



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



10828 Littlerock Rd SW
Olympia WA 98512
360.352.1614

February 13, 2023 – Governing Board Business Meeting at 10828 Littlerock Rd SW, Olympia (St. 1-2)

Call to Order/Attendance: Commissioner Elkins called the meeting to order at 17:00 hours, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners: Elkins, Culleton, Dahl, Ricks, Pethia and Jernigan.

Chief: Smith, Stone.

Captains: Christianson (Zoom)

Union Representative Lt. Garza, Trautman.

Lieutenants: Palmerson, Lyon.

Firefighters: Hull, Dean (Zoom), Santee (Zoom), Kaleiwahea (Zoom), Matson (Zoom), Station 1-1 (Zoom)

Volunteer: Spiegelberg.

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

Guests: Billie Erickson, Donna Weaver, Kathy Hangardner, Jenifer Whisler, Wava Garza.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: Chief Smith requested Public Consulting Group's \$7500.00 Consulting Contract be added to new business.

Public Comments/Presentations:

1. Jennifer Whisler – Addressed her concerns for Public and First Responder safety with regard to McNeil Island Correctional Facility relocating Level 3 Sex Offenders to 140th Ave SW.
2. Jennifer Whisler – Expressed her concern with the closure of the Maytown Fire Station and extended response times.
3. Donna Weaver – Follow up from her concerns address at the Dec 2022 Board Meeting about social media and Chehalis Tribe. A suggestion was made to be part of a community newsletter.

Labor Management: Lt. Garza reported two RIF positions are vacant due to loss of personnel and will continue with temp positions for coverage.

New Business:

1. Expenditure Approval. Commissioner Dahl moved to approve the total expenditure amount of \$524,842.72, Commissioner Ricks seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0. Commissioner Dahl requested further review of the PSE and Propane expenses, with a suggestion of putting a meter on the propane to rule out a leak.
2. Meeting Minutes.
 - A. Commissioner Jernigan moved to approve the board meeting minutes from January 9, 2023. Commissioner Culleton seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.
 - B. Commissioner Jernigan moved to approve the special meeting minutes from January 17, 2023. Commissioner Culleton seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

C. Commissioner Jernigan moved to approve the special meeting minutes from January 26, 2023.

Commissioner Culleton seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Resolution #2023-002 Surplus Equipment – Shannon H. presented equipment for surplus, Commissioner Dahl moved to approve the surplus of a laptop and radios; Commissioner Jernigan seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0
4. Board Workshop – Board Workshop set for February 21st, 2023, at 1500 hours at Commissioner Dahl's residence, agenda to be established and posted.
5. Public Consulting Group – Chief Smith presented an estimate from PCG for \$7500.00 to evaluate current funding sources, alternative funding options, develop and administer a public survey in support of WTRFA, and form a communications plan and strategy for the upcoming ballot measure. Commissioner Pethia requested a copy of the contract and Commissioner Elkins requested this item be tabled until the workshop meeting on February 21, 2023.

Unfinished Business (action items):

1. Increase to non-resident transport rate – Commissioner Dahl suggested no increase to non-resident transport rates, so no action was taken.

Unfinished Business (non-action items):

1. Vehicle Maintenance options – Linda Shea reported that other maintenance shops (Thurston County, Centralia-Chehalis Co-Op) were contacted with no response. Neighboring fire districts use either in-house mechanic (approximately \$140k/yr) or the City of Olympia shop (2022 costs est. \$130k). Recommendation was made to remain with the City of Olympia shop for the best service and rates, to which the board agreed.

Communications:

1. January 2023 Thurston County Treasurers report was presented.
2. February 2023 Budget Report was presented.
3. Letters of Appreciation were sent by Chief Smith to other agency partners who responded to the Sherman Valley Ranch Fire. TComm presented a thank you letter to WTRFA regarding the Sherman Valley Ranch Fire.

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

1. Chief Smith reported the crews responded to 237 calls in January (average of 7 calls per day) and 27% of the time they were managing more than one call. The crews responded to 3 fire calls, of which 2 were residential structure fires, with one involving 5 fatalities and the other fire a fully involved outbuilding. Crews also responded to 201 EMS calls and 33 other response types. The department was forced to make operation changes due to numerous other factors including the impact of valuable FF/EMT's leaving as Reduction in Force (RIF) notices were issued at the end of December to half the department's force.

Commissioner Reports:

1. Commissioner Ricks reported Medic 1 appointed a new Director (Ben Miller-Todd), and a budget committee has been formed as Medic 1 may lose some funding in 2023.
2. Commissioner Ricks reported that Firefighter/EMT Tom Sexton is receiving a certificate as a Senior EMT Evaluator through Medic 1.
3. Hazard Mitigation Committee – Commissioner Pethia reported they will be meeting on Monday, February 27th, 2023.

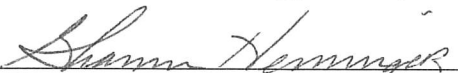
4. Chief Smith reported the Thurston County Conservation Dist. in partnership with DNR will be working with select fire departments, who have the highest wildfire risk area (WTRFA), in securing a grant that will provide reimbursement to WTRFA for providing home firewise visits.

Good of the Order:

1. Snure Winter Webinar – To be sent out to the crew for interest in attending.
2. PDC filing reminder – F-1 reports due April 15th.
3. Annual Awards Banquet – Reminder all nominations need to be submitted by February 28th.

Adjournment: The board adjourned the meeting at 1837 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