

1 **Vashon Island Fire & Rescue**
2 **BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
3 **Penny Farcy Training Center**
4 January 2, 2007

5
6 Commissioner Turner called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Commissioners present
7 were Nielsen, Turner, Hoffmann and Sommers.

8
9 All who wished stood and said the Pledge Allegiance.

10
11 Commissioner Sommers moved to approve the minutes for December 5, 11, and 20, 2006
12 as presented. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. All Commissioners present
13 voted in favor.

14
15 Commissioner Hoffmann moved to approve the vouchers as listed below. Commissioner
16 Nielsen seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

17
18 Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer required by RCW 42.24.080 and
19 those expenses reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been
20 recorded on the listing which has been made available to the Board. As of this date,
21 January 2, 2007 the Board does approve for payment those vouchers included below.
22 Including \$131,666.72 paid for payroll.

23
24 Vouchers 1200014 – 1200026 for the amount of \$29,071.38

25 Vouchers 1200027 – 1200071 for the amount of \$5,310.00

26 Vouchers 1200072 – 1200100 for the amount of \$18,320.61

27 Vouchers 1200101 – 1200124 for the amount of \$37,399.20

28 Vouchers 1200125 – 1200135 for the amount of \$17,958.26

29
30 Commissioner Turner added an executive session to the agenda. Commissioner Nielsen
31 stated that no decisions would be made after the executive session.

32
33 Volunteer Representative

34
35 Volunteer representative Charles Krimmert announced the following were elected to the
36 Firefighters Association Board; Charles Krimmert – President; Mikael Schlossman –
37 Vice President, Dave Sova – Treasurer, Amelia Watson – Secretary, Casey Westphal –
38 and Michael Rugg - volunteer representative for the Board of Commissioners, and
39 Michael Rugg for the Board of Volunteer Firefighters.

40
41 Paid Staff

42
43 Paid staff had no comment.
44
45
46

1 Chief's Report

2
3 The Chief's report was handed out. Chief Yamane reported that the Paramedic exchange
4 program with Redmond Fire will not start for another month. Stan Horan's retirement
5 party will be January 22 at 7:30 in the Firefighters Association building.
6 The District is planning an EMT class in the spring and a recruit academy in the fall of
7 2007.

8
9 Financial Report

10
11 The Finance Director, Matt Sullivan, said that at the second meeting in February he will
12 present a 2006 year-end report. Commissioner Sommers asked to have the Disaster
13 Preparedness expenses separated out as its own category. Mr. Sullivan agreed to compile
14 a separate report summarizing the Disaster Preparedness expenses.

15
16 **Old Business**

17
18 Board Chair

19
20 Commissioner Nielsen nominated Commissioner Turner for Board Chair. Commissioner
21 Sommers seconded the nomination. All Commissioners present voted in favor.
22 Commissioner Sommers nominated Commissioner Hoffmann to serve as Vice Chair.
23 Commissioner Nielsen seconded the nomination. All Commissioners present voted in
24 favor.

25
26 Review unfinished business

27
28 Commissioner Nielsen gave an update on the Crowley Tugs invoice negotiations.

29
30 Volunteer Retention

31
32 Chief Yamane addressed *Volunteer retention* and reported that there are 22 people in the
33 application process; six of those are Vashon residents.

34
35 Commissioner Turner asked why volunteers are not responding. He referred to several
36 surveys that the District has had done on the issue. Chief Yamane said this was a topic
37 for the quality control committee.

38
39 Mr. Krimmert, President of the Vashon Firefighters Association, said that the Vashon
40 Firefighters Association has discussed this issue. He said some of the issues are old
41 school and new school of volunteers, those that were members before the District became
42 a combination department and those that came after. The volunteer duty program is good
43 for some but a burden for him.

44
45 Commissioner Sommers asked if it would help to spread out training.

1 Mr. Krimmert said that no, he would like to see training packed into one training.

2
3 Commissioner Turner suggested having a meeting where volunteer retention was the only
4 topic.

5
6 Assistant Chief's Contract

7
8 Chief Yamane proposed an extension to the Assistant Chief's contract. The original
9 contract was for two months and expires in the next few days. He would like to renew it
10 for two months. Commissioner Nielsen moved to extend Assistant Chief Kirk's contract
11 until the District formalizes an agreement with a new Assistant Chief. Commissioner
12 Hoffmann seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

13
14 Report on Committees

15
16 Chief Yamane reported that Susan Wolf was writing a press release for the Beachcomber
17 to solicit public participation and he has received three requests from volunteers and paid
18 staff to be on the Planning Committee. The first meeting should be in a couple of weeks.

19
20 Commissioner Sommers asked to be an observer on the committee.

21
22 Audit Reports

23
24 Matt Sullivan, Finance Director, presented the two current Audit Reports. The reports
25 gave the Fire District a glowing report on finance and accountability.

26
27 Washington State Ferries Letter

28
29 Mr. Sullivan presented a letter he wrote to the Washington State Ferries (WSF). The
30 letter asks to commence negotiations on a written contract for services between the WSF
31 and the fire District, which is required by state law.

32
33 Commissioner Sommers moved to send the Washington State Ferries Letter with copies
34 of the letter to Washington State Representatives. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the
35 motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

36
37
38 **New Business**

39
40 Mr. Sullivan submitted Resolution 07-286 approving an agent to receive claims for the
41 District. Commissioner Nielsen moved to authorize Resolution 07-286 as presented.
42 Commissioner Sommers seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in
43 favor.

1 Disaster Preparedness

2
3 Chief Yamane presented a draft plan with protocols for activating the EOC. He has had
4 some discussions with Rick Wallace and they are working together on the plan.

5
6 Commissioner Nielsen talked about the District's requirement for the Assistant Chief,
7 Training officer and Fire Chief to live on the island and to be on the island. In his mind
8 this means that one of the three positions will be available twenty-four-seven.

9
10 Mr. Wallace, President of the VDPC, said that his organization was working with Chief
11 Yamane to write a plan to activate the EOC when the Fire District was not overwhelmed.
12 He believes that there is a need to activate the EOC when VIFR would not be
13 overwhelmed. The past storm was not a disaster for the Fire District but was an electrical
14 disaster. Mr. Wallace said that the Vashon Disaster Preparedness Committee would have
15 activated and worked with PSE to help them with the disaster. We would not have been
16 able to answer the question everyone was asking which was when will the power come
17 on. His personal evaluation was that this will never happen again.

18
19 Chief Yamane said that the District also has Battalion 55 that over the years has been the
20 first line officer during the evenings and weekends. If there is a situation on the island
21 that one of the Chief's can't respond to Battalion 55 can respond.

22
23 Commissioner Nielsen said that we are paying over a quarter of a million dollars a year
24 and along with paying for equipment to have executive staff on island; we have fired
25 Chief's in the past for not being here and not moving to the island. He would like an
26 understanding of this. He was not worried about the recent storm response.

27
28 Commissioner Hoffmann said that from his stand point every thing went smoothly during
29 the wind storm.

30
31 Mr. Wallace said that during the last emergency there was at least one of the executive
32 staff on island.

33
34 Assistant Chief Kirk said that when both Chief Yamane and Battalion Chief Coll move to
35 the island there would not be a time when there was not someone on island. Assistant
36 Chief Kirk clarified that both him and Battalion Chief Coll were on the island during the
37 storm. He said that there was good communication between the three executive officers.

38
39 Commissioner Nielsen asked that all members both paid and volunteers who helped with
40 the disaster be sent a thank you letter.

41
42 Commissioner Turner addressed VIEMA and asked that other organizations in VIEMA
43 step up and participate in VIEMA.

44
45 Commissioner Sommers suggested that all three executive officers get ham radio
46 licenses.

1 Joe Ulatoski stated that VIEMA will be writing new bi-laws that include protocols for
2 activating the EOC when life and property are not in danger. If the Fire District won't
3 provide this just let us know.

4
5 Commissioner Nielsen said there should be a level of trust that the District will do the
6 best they can to manage the EOC and a disaster.

7
8 Commissioner Sommers asked why the EOC can't self activate. Mr. Wallace said that
9 the VDPC can but we need the support of the Fire District for phones and other
10 equipment.

11
12
13 Letter for the Voice of Vashon

14
15 Commissioner Sommers reported that Dan Schueler said that the Voice of Vashon
16 (VOV) wanted to get on the air during the wind storm but the FCC would not allow them.
17 She would like the Fire District to write a letter to the FCC to get the VOV on air. Mr.
18 Wallace has met with Jeff Hoyt and he has asked to hold off writing a letter until they
19 come up with a strategy that would be included in the letter.

20
21 General Comments

22
23 Alice Larson asked if the District formally had a new Chief. Commissioners responded,
24 yes, Chief Yamane started December 11, 2006. She asked if there was going to be a
25 community wide formal welcome for Chief Yamane when his family moves here. Alice
26 Larson suggested asking the public what they need in case of an emergency now that
27 most people have gotten through this current emergency it would be fresh on their minds.

28
29 Chief Kirk suggested having the middle school students write up a synopsis of the storm.

30
31 Commissioner Sommers moved to adjourn from regular session to reconvene in
32 executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (g) to review the performance of a public
33 employee, the executive session will last 30 minutes and no decisions will be made.
34 Commissioner Hoffmann seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in
35 favor.

36
37 The executive session started at 9:30 PM.

38
39 The executive session ended at 10:00 PM and no decisions were made.

40
41 Commissioner Nielsen moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sommers seconded
42 the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

43
44 The meeting ended at 10:05 PM.