



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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August 30, 2022 – Governing Board Workshop at 18720 Sargent Rd SW (Grand Mound 1-1 station)

**Call to Order/Attendance:** Commissioner Pethia called the meeting to order at 16:00 hours. Commissioners Culleton, Dahl, Elkins, Jernigan (via Zoom), and Ricks, Chiefs Scott, R. Smith and R. Stone, Captains Christenson, Drake, and Dyer, Volunteer BCs Fitzgerald and Frasl, Union Representative Lt. Garza, Lt. Morales, FFs Dean, Devert (via Zoom), Fox, Hall, Kaleiwahea (via Zoom), Santee, Sexton, Singleton, Trautman, and White, Volunteers S. Giordano and J. Spiegelberg (via Zoom), Chris Heilman, Admin Assistant Linda Patraca, Secretary Linda Shea and guests former Chief Larry Dibble, Vivian Eason, former WTRFA Commissioner John Jones, Dave Kolar, Kevin O’Sullivan were present.

**Additions/Deletions to the Agenda:** Commissioner Pethia requested that two items be removed from the agenda (Interim Chief contract amendment and Administrative Services Director contract).

**Public Comments/Presentations:** None.

**New Business:**

1. Administrative Services Director (contract review removed from agenda). Linda S. reported that an employment offer had been made to Shannon Hemminger, the top candidate for her replacement following an interview process with a panel and Chief Smith. Her hire date is October 10.
2. August 22, 2022 workshop minutes approval. Commissioner Elkins moved to approve the 8/22/22 workshop minutes. Commissioner Culleton seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

**Old Business:**

3. 2023-2026 Levy Outreach Strategy. Chief Smith distributed the 2023-2026 M&O Levy Plan and Process document. He noted that he volunteered to be the Point of Contact (POC), and discussion ensued about the best person(s) to be delegated. The board recommended one POC for the department, other than the chief. Chief Stone reported that the union has taken steps to begin a campaign and delegating duties for the union personnel. Commissioner Dahl cautioned the group to remember what is allowable under Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) regulations. Chief Scott appreciated the participation from the community. A sign-up sheet was sent around for personnel to sign up to assist with the campaign (off department property and time.)
4. 2023 Budget options. Linda S. asked for board direction on which budget options should be considered based on levy success/failure. Discussion was held on issues that need to be considered (What levy rate is acceptable? Do we spend down reserves?) The board agreed to a budget assuming the levy passes in the February special election at the lower levy rate (\$1.29), using reserves to maintain as much staffing as possible without running into a deficit situation. The board was clear that if the special election levy doesn’t

*continued*

2023 Budget options continued.

pass, they do not support running the levy a fourth time, and the department will have to live within its means (which will require layoffs, closing of stations, etc.)

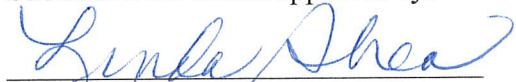
Linda S. requested a second workshop to review a draft budget based on the board's direction, so that a final budget can be presented at the September board meeting for one final review. She noted the October workshop will be the presentation of the budget for public comment, with final budget documents approved and signed at the November board meeting. A second workshop was scheduled for Sept 6 at 5:00 PM.

The question was raised on what happens if one district's levy passes and the other district's levy fails. Commissioner Ricks believes the money cannot be accepted due to statutes against the subsidization of other governments. Linda S. will confirm with the Department of Revenue.

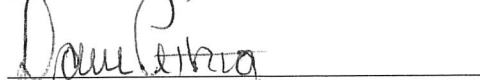
**Good of the Order:** Linda S. updated the board on a commendation that Captain Christenson is working on, for the citizens who assisted on a July 3 motor vehicle accident. They plan to bring the citizens to the October board meeting for recognition.

**Adjournment:** The board adjourned the general meeting at 16:56 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