



THURSTON COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS 1 & 11  
**WEST THURSTON REGIONAL FIRE  
AUTHORITY**



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Olympia WA 98512  
360.352.1614

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July 10, 2023 – Governing Board Business Meeting at 18720 Sargent Rd SW, Rochester, WA St. 1-1

**Call to Order/Attendance:** Commissioner Dahl called the meeting to order at 17:00 hours.

**Commissioners:** Elkins (Zoom), Dahl, Culleton, Ricks, Pethia, and Jernigan.

**Chief:** R. Smith,

**Battalion Chief:** R. Stone

**Captains:** B. Christianson (Zoom)

**Lieutenants:** M. Morales (Zoom), E. Palmerson

**Firefighters:** J. Hoskinson, R. Santee, T. Sexton, D. Miller

**Volunteer:** Lt. J. Spiegelberg (Zoom)

**Admin:** Admin Svcs Director/Secretary S. Hemminger, Admin Asst. L. Patraca

**Union Representative:** Lt. Garza

**Guests:** Emily Morales (Zoom), K. O’Sullivan, Sarah Fox

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:** Chief Smith requested moving Jacob Nelson badge pinning to directly after the Executive Session.

**Public Comments/Presentations:**

Sarah Fox – Interested in a Commissioner position in Dist. 11.

- 1. Executive Session:** The board called for a 30-minute executive session at 1715. THE PURPOSE OF THIS EXECUTIVE SESSION IS PURSUANT TO RCW 42.30.110 (1)(I) TO DISCUSS WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REPRESENTING THE AGENCY LITIGATION OR LEGAL RISKS OF A PROPOSED ACTION OR CURRENT PRACTICE THAT THE AGENCY HAS IDENTIFIED WHEN PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF THE LITIGATION OR LEGAL RISKS IS LIKELY TO RESULT IN AN ADVERSE LEGAL OR FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCE TO THE AGENCY. THE DURATION OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION IS SET AT 30 MINUTES BUT THIS MAY BE EXTENDED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER. ACTION MAY OR MAY NOT BE TAKEN AFTER THE BOARD RECONVENES INTO REGULAR SESSION, AND NO ACTION SHALL BE TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

17:40 hours the Executive Session was extended for 30 additional minutes.

17:56 hours the Executive Session was concluded with no action taken.

Commissioner Dahl called the regular Board Meeting into session at 18:00 hours.

**Badge Pinning:** Jacob Nelson was sworn in and presented his badge by Chief Smith.

**Labor Management:** Lt. Garza reported that Levy Lid Lift signs are going up around the district, as well as a newsletter going out in the mail by July 14, 2023. If interested in sign waiving, contact Lt. Garza. Lt. Garza also

shared that one of our firefighter's wives is very ill fighting cancer and was hospitalized while out of State and needs a medical flight home. The Local Union 3825 is taking donations to help with expenses.

**New Business:**

1. Expenditure Approval. Commissioner Jernigan moved to approve the total expenditure amount of \$495,851.05. Commissioner Ricks seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Meeting Minutes.
  - A. Commissioner Pethia moved to approve the general board meeting minutes from June 12, 2023. Commissioner Ricks seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.
3. Resolution 2023-008 Levy Lid Lift General Election – Shannon presented Resolution 2023-008, Levy Lid Lift General Election. This resolution is to be filed by August 1, 2023, for the general election in November 2023, should the current Levy Lid Lift fail on August 1, 2023. Commissioner Jernigan moved to approve Resolution 2023-007. Commissioner Elkins seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0
4. Asst. Fire Chief Job Posting Aug 2023 – Chief Smith requests permission to post the Asst. Fire Chief position at the end of August 2023. Commissioner Dahl recommends starting the process with a review of the job description by the Commissioners prior to the August 2023 Board meeting.

**Unfinished Business (action items):**

1. Volunteer Rate Comparison. Chief Smith provided a handout. Commissioner Dahl suggests the Department match the highest paying agency at \$160.00 per 24hr shift and \$50.00 per transport. Chief Smith advised he would look into the financial viability and policy update for the August 2023 Board meeting.

**Unfinished Business (non-action items):** None

**Communications:**

1. June 2023 Thurston County Treasurers report presented.
2. June 2023 Budget Report presented.

**Chief/Training/EMS Reports:** Refer to printed reports.

Chief Smith reported that crews responded to 274 calls in June (average of 9 calls per day) and 45.62% of the time they were managing more than one call at a time. The crews responded to 12 fire calls: 3 building fires, 1 vehicle/heavy equipment fires, and 8 brush fires. Crews also attended 202 EMS calls of which 12 were motor vehicle accidents, and 60 others (details can be found on page six).

**Commissioner Reports:** Commissioner Ricks reported that Medic One is in final review of their budget before submitting to the Thurston County Commissioners. Thurston County has excess Covid funds and will give Medic One \$1.6 million to bridge the budget shortfall.


**Good of the Order:**

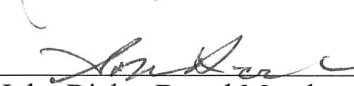
**Adjournment:** The board adjourned the meeting at 18:30 hours.

Submitted for Board approval by:

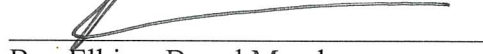
  
Shannon Hemminger, Secretary

  
Tom Culleton, Board Member

  
Dave Pethia, Board Member

  
John Ricks, Board Member

  
Calvin Dahl, Board Member

  
Ben Elkins, Board Member

  
Jeff Jernigan, Board Member