



## **Draft Business Meeting Minutes, December 9, 2020**

**BVFF Committee:** Molly, Chief Andrews, Bill and Karen (recorder) were present. Carsen Smith was not in attendance.

BVFF charges in the amount of \$755.55 were approved for ongoing Howard claim.

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm on video conference using Zoom app, with a link posted for public access. Present were Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, and Commissioners Michelle Adie, Molly Olson, Doug Rupp and Leigh Christianson. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Assistant Chief Ernie Walters, Division Chief Jarrod Spence, Captain Rob Thurston, Captain Brandon Vargas, Captain Scott Coulson, Pete Parrish and Secretary Karen McPeters (recorder).

**Public Commentary:** No public

### **EXECUTIVE**

**COVID REPORT** - One of our members tested positive for COVID infection, believed to be an off duty exposure. Subsequently he exposed 12 other members of our department who then needed to quarantine. 7 members were exposed while at the fire station or on duty and 5 are believed to have been exposed off duty, Tuesday. After contacting all involved, it was determined that 5 of our firefighters did not have a place to quarantine so were quarantined at Index Resident house with specific instructions on quarantine. All have now tested negative and returned to work.

We do have another positive test case with one of our medics that appears to be workplace exposure while working at Everett Fire and he will be quarantined. At this point we do not believe that any other members of our department meet the criteria for quarantine. All stations were sanitized with misters after exposure and after quarantine. We have initiated additional measures at our fire stations for all members. If you do not need to visit one of the stations please refrain from any visit. Entry is now controlled from one point in the station and on duty firefighters shall wear N95 masks when in proximity (6ft) of other persons in the fire station. Response to alarms has gone back to level 3 precautions county wide which calls for N95 masks, eye protection, gloves and disposable medical gowns.

We believe that all Firefighter / EMS will be in class 1A to receive a vaccine, but there are side effects that mimic the flu that can affect up to 50% of those receiving the vaccine. Reportedly this is short lived but not all can get a vaccine at the same time even if it is available. Vaccine availability could be up to two months and then the most current vaccines require a two dose inoculation that has to be a minimum of 21 days apart.

We have had several of our folks step up and fill in on last minute staffing shifts and response to alarms. I cannot say enough about our members that just seem to continue to give so much time to make sure we keep providing a quality service.

**Budget** – Tonight is the closing of the 2020 budget expenses. We have a very good revenue report that shows most areas have exceeded predictions and more revenue will come in before the end of the month.

**Snohomish County Fire Chiefs** - The Snohomish County Fire Chiefs continue to work cooperatively with the county on the purchase of COVID PPE. We are in pretty good shape with the exception of a glove shortage.

**Non Voted Bonds** – I have the application in hand for the state public bonds sale. The next sale that we can get in on will be for funding in June 2021

## **OPERATIONS**

**Asst. Chief Walters** – Chief Walters is home and doing much better from his recent surgery. He plans to do some administrative work from home when he feels up to it and hopefully back to regular work in 7 weeks. A big thanks to Brandon Vargas for stepping up and handling many ops needs. Schuyler Murphy and several others have also helped while Ernie is out.

**New SCBA's** - We now have all the SCBA supplies needed to place units in service and expect to be finished this week.

**Station improvements** - Station 54 had its shower stalls completely replaced and additional plumbing for a bottle fill station. Ernie has continued to work on planning for other improvements.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Training** – The EMT class is going to begin with several safety measures for COVID. It will be held at Station 53 instead of Station 54 to allow for the safety measures.

**Track skid steer** – Jarrod is working on the purchase of a used track skid steer like the present one being rented. The rental cost is approximately \$4,800 per month. Jarrod has some quotes in the area of \$25,000 for a used unit. The Chief asked Jarrod to get bids and complete that purchase as soon as possible to eliminate the current high rental fees that should go towards that purchase.

## **EMS**

The MSO's have been very busy working on our COVID exposures. Captain Simmons serves as our infection control officer as well as EMS training captain. Pete Parrish is in charge of supplies and working on the pass medic program. Both Joe and Pete have been putting in many extra hours in response to COVID challenges and all of our other EMS needs.

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## Secretary's Report

Thanks to Brandon for auditing point sheets and helping with the BVFF personnel list while Chief Walters is out. The Systems Design report and run totals are available for review.

## Budget

Currently at 100%.

Minutes: Molly moved to approve the November minutes. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Vouchers: Bill moved to approve vouchers 528 through 578 for \$141,734.90. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Bill moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$98,253.64. With a second from Doug, the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Christianson reported on Sno Isle Commissioners' Association meeting attended, and the WFCAs plans to have their regional meeting in person in June in Chelan at this point. They are recruiting members for a legislative committee, if any are interested.

Regular meeting adjourned at 7:55 for 15 minutes for the purpose of reviewing staff performance.

Executive Session began 7:55.

Executive Session end time 8:06

Resumption of business meeting 8:06

Bill moved to approve 2021 staff contracts for the Chief, Assistant Chief and Secretary. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Bill moved to authorize the Chief to sign the addendums for the Assistant Chief and Secretary on behalf of the board of commissioners, and himself signed the addendum for the Chief's contract on behalf of the board.

Next meeting January 13, on Zoom.

Adjournment 8:23 pm

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