

**Vashon Island Fire & Rescue**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Penny Farcy Training Center**  
August 15, 2006

The open house started at 6:30 PM the Vashon-Maury Island Radio Club set up their emergency communications trailer and the public and Commissioners took a tour.

Commissioner Sommers called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Welcoming Remarks

All who wished stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes – None

Amendments to agenda

Commissioner Sommers added the paging system; Commissioner Jennings added new Board Chair; and Commissioner Hoffmann added a GPS system for the personnel.

Correspondence

There were several thank you notes in the Commissioner packet. Commissioner Jennings received a phone call from the woman who owns the land where the car fire was last Thursday.

Volunteer Representative Comments

Charles Krimmert thanked Commissioner Hoffmann and Commissioner Turner for attending the Association meeting. Commissioner Turner asked Krimmert to address the pager issue and Mr. Krimmert in turn asked Lanora Hackett to address this. Lanora Hackett said she had met with Chief Yamane on getting more information on calls for volunteers when paged out so that they could make decisions on which calls to respond on. Commissioner Nielsen asked Amelia Watson to read her correspondence on Charles Krimmert representing the volunteers at Commissioner meetings into public record. Commissioner Sommers said that she received several emails in support of Amelia Watson's letter.

Paid Staff Representative Comments

Cari Coll said she had no comment tonight.

Public Comments on Non-agenda Items

Joel Wade said that he was not at the meeting where Jolene Lamb made her comment, but he stated that the issue was that Charles Krimmert is the President of an organization that is made up of both volunteers and paid staff. He also stated it has been his experience that paid staff representative speaks only for the Union and not the entire paid staff. Mr. Wade said that if you were going to be accurate the agenda should say Fire Association comments and Union comments.

Charles Krimmert said that he was elected to representative volunteers before he filled the position as President of the Association of Firefighters.

David Sova, volunteer and Association Treasurer, agreed with all sides and hopes that the District will continue to strive for inclusiveness as well as building trust and taking people's opinions in good faith.

Alice Larson said that Jolene Lamb raised the question on Charlie Krimmert speaking for all volunteers because Jolene Lamb was concerned that other volunteers would not speak up if they disagreed after Charlie Krimmert already spoke. Alice Larson said that in the past she has encouraged Commissioners to just go talk to the volunteers and find out what the issues are. Alice Larson has also heard from volunteers that they are confused on whether they need to be in uniform when they respond.

Joel Wade said that on October 3, 2005, the courts said that the firearms policy does not constitute a law. Commissioner Jennings clarified that the policy was not law but people still have to abide by it. Commissioner Nielsen said that someone in possession of a gun could be asked to leave.

Hilary Emmer asked how long the police officer will need to be at meetings. Commissioner Sommers said that the Board has left that decision up to Chief Yamane. Hilary Emmer asked if there was still a hostile work environment that constitutes spending \$148.00 on the police officer. Commissioner Nielsen said that at this time he felt that the police officer was needed because of Joel Wade's presence and behavior.

Commissioner Jennings said he wanted to move on with the meeting.

Hilary Emmer had another issue but was asked to step down due to time.

### Commissioners Comments

Commissioner Turner said he would like to change the format of the meeting. He suggested to have the first meeting of the month for new business at this time there would public comment; the second meeting would be for old business and getting things done.

Commissioner Sommers wanted to thank the Ham Radio Club for setting up the trailer with the mobile communications equipment.

### Vouchers

Commissioner Hoffmann moved to approve the vouchers below. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. 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, August 1, 2006, the Board does approve for payment those vouchers included below.

Vouchers 700131 – 700151 for the amount of \$15,805.75  
Vouchers 700156 – 700172 for the amount of \$25019.82  
Vouchers 800000 – 800018 for the amount of \$53,931.92  
Vouchers 800043 – 800093 for the amount of \$5,630.00

Vouchers 800094 – 800112 for the amount of \$90,567.84

### Chief's Report

Chief Yamane asked if there were any questions on the July 2006 operations report that was included in the Commissioners packet. Commissioner Tuner pointed out that in paragraph two of the Chief's weekly update; Jolene Lamb expressed appreciation for the better working relationship with the paid staff. Commissioner Jennings asked what happened on Thursday at the car fire. The Chief reported that last Thursday there was a vehicle accident on 103<sup>rd</sup> Street where a victim was extricated from the vehicle. The crew that was on the engine poured 750 gallons of water on the car to put out the fire. An hour and half later there was a call that the car was on fire.

Chief Yamane reported that last Thursday he, Commissioner Hoffmann and Sommers met with the Washington State Ferries (WSF) along with the Washington Fire Commissioners Association (WFCA). The meeting was to work out an agreement, the WSF made an offer and the WFCA was working on a counter offer. Roger Ferris from the WFCA said that the WSF's offer was not even close to what we should be getting.

### Finance Report

District Secretary Maridee BonaDea gave the July 2006 Financial report.

### Old Business

#### Station 55 Water Damage – Bob Larsen

Bob Larsen the Facilities Manager reported that water damage at Station 55 has been investigated and was the result of regular usage. Mr. Larsen asked Commissioners to allocate funds from unallocated reserves to move forward with the repairs.

Commissioner Jennings moved to authorize Chief Yamane to go out to bid for repairing the water damage at Station 55. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. All commissioners voted in favor.

#### Fire Chief Job Description

Commissioner Sommers asked if there was anything in the job description that needs to be changed. Commissioner Jennings asked the hiring committee to take a look at the job description before hiring.

#### Finalizing Chief Hiring Process

Commissioner Nielsen reported that the hiring committee has met with the volunteer officers. Commissioner Turner wanted to let the public have input to what the hiring process would be.

Commissioner Jennings said that if we had unpopular Chief there would be people standing up saying what they didn't like.

Commissioner Turner moved to hold a public hearing on the hiring process for Fire Chief. Commissioner Hoffmann seconded the motion. The Commissioners decided on Saturday September 9, 2006. All

commissioners voted in favor.

### BLS Transport Billing

Commissioner Turner read Resolution 04-271 on billing for BLS transport. He suggested amending the resolution to allow the District not to charge for transports. Commissioner Jennings asked clarifying questions and suggested that there were two issues, one was billing for transports and the other was what to use the funds for. Commissioner Nielsen asked to have Matt Sullivan do a cost analysis to see how much money we are talking about.

Commissioner Jennings moved to have Chief Yamane delegate a business study on BLS transports to Matt Sullivan, Finance Director. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. Craig offered background information on billing for transport. All commissioners voted in favor.

### Committees

Commissioner Turner recommended empowering Chief Yamane to create a quality assurance committee. Commissioner Jennings suggested having Chief Yamane come up with priorities. Commissioner Turner wanted to choose volunteers to be on a quality assurance committee to come up with facts, opinions, and recommendations. Commissioner Jennings asked Yamane to come up with a committee model structure.

### New Business

#### Policy on Board/Staff Relations

Commissioner Sommers presented a proposed SOG on Board/Staff relations. Commissioner Jennings moved to approve proposed SOG 1001.3 regarding Board/Staff relations. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. Commissioner Turner read from existing SOG's that included guidelines on Board/Staff relations and stated that the proposed SOG 1001.3 was already included current SOG's. Commissioner Jennings said that Commissioners as a whole do get involved with personnel issues but as individuals Commissioners should not get involved. This was the first reading of SOG 1001.3 and will be posted for a 30 day comment period. Commissioner Jennings withdrew his motion and Commissioner Nielsen withdrew his second.

#### Discussion on Board Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Turner asked the Commissioners to consider having the first meeting of the month for new business and the second meeting would be old business. Commissioner Sommers asked if the Commissioners were willing to move to this. Commissioner Jennings said that he supported the spirit of the proposal. Commissioner Hoffmann said that if you want to bring up new business at an old business night. Chief Yamane said next month the District will be meeting with the South-end Community and after that the budget cycle begins and suggested to start this after the budget cycle. Commissioners agreed to try this format after the Budget process.

#### Changing Chair

Commissioner Jennings moved to elect Commissioner Turner as Board Chair. Commissioner Nielsen seconded the motion. Commissioner Jennings was impressed that after the Jason Everett incident

Commissioner Turner apologized and he has been active in talking to the members. Commissioner Turner accepted the nomination. Commissioner Hoffmann asked the board to set a good example for the public. All Commissioners voted in favor.

#### Paging system

Commissioner Nielsen asked Chief Yamane to form a group to discuss with Valley Communication the District's need for a better paging system. Chief Yamane gave some history on the transition to Valley Communications. Mr. Wade shared information on a report he wrote about the new paging system with Valley Communications back when it was setup. At the officers meeting they reported that the District issued scanners pickup everything from all over the King County.

Lanora Hackett, volunteer, said that she just wanted to respond to critical calls.

Commissioner Nielsen asked if there could be teams created where one team leaves their pagers on one night and another team another night.

Cari Coll said that was how her former department scheduled volunteers. They would sign up to be on call for certain nights.

#### GPS system

Commissioner Hoffmann asked Chief Yamane to look into a GPS system to help the paid staff locate calls.

Commissioner Jennings moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Sommers seconded the motion. All Commissioners voted in favor. The Meeting ended at 9:25 PM.

Maridee BonaDea  
District Secretary