

THURSTON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT THREE

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

May 4, 2023

Commissioner Kirkbride
Commissioner Gamble
Commissioner Hetzler
Commissioner Kelling
Commissioner Roberts

The meeting was held in person with limited attendance and is open to the public via the Zoom meeting platform. The meeting is being recorded.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM, followed with a salute to our Nation's Flag.

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: To approve the agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Hetzler
Second: Commissioner Kirkbride
Carried: Unanimous

III. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC /MEMBERS PRESENT

None.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. Draft minutes of the April 20th, 2023, meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

B. Warrants:

- General Fund 001 (Acct #6630) EFTs numbered 5182 through 5186; checks numbered 23510 through 23518; and draft number 1120 for a total amount of \$47,794.48.

- Reserve Fund 102 check number 23519 for a total amount of \$6,993.00.
- Equipment Repair and Replacement Fund 103 EFT number 5187 for a total amount of \$53,002.25.
- Capital Projects Fund 301 EFT number 5188 for a total amount of \$32,445.67.
- 2017B Capital Projects Fund 307 EFT number 5189 for a total amount of \$9,799.10.

C. Payroll 4B in the amount of \$567,358.54.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as published.

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Gamble

Carried: Unanimous

Chief Brooks reported that staff received one question regarding one of the warrants that was referenced for vehicle procurement for the Ford F150. That is a scheduled staff care replacement. That vehicle is assigned to the Assistance Chief of Logistics. The Battalion Chiefs use a pickup model to have the ability to isolate the cab from the gear, especially given the things hauled by the Logistics team. It will be outfitted similarly to the Battalion vehicle.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Thurston County Medic One

Commissioner Kirkbride reported from the initial EMS Council budget committee meeting:

- The budget committee will do a preliminary presentation at the next meeting with the goal of adoption in June.
- The projections for the next two-year cycle are to meet the budget requirements with the current tax interpretations while maintaining two months of reserve revenue.

B. Thurston 9-1-1 Communications (TCOMM)

Commissioner Roberts reported from the May 3rd meeting:

- Revenue is above budget. Expenditures are still under budget, with the exception of the administration, which continues to be due to one-time payments. It has gone down every month, with the expectation that by next month, that cost also will be under budget.
- The sales tax was 7.3% over year to date.
- Most of the meeting was dedicated to an update on TCERN. They are still anticipating the same cutover date. The project is planned to be complete towards the end of 2024. Cutover would be second quarter of 2024.

- Everything is going well with the civil site work. Regarding the site leases, there are still two remaining: the Dupont site as well as Fire Station 82. The Dupont site continued to be the most troublesome. Two of the three legs of what they need are completed now; still waiting on the JBLM process to complete the final steps.
- All portable chargers are now here and most have been installed, with just a few left to be installed.
- There is a new Deputy Director, Jonnica Elkins. She has been with TCOMM for over 27 years in different capacities.
- In January, TCOMM was down 15 FTE in the dispatch area. Currently down by 6. There are currently 3 in the academy that started on Monday. The hope is that by midyear, all positions will be filled.
- The backup center is up and running. It is being used for the academy and going well so far.
- House Bill 1055 was signed by the governor, which moves telecommunications from their current retirement system of PERS into the same one that first responders are in.
- The annual report, usually a multipage document which isn't distributed, was made available online as a trifold, very readable with good pictures.
- The next meeting will take place on June 7th.

C. City/District Liaison

Chief Brooks reported:

- Still waiting for a confirmation of next steps from the city regarding the city manager process. In talking with the interim city manager and staff, the anticipation is that the meetings will remain on the third Tuesday of every other month, placing the next scheduled meeting on June 20th.
- Chief Brooks has been asked to come and join Director Miller-Todd from Medic One, along with the CEO from Providence Southwest, at the board's workshop next Thursday night to discuss the healthcare capacity issues.

D. Thurston County Fire Commissioners Association

No report – the next meeting is on May 16th.

E. Thurston Regional Planning Council -

No report – the next meeting is May 5th.

F. Community Outreach

Chief Schmidt shared:

- Chris DeBell set up a safety talk with Alonda Village to speak with the community there. It was very well-attended and they were able to answer

many questions. There will be an event there with the Red Cross on June 10th, Sound The Alarm.

- There was also a presentation at Revel with good attendance and great questions.
- Chief Brooks shared that LFD3 will have a strong presence at the Lacey Fun Fair on May 20th and 21st.

G. Capital Facilities and Equipment Activities

Chief Cerovski shared:

- The chargers for the vehicle are being installed in the next 30-40 days.
- The VRF project continues to move at a slow pace. Still working on construction infrastructure elements.
- There will be improvements to the water line on Franz Street for Station 31 which will impact the facility for 12-16 hours when they shut the water down to replace some valving. There is no date for this yet; likely in June.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. Levy Lid Restoration:

- There is one required item of action remaining: the solicitation for and appointment of a For and Against committee structure. There was a discussion with legal counsel about the requirements. Last week, the solicitation was posted on the website. Three members have indicated their desire to serve on the For committee. Those individuals are Judy Wilson, Tom Carroll, and Paul Perz. There is a document required to be filed documenting the committee members. It is due to be filed by May 12th.
- Chief Cerovski suggested authorizing staff to appoint the citizens who have expressed interest in filing the paperwork.

MOTION: To authorize staff to proceed with solicitation and appointing members for the For and Against committees, as well as filling out the forms and sending them to the county auditor.

Motion: Commissioner Kirkbride

Second: Commissioner Hetzler

Carried: Unanimous

Commissioner Kelling added for the record that the committee members should be the ones to select the name of their committee.

B. Final Explanatory Statement Language:

- There were some minor revisions based on rule changes and other precedent language that was approved.
- The previous language in the levy rate had indicated that it was going to be restored to the maximum statutory limit of \$1.50. Legal counsel believed that

it was prudent and appropriate to instead say that it was restored to the previous \$1.50 versus indicating that it is the statutory maximum.

- That revision was submitted. Legal counsel did not expect any pushback from the county, but there is still a window of review.
- Working through the process started during the staff meeting earlier this week of preparing a mailing to be distributed district-wide to all residents. The goal is to be specific about what is being funded, targeting the additional aid unit. Staff's plan was to highlight the addition of an aid unit and finishing specific facility enhancements that might be required. The goal is to have the draft ready by the next meeting on May 18th.
- There was a meeting with the videographer who did the recruitment video, indicating the desire to do an informational video regarding the levy lid lift. They will be coming out on Monday and working with Chief Brooks, Chief Schmidt, and Chris DeBell to capture some footage. There may be a draft ready by the next meeting on May 18th.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. None.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Chief Brooks reported:

- There was a meeting with South Sound Behavioral Health's executive staff due to concerns and complaints. There was also a discussion with the city manager and the police chief. One of the issues is individuals inside the facility calling 911 using personal cell phones, which results in emergency services arriving and South Sound Behavioral Health having no knowledge of why emergency services are there. There is one area of the facility that is unrestricted for people who are staying at the facility using it as a hotel, with unrestricted access to phones.
- There was a discussion with TCOMM about finding a way for facility staff to be notified if someone on the premises calls 911. No solution for this has been found at this time.
- The executive director reached out to Chief Brooks to self-report after he knew there had been a breakdown in communication. There have been no definitive answers from Support Services about some of the open investigations still ongoing with the state and/or federal authorities regarding some of the concerns with an investigation that had been filed.
- Chief Schmidt has been working with the operations chief on a long-term pilot and trial of better leveraging the basic life support transport services. Olympic Ambulance has reached out specifically to LFD3, as their largest customer and their home base, about possible alternatives that are tailored more to the service area independent of the rest of the county. That proposal was submitted earlier today. It may or may not warrant further discussion. They are not asking for anything to be signed but are asking for input.
- Commissioner Kirkbride commented that prior to COVID, Chris Clem would occasionally give a report to LFD, which was found to be very helpful and

informative. It would be helpful to invite the new director every three to four months to give an update.

- Four new paramedic lieutenants were appointed earlier this week and have all worked a shift in their new roles. Chief Schmidt is in discussions with them about their pinning ceremonies, which will likely take place on May 18th if acceptable to the board.
- Director Huff was able to share the first third of the year financials.

IX. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Kirkbride – introduced the rotary club to the new logo. It would be appropriate to tell the people in the district how the logo has evolved. It would be good to get permission from the city to hang a banner at the College Street banner location to announce the new logo. Chief Brooks suggested this could take place with the 75th Anniversary.

Commissioner Gamble – no comments.

Commissioner Hetzler – no comments.

Commissioner Kelling – appreciate the logo wear and looking forward to wearing it.

Commissioner Roberts – also appreciates the logo wear.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

- None.

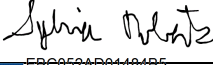
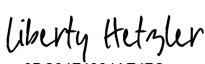
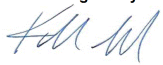
XI. HEARING OF THE PUBLIC / MEMBERS PRESENT

- None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned as of 6:05 PM.

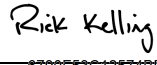
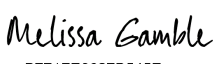
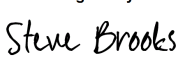
***Next Regular Meeting: May 18th, 2023 – 5:30 p.m.
Available via remote meeting.***

DocuSigned by:

EB0052AD01404B5...
Chair
DocuSigned by:

8DC34F43847AE47C...
Commissioner
DocuSigned by:

44E68B53AB35453...
Commissioner

6/1/2023

5/19/2023

5/18/2023

DocuSigned by:

8790E53C12574BB...
Vice Chair
DocuSigned by:

B771FE0627B545E...
Commissioner
DocuSigned by:

55172ED042B846B...
ATTEN: District Secretary

6/4/2023

5/18/2023

5/18/2023