

**VASHON ISLAND FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

Minutes

Date: 11/17/15

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: 10020 SW Bank Rd., Vashon, EOC

SPECIAL MEETING

- 1 **Present:** Hank Lipe, Chief
2 Candy McCullough, Chair
3 Rex Stratton, Commissioner
4 Camille Staczek, Commissioner
5 Ron Turner, Commissioner
6 George Brown, Assistant Chief
7 Avi Rana, Minute Taker
8 **Absent:** George Brown, Assistant Chief
9 David Hoffmann, Vice-Chair
10 **Guests:** Brigitte Schran-Brown, Randy Tonkin, Editor Anneli Fogt, Peter Lake, Barbara Huff

11 **Public Meeting on the 2016 Budget**

- 12 • The Budget represents a full year of expected revenue from King County Medic One. All of
13 the money is accounted for, there is no cash reserve. Expenses are balanced with project
14 revenues.
15 • The general fire levy rates for 2016 is \$1.06 per \$1000 of the assed value, and the County
16 EMS Levi is \$0.33.
17 • In general, the fire district acquires money through general tax levy, the district levy, contract
18 with the king county, cell tower rental, our facilities and room rental, donations and grants.
19 • By subtracting the grant and ALS transfer (as it is a onetime transaction), you can see the
20 increase in revenue and expenses of 3.12%
21 • Major categories of the expenses are Suppression and ENS, followed by administrative and
22 capital expediters. Wages including full timers and volunteers makes about 79% of the total
23 budget. Based on the Seattle-Tacoma-Bremerton CPI-W, there will be a 1.5% COLA for all
24 non-union, contractual employees.
25 • Administration: The budget reflects maintaining two administrative assistants, downsizing
26 from last year.

- 27 • Insurance: There are no increases in any of the employee benefit plans, however there is an
28 increase for the L&I premiums. Barbara Huff would like to add that L&I also increases the
29 firefighter's rate, it's not just due to our ratings, and firefighters are already categorized in
30 higher classification.
- 31 • Cost of Suppression charges are forecasted to increase 3.8%. Increase in overtime has been
32 budgeted as well as costs for new wildland fire equipment and maintaining replacement for
33 personal protective equipment.
- 34 • Our dispatch numbers are projected to go up. The rates itself is the same with Valley
35 Communications, however it is charged on per call bases, and we are projecting higher
36 number of calls in 2016.
- 37 • EMS is up 1.91%. Since we didn't get the headsets in the aid cars yet, this cost is budget into
38 next year's budget.
- 39 • We are going to experience changes in the medical program directorship, which will also be
40 carried over to next year.
- 41 • Largest increases can be seen in Volunteer Stipends based on volume & participation, as well
42 as an increase in funding for Part-time Retention & Recruitment Coordinator. Training is
43 another increase due to the success of the Explorers program, an external training program
44 maintained by the volunteers.
- 45 • The membership cost for all the full time Firefighters, EMTs and paramedic firefighters to
46 the South King County Fire Training Consortium is \$88,000 for the full year. It is a highly
47 recognized training, it standardizes training throughout the South King County, which we are
48 a part of.
- 49 • Forecasting 5.44% increase in the facilities, mainly due to the replacement of the lawn tractor
50 that is used in all of our facilities. A modest 1.8% increase in the maintenance of all our
51 vehicles, as they are getting old, the cost to fix them is getting more expensive.
- 52 • Disaster services maintains a very good relationship with Vashon BePrepared. We still have
53 some funding left for another CERT Training program.
- 54 • Our capital exponders are valued highly. We have 90% grant funded, Federal Grant for the
55 replacement of the self-contained breathing apparatuses.
- 56 • Costs budgeted for 2016: Burton Station's roof, security upgrades, replacement of two aid
57 vehicles. The ALS Equipment reserve fund has a balance of \$90,000 transfer on the revenue
58 side, and will go towards the paying for the two vehicles.

59 Comments

- 60 • A concern was raised regarding acquiring new equipments from South King Consortium.
61 Some stations have benefitted from getting 6 aid cars rather than purchasing few of their
62 own. Chief would like to say that we do have ability to sign local agreements to join those
63 agreements, however that has not been looked into, as we actually get very low rates through
64 an interlocal agreement.
- 65 • There is no news in the transfer of the medics to King County. Chief Lipe has only gotten
66 tidbits of information from various people with no definite answer. They are still in
67 negotiation with the union, one meeting has been scheduled before the holidays. Currently

68 we don't have any news on availability the funding (which we have now, but maybe gone
69 once the transfer is complete).

70 **General Comments:**

- 71 • There was an exit interview today, we got a clean audit once again. There was no issue raised
72 other than a better record of the credit card expenditures.
- 73 • EMT Brigitte Schran-Brown would like to know when we are slated for the new aid raid.
74 According to the Chief, it was supposed to happen now, this year, but we do not have the
75 funding for it. More discussion is needed on the replacement of the aid car vehicles. EMT
76 Brown is in the process of finding grants to cover future costs such as these and would
77 appreciate any leads.

78 Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

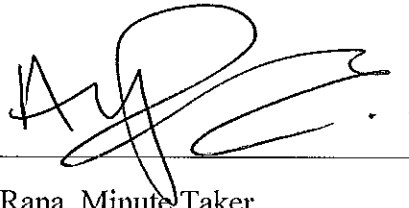
79 *The next Regular Meeting will be on 11/24/15 at 6:30 p.m. at 10020 SW Bank Rd, Vashon, EOC Room*

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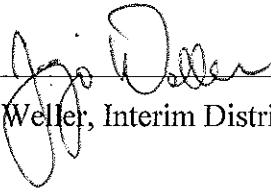
Approved this 8 day of December, 2015.



Candy McCullough, Chair



Avi Rana, Minute Taker



Jojo Weller, Interim District Secretary