



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

10828 Littlerock Rd SW
Olympia WA 98512
360.352.1614



October 11, 2021 – Governing Board Business Meeting at Littlerock Rd station.

Call to Order/Attendance: Commissioner Dahl called the meeting to order at 18:00 hours. Commissioners Elkins (*via Zoom*), Pethia and Ricks, Chiefs Kaleiwahea, Scott, R. Smith and R. Stone (*via Zoom*), Captain Dyer, Union Representative Lt. Garza, FFs Bennett, Drake, and Spiegelberg (*via Zoom*), and Secretary Linda Shea were present. Commissioners Culleton and Jernigan, and Admin Assistant Linda Patraca were absent.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda: None.

Public Comments/Presentations: Linda S. presented the 2022 Budget for public comment, highlighting the major changes from the version presented to the board at the September 13 board meeting:

- Linda S. recommended a change in funding the purchase of new SCBAs to avoid a price increase in November, and due to an unsuccessful bid for federal grant funds. The recommended option was to finance the SCBA purchase in lieu of setting aside funds for the next four budget cycles. The board asked if early-payoff of the debt was an option; Linda will confirm. Commissioner Pethia moved to proceed with financing the SCBA purchase. Commissioner Ricks seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- A new project position (Information, Outreach, and Emergency Operations Coordinator) was added to the budget. This position would focus on developing and coordinating public outreach information and opportunities. This position would also focus on researching grant and alternative funding options for the department. The board agreed with this approach and the hiring of this project position.

No public comment was received. It was recommended a board workshop would be helpful to review the budget in more detail, and to prioritize projects based on need and available funding. Linda S will send dates for consideration.

Labor Management: Lt. Garza reported an MOU extension is in the works to allow the continuing backfill of a temporary FF for FF Peoples who remains out on LNI worker's compensation leave. He also reported he anticipates minimal impacts to staffing from the governor's COVID-19 vaccination mandate.

New Business:

1. Expenditure Approval. Commissioner Ricks moved to approve the expenditures of \$543,256.30. Commissioner Pethia seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
2. Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Elkins moved to approve the minutes of September 13, 2021. Commissioner Pethia seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Purchase Request: Chief Scott presented the following purchase updates/requests:
 - a. Brush Truck. He reported the RFQ has been sent out for bids, deadline for receiving sealed bids is October 29, to be opened November 1. He will present a recommendation at the November board meeting.

- b. Cellular Phone Boosters. He reported the cost was higher than expected, and will attempt to have the work performed in-house.
- c. Floor Maintenance. He reported that two bids were received, and recommended going with the lowest bidder (\$1,120). The board suggested checking with Chris Heilman to see if he could perform this work vs. hiring an external contractor. Chief Scott will talk to Chris.
- d. Landscape Sprinkler Installation/Maintenance. He reported the cost was higher than expected, so will not be pursuing the installation of new landscape sprinklers at stations 2, 3 and 6. Maintenance will be performed on station 1's system as needed.

Further discussion was held on the facility maintenance project list, which Chief Scott confirmed is reviewed on a regular basis with Chris. Commissioner Dahl would like the board members to consider selecting a station to visit at the beginning of the year to continue their efforts of reviewing them for maintenance needs.

Unfinished Business (action items): None.

Unfinished Business (nonaction items):

1. Chehalis Tribe negotiations. Chief Kaleiwahea reported he has received no feedback from the tribe, meaning no agreement has been reached. Further discussion about next steps will be held at the board workshop.
2. Weyerhaeuser agreement. Chief Kaleiwahea reported no update. Commissioner Dahl asked this agenda item to be removed and for Chief Kaleiwahea to update the board as appropriate.
3. Maytown well. Chief Kaleiwahea reported he has been unable to reach the driller or Insight Geologic for a report. Next step is to send a certified letter to Insight Geologic and contact a different contractor to complete the work.

Communications:

1. Thurston County Treasurer September 2021 reports were presented as per RCW 52.16.050(4).
2. October 2021 budget reports were presented. Linda S. is estimating \$400k higher fund balance than projected in the budget, due to slight underspending and higher-than-projected GEMT/Wildland Mobilization revenues.

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

1. Chief Kaleiwahea thanked Lt. Garza for his leadership role in helping department personnel comply with the governor's COVID-19 vaccination mandate.
2. Chief Kaleiwahea thanked Captain Dyer for procuring COVID-19 rapid tests through the Dept of Health (960 free tests.) He will provide future direction on how these tests can be used within the department and for family members.
3. Chief Kaleiwahea expressed his appreciation for Chris Heilman's work in getting the HAM radio antennas installed at station 1-1.
4. Chief Smith reported that incident volume is up 20%, with 40% of the department calls overlapping.
5. Chief Smith commended Captain Dyer for completing the Master PIO training.
6. Chief Scott reported the new tender will most likely be delayed due to the manufacturer's inability to procure parts.
7. Chief Scott reported the wildland team decided against purchasing a new vehicle for use by Strike Team Leaders on wildland mobilizations, and advised that surplus rigs will be used for that purpose as they become available.

8. Captain Dyer reported that FF Sexton has offered to put together a study program for the personnel attending EMT training.


Commissioner Reports:

1. Commissioners Pethia and Ricks reported no response from their commissioner group letters to the insurance board and the governor.

Good of the Order: None.

Adjournment: The board adjourned the meeting at 19:16 hours.

Submitted for Board approval by:


Linda Shea, 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

