

**Vashon Island Fire & Rescue**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Penny Farcy Training Center**  
February 21, 2006

Commissioner Sommers called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Welcoming Remarks

All who wished stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

District Secretary took roll call; Commissioners present were Sommers, Jennings, Nielsen, Hoffmann, and Turner.

Minutes

Commissioner Nielsen moved to approve the minutes for January 21, 2006 as presented. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Commissioner Nielsen moved to approve the minutes for February 7, 2006 as presented. Commissioner Turner seconded the motion.

Commissioner Jennings asked why minutes needed to be so detailed and suggested to go back to minutes summarizing the meeting. Commissioner Turner and Nielsen agreed. Sommers disagreed, saying it is easier to look up a written record than queuing up a tape.

Hilary Emmer said that if she wants to see the minutes she has to pay for copies.

Commissioner Nielsen stated that the District was paying salaries for these minutes and would like to see decisions and summaries only.

Sommers stated that she had been frustrated in the past that there were no public comments in the minutes. Now we have them on public record.

This will be on the meeting agenda on 3/21.

All Commissioners voted to approve the minutes for February 7, 2006

Amendments to the Agenda

Commissioner Jennings added Commitment for New Volunteers under New Business. Statistics was dropped and will be on next meeting's agenda. Commissioner Sommers and Commissioner Jennings agreed to drop Committees from the agenda. Commissioner Sommers dropped Communication Committee. Commissioner Turner added fire truck E551 that was scheduled to be surplusd under New Business.

### Volunteer Representative

Charles Krimmert had no comment.

### Paid Staff Representative

There was no comment from paid staff.

### Public Comments on Non-agenda Items

Jolene Lamb asked what the status of the complaint against her was. She would like this resolved. Commissioner Sommers said this would be discussed at the March 21, 2006 meeting.

Alice Larson addressed off-island volunteers and the cost of volunteers in general. She has heard in Commissioner meetings that the reason the District was encouraging off-island volunteers were to train them to get jobs. There are private schools where they could pay to get trained. She asked what the volunteer retention rate was. She would like the District to rethink the training of off-island volunteers.

Commissioner Nielsen asked if she has spoken to any of the volunteers. It cost about \$4,200 to go through the training at Bates College.

Jeremiah Mushen was at the meeting because his volunteer duty shift was on the same night. He would be happy to meet with anybody to talk with them about his experience as an off-island volunteer.

Lanora Hackett said that a lot of the off-island volunteers had Vashon connections.

### Vouchers

Commissioner Jennings moved to approve the vouchers presented. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. Commissioner Turner addressed the ladder truck voucher. All Commissioners voted in favor.

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expenses reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on the listing which has been made available to the Board. As of this date February 21, 2006 the Board does approve for payment those vouchers included in the above.

Vouchers 200035 – 200089 for the amount of \$6,820.00

Vouchers 20090 – 20113 for the amount of \$39,293.57

Vouchers 200114 – 200130 for the amount of \$10,381.18

Voucher 200131 for the amount of \$171,097.00

### Operations Report

Chief Fowler reported there was a house fire on Saturday, February 18, 2006. The fire was a good stop. Commissioner Turner and Hoffmann were present. Commissioner Turner reported that fighting the fire was textbook perfect. Chief Wilson reported that no one was home when the fire broke out.

Chief Fowler reported that the Hazard response from Station 56 with a 3 second response was called in by Mike Kirk who was on the scene.

Commissioner Nielsen asked what the Commissioners could do to cut responds times to Stations 56, 57, 58 and 59.

The Commissioners discussed the process of calling in to report residential burns. Currently residents need to call 911 to report outdoor burning problems.

### Financial Report

Matt Sullivan gave a year end Finance Report for 2005. There has been a 1% increase between the preliminary and the final reports. The Fire Prevention cost center with Disaster Communication expenses changed due to working with the Disaster Preparedness Coalition to make sure all the 2005 expenses were in the right year.

Commissioner Turner had a question on paramedic overtime. There was a discussion on debit days and how the shift cycles work.

Chief Wilson explained the extra funding the District received from King County EMS.

Commissioner Turner had questions on the ladder truck.

### Old Business

#### Letter of Understanding – IEC

Commissioner Turner reported that the Letter of Understanding (LOU) between the District and IEC was back with Jolene Lamb and her attorney looking it over.

Alice Larson said that it was her understanding that the LOU covered procedures, not the District using IEC on a regular basis. She would like to see a way patients could post their preference for IEC to transport in case of an emergency.

Firefighter Smith suggested a refrigerator magnet like the “vial of life.”

Jolene Lamb stated that IEC would be happy to participate and get magnets if the District would respect them.

Commissioner Nielsen stated that he would like to read the agreement before voting on it. He asked Alice Larson if she had seen the agreement. She said that she had not seen it.

### Strategic Plan

Commissioner Sommers would like this tabled until 2007.

Commissioner Nielsen believes that the Strategic Plan is more important than the committees. “We have many serious issues that need to be addressed.”

Commissioner Jennings understands that the new Commissioners would like to wait before making important decisions. “Just because we start the process now, we don’t have to make any big decisions until 2007”.

Commissioner Turner said the current Strategic Plan says we have issues on response times and dispatch but no objectives. He would like to get an update from administration on the current Strategic Plan and see what we need to do. What are the accomplishments? He is ready to go.

Commissioners tabled the discussion on the Strategic Plan and asked Chief Wilson to give a report for the March 21, 2006 Board meeting on the current Strategic Plan.

### Fire Boat

Commissioner Nielsen said he has done some research on the acquisition of a Fire Boat. He reported that Anderson Island had no ferry service over the weekend, which has been the scenario for which the Vashon Disaster Preparedness Coalition has talked about getting a boat. Several important components for a Fire Boat are a boat that can be beached and that has enough speed to get around the island fast.

### SOGs 2007,2008,2008.1,2008.2

Matt Sullivan brought SOGs 2007, 2008, 2008.1, and 2008.2 for approval after the three-week review period. Commissioner Jennings moved to approve all the SOGs as presented. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor.

### New Business

#### SOG 2021 – Vacation

SOG 2021 would increase vacation accrual for non-represented employees to what union employees have. This SOG will go out for a three-week review period before approval.

#### Valley Communication Agreement

Chief Wilson presented the Commissioners with the Valley Communication Agreement Exhibit A that contains the 2006 rate increase for dispatch services. Valley Communications adjust their rates every year in October for the following year. Commissioner Jennings moved to approve the Valley Communication Agreement Exhibit A containing the 2006 rate increase. It was pointed out that the Valley Communications increase was 2.7%, when the CPI was 3%. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. All commissioners voted in favor.

#### Volunteer Commitment

Commissioner Jennings believes that the off-island volunteers are valuable to the District. Questioning cost is what the Board is all about and this could be conceived as less than flattering. Commissioner Jennings thinks having volunteers, no matter if they are from Vashon or off-island, sign an agreement to spell out their commitment would be a good idea. The District would require volunteers to remain with the District for a certain amount of time or a certain number of calls.

The Commissioners asked Chief Wilson and Chief Fowler to come up with a proposal and look into what other Districts do. David Dodge said that other districts do something similar.

Commissioner Turner asked not to include the current recruitment class in the new policy. They are working hard and have lots of enthusiasm.

Jolene Lamb said that in the past EMT class members had to pay back the district if they did not stick around.

Jan Nielsen said that the paramedics make this kind of commitment after their training. He asked Jeremiah Mushen and Charles Krimmert to talk with other volunteers and see what their suggestions are.

Jeremiah Mushen said he has not discussed this with anybody but there is a financial commitment that islanders invest in us. "You may want to ask the Association to come up with a proposal to present to the Board."

This will go on the April 4, 2006 meeting agenda. Chiefs Fowler and Wilson will meet with the Association and come up with a proposal.

David Dodge said that as the Vice President he will bring it up at the next Association meeting.

Charles Kimmert said that the emphasis seems to be on volunteer retention and now we are talking about commitment. The fact that you have off-island volunteers coming out here and giving back to either this community or another community shows a commitment.

#### Surplus of Engine E551

Commissioner Turner would like to cancel the surplus of the 1987 Darley E551. Chief Wilson reported that the surplus was to offset the 10% of the cost for the ladder truck. Chief Wilson stated that the equipment for the ladder truck was scheduled to come off of E551.

Commissioner Turner was concerned that there were 1974 and 1980 model trucks that are starting to have mechanical problems. He believes that these may be better candidates for surplus than E551.

Chief Wilson stated that the staff was working on the last decision the Board made on financial options for the ladder truck. The Board needs to approve reserve funds to equipment and outfit the ladder truck in addition to retaining E551. With this decision he would be in favor of keeping E551.

David Dodge stated that we don't have space for E551. Something else would have to sit out in the rain.

Commissioner Jennings asked Chief Wilson, Brett Kranjcevic, and Bob Larsen to bring back a proposal with some numbers on keeping E551 for the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Commissioner Comments

For the Good of the Order

Commissioner Jennings moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor. The meeting ended at 9:12 PM.