

**ISLAND COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #3**  
**SPECIAL MEETING - BAYVIEW STATION**

**JULY 18, 2001 6:30 P.M.**

**Minutes**

In Attendance:

Chairman Mike Helland  
Commissioner Bill Benjamin  
Commissioner Bob Elliot

Audience:

AC Paul Busch	Res.Officer Capt. Mike Cotton
Sta. 31-Lt. Forrest Hughes	FPO Lt. Jerry Beck
Sta. 32-Capt. Kenon Simmons	North Div. DC Don Elliot
Sta. 33-Capt. Andy Campbell	South Div. DC Les Hagstrom
Sta. 34-Capt. Jim Towers	Spec. Svcs. BC Darin Reid
Sta. 35-Lt. Frank Mestemacher	EMS Lt. Matt Czarnik
Sta. 36-Capt. Mel Grimm	Rescue Capt. Eldon Baker
Sta. 39-Not represented	

- I. Call to Order - Chairman Helland called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.
- II. Approval of Agenda - Commissioner Benjamin moved to approve the agenda as printed; motion carried.
- III. New Business
  - A. Bi-Annual Goals Review -

Chairman Helland thanked everyone for taking the time and the opportunity to represent their individual stations and services. The audience was reminded that the meeting was an opportunity to re-look at the current goals for the District as we review the past, discuss the present and plan the future. The defined goals were then addressed as follows:

- o Capt. Towers reported his impressions of the meeting with the principals in construction at the new Saratoga Station were positive.

The issues of craftsmanship and safety are being addressed. The telephone should be in by the July 23<sup>rd</sup> and occupancy may begin. An open house date will be set in the near future.

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- o After months of researching many possible sites that turned out either too expensive, too hilly, too swampy, zoned rural forest or just not for sale the District has purchased approximately 10 acres on Thompson Road and an adjacent 10 acres is in negotiations.
- o The District has advertised for bids on the new Freeland Station. The permits are in process and hopefully groundbreaking will be in late August.

Jim Towers recommended the initial details be tied in before the final contract is signed. The detailed plans will be available the morning of July 19<sup>th</sup> and Chairman Helland requested a committee be formed to review these plans. Forrest Hughes, Frank Mestemacher, Jim Towers and Don Elliot volunteered to review the bid and contract. Captain Mark Churchill was appointed chairman of the committee (in absentia).

The plan is to have the completions of the new Freeland Station and the remodel of the Clinton Station happen simultaneously. There was a recommendation to keep each project separate. The idea of a Site Manager is also being researched.

- o Mike Cotton presented to the group the Equipment Issued Check off Sheet designed since the last goals meeting. A check off sheet for training is also in use. Policy is in place for returning volunteers or volunteers transferring in from other agencies. A request was made for a check list for recruits to follow up on their training when transitioning from academy to stations.

A discussion regarding background checks, drug testing and physiological testing was postponed to be brought up in the Officers regular meeting.

- o Training opportunities beyond the basic level have improved but the lead time is often too short for members with family or job constraints.
- o The Committee responsible for the Public Feed Back Survey developed three or four questions but determined the probable lack of participation from the public made the project unpractical. Jerry Beck suggested passing out the survey at the

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County Fair in August. This was determined an ideal time and place for the survey.

- o Chief Smith will have the Sleeper Program developed when the Freeland and Clinton stations are completed.
- o The "300 Program" classes will start the end of July.

Chairman Helland thanked Darin Reid and Jerry Beck for the outstanding job on the District's Website. Commendation was also made to all those who have put to good use the laptop computer and power point program. Frank Mestemacher added how impressed he is with the quality and professionalism in the District's instructor and training. Far above industry standards in his experience.

The Standing Goals were then addressed:

- o Station apparatus photos will be taken August 7, 2001 at the Nichols Bros. Boatyard.
- o The explorations of satellite station sites in the general areas of Baby Island and Bailey's Corner need to continue.
- o The Aggressive Recruitment in 2000 was successful with 27 new members. The updated goal maybe to take a harder look at retention programs. The Awards Banquet was given kudos for its recognition of volunteers.
- o SOPs are in process.

Captain Simmons brought up the issue of emergency communications in the District. He was joined by the entire room in the complaints of the number of areas in the district with no radio/pager service as well as the mainland agency not respecting airways. A lengthy discussion followed in which Commissioner Elliot (ICOM alternate representative), Jerry Beck and Chief Smith worked on problem solving. Several alternatives will be researched.

IV. Announcements - No announcements.

V. Varia - No Varia.

VI. Executive session (if needed)- No Executive Session.

VII. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

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Paula Schuler  
District Secretary