except that it was generally agreed that at the present, no one seems to know for sure how the laws will be interpreted and applied.

The Clinton Chief Mr. Hunter was now asked about the clinton department and he said that at the present the morale was down. That there was a hardcore of about four firemen to be depended on in case of alarms. He also said that the clinton area had a potential of more men than any other area in the district who could be firemen, if they would. Also said that the Swede hill designation which was formerly applied to the Maxwellton area had more or less transferred to the Clinton area, and was operating as a clique. If this could be changed it might help to get men in the department.

Another fact affecting the department, in his opinion, was, the lack of a comfortable meeting place for the men, where the men could discuss various items in comfort and also make coffee etc for refreshments. A second item was the lack of turn out pants and boots. If a man turned out in his street clothes he was almost likely to have holes burned in them and also to have them become very soiled requiring cleaning.

Mr. Capp asked the District chief what would be required to make the station at Clinton more desirable to meet in. Hunter said a new door with overhead tracks needed to be installed Also the rest of the front of the building should be closed in and a small door installed. A partition should be installed inside, dividing the truck bey from the meeting room, and the various small items in relation to this be done to finish it.

Mr. Henny mentioned the possibility of the dsitric buying some turn out gear for the department, and wondered if the district could at this time. Mr. Long asked about the \$ 1000 which the district has in the reserve fund, and if it was not needed too badly maybe it could be used for this purpose. He said he could see in private business where a reserve fund at times was desirable, but that it seemed in public agencies the more broke they were and the more pressing the financial problems of the agencies the better the

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public would support them.

The secretary was asked if the \$ 1000 resevre was going to be needed, and he replied that the district budget was stretched to bulging, and would be for some time to come.

Hunter was asked if he could give any figures now as to finances. He replied he didnt like to pull figures out of his memory, and asked if he could have time to assemble these figures ~~figures~~, and have them at the next meeting in December. This request was granted.

The chief reported that Mr. Yeakel had notified him that the material for the Freeland station was ready in Seattle, and would bedelivered as soon as his truck was available.

The chief also reported that Mr. Hank Davis was not going to furnish his own men to put the finish on the station, but that rather, the help would be volunteer from the Freeland area, and that Davis would supervixe the installing.

Mr. Long said he did not feel that the commissioners had been pressured into agreeing to furnish the material, since the need was quite evident. Orville Hunter did say that as a Clinton Water District Commissioner he observed that when a group of citizens in the area attended their meetings it was easier to get the water commissioners to go ahead as requested that when no one was present, as, under those conditions there was more tendency to table items than to act.

Mr. Henny mentions the subject of bond issues, that the chief had a t numerous times in the past brought up the question. He said he thought that having men from the various departments attend the meetings of the commissioners and airing ~~on~~ what they thought were probelms in the district was constructive and maybe the answer would be a bond issue to help solve them.

Chief Hunter mentioned the item in Mr. Yeakels remarks included in the last months minutes relative to 'Hunters Talking Too Much! He said he feels that even this being true to a degree, which he admits, that this ~~is~~ only <sup>small</sup> factor in the problems of morale of the departments. He also said Mr. Keller told him from whom Mr. Yeakel had gotten his information. Hunter said he had had to go to this individual when he was in the department and request him not to drive the Freeland fire truck when he was under the influence of drink. He said thatt one Freeland fireman had gotten off the truck at ~~an~~ alarm and refused to ride with this individual back to the station as he was too drunk to drive safely.

Hunter also said that if he repeated himself often it was because he had only one story to tell, and that was fire prevention and extinguishment, and if any didnt care to hear repeats they would not like it. He also said he had no time for ditty stories and cloroed jokes at meetings.

Hunter also reported that Mr. Keller had told him that Mr. Yeakel had given to ~~the fire district~~ the Freeland Merchants Association meeting very high praise for the way in which the fire district meetings were conducted and the way in which the records were kept.

The chief also reported that Mr. Fred Frei at Saratoga had agreed to give to the fire district a steel windmill tower which is on the old Frei place there and not in use any more. Hunter will have to dissmantle it and transpott it to

*Hunter repeating something*

*Free Frei to donate windmill tower*

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the site of the new location for the fire district radio base station. Hunter says this tower will save the need for buying ~~three~~ 10 foot sections of steel tower. He estimates the saving to the district at approximately \$ 75.00 The tower can also be used to house the transmitter in the lower part.

Mr. Capp suggests that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mr. Frei in appreciation for the gift.

Hunter says he hopes to get the tower next week.

He also reports he is working on the wiring at the Freeland station.

This concludes the business and the meeting is adjourned at 8.25 P.M.

*Marion E. Hunter*  
Marion E. Hunter, Secretary  
Island County Fire District No 3