



The Secretary now reads a letter from the Public Employees Retirement System stating acceptance of the District into the system and a letter from the State Examiner reporting on the audit of the District books for the years of 1973 & 1974. This report stated that the District finances were being handled in a satisfactory manner.

The Chief reads a letter from the Washington State Firefighters Association in regard to the Annual Conference at the Quay Inn in Vancouver, Wa. July 28 - 29 - 30 - 31. Registration fee for this is \$40.00.

The Chief now asks permission to attend the Chiefs Conference in Richland June 21 - 22 - 23. The Commissioners agree to this.

The Island County Auditor has arranged to use the Maxwellton station for forthcoming elections at an imbursement to the District of \$20.00 for use of the building. The Commissioners see no problems in use of this building by the County for this purpose.

The Chief reports that Scot Treggett, a District fireman, is furnishing and installing the formica on the upstairs serving counter at Freeland station.

Discussion now turns to District finances. The Secretary reports that we have \$9,312.75 left in our Capital outlay fund, excluding the Bond Issue money which is earmarked for specified purposes. The money to pick up the Public Employees Retirement System back payments for our employees and the District will have to come out of this fund. Also we are obligated for approximately \$2,000.00 for the air tanks and Scott air paks now on order. The Secretary stresses the need to hold the line on any purchases in this area until these obligations are met.

Mr. Gabelein now submits a price of \$90.30, including tax per unit for smoke detectors. There would be a minimum of four needed. Mr. McClellan feels that in light of the report on finances given by the Secretary, we should not consider purchasing smoke detectors at this time. The other Commissioners agree.

The Chief now turns discussion to the need for mobile radios. The Chairman feels consideration also should be given to the purchase of another base station, with the desirability of going to a higher powered unit for the main base station and use of the present base station for a backup in case of failure of main unit, with antenna and power switching arrangement included to place backup unit in service if needed. This switching arrangement to be operated from dispatch center. In stressing the need for higher power, vegetation growth, especially timber is resulting in poorer reception, with some borderline areas, also possibly a few dead spots. It is hoped that by next months meeting there will be available some approximate total costs for contracts on new Bayview station and Saratoga addition. This would shed more light on what money would be available for radio equipment.

There is some discussion by the Chairman and Mr. McClellan of the possible need in the future for a fire boat for areas that are inaccessible by road. We have several such areas in our District. Mr. McClellan also says he feels pre fire planning to be very important in fire department operation.

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At this time Mr. McClellan, who works for the Department of Natural Resources, says that he would like to have Assistant Chief Marvyn Berkeland attend the D. N. R. forest fire school in Olympia with him. This school will be May 18 - 19 - 20. The D. N. R. will pay the bill for Mr. Berkeland's attendance at this school and bill the District later for the three days at \$8.95 per day. All Commissioners agree to Mr. Berkeland attending this school.

The Chief says he did not take his second week of vacation in 1975 and hopes permission can be granted for him to take it this year. The Commissioners concur and permission is granted.

Business is now concluded and meeting is adjourned at 9:55 P. M.

*Ella E. Hunter*

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