

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

3 Minutes

4 **Date:** 05/23/2017

5 **Time:** 6:30 p.m.

6 **Place:** 10020 SW Bank Rd, EOC Room

7 **SPECIAL MEETING**

8 **Present:** Camille Staczek, Chair

9 Brigitte Schran-Brown, Vice-Chair

10 David Hoffmann, Commissioner

11 Candy McCullough, Commissioner

12 Ron Turner, Commissioner

13 Charles H. Krimmert, Fire Chief

14 Robert Larsen, Assistant Chief

15 Susan Wolf, Minute Taker

16 **Guests:** Bob Johnson, Jan Milligan, Matt McCann, Ben Davidson, Randy Tonkin and Susan  
17 Riemer.

18 **Amendments to Agenda:**

19 None.

20 **Approval of 4/23/17 Special Meeting Minutes**

21 Motion by Commissioner McCullough:

22 **“I move we approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on 04/23/17.”**

23  
24 **MINUTES APPROVED, 5-0**

25 **Approval of 05/09/17 Minutes**

- 26 • Susan Wolf advised that there was a whole discussion left off the minutes, when she listened  
27 to the recording. She revised the minutes and supplied copies to the commissioners,  
28 however, afterwards discovered a name had been recorded incorrectly. She suggested the  
29 commissioners read over the revision. She will supply a further corrected copy and asked  
30 that the Board postpone approving the minutes until the next meeting.

31 **TABLED**

32 **Voucher Approval**

33 Motion by Commissioner Hoffmann:

34 **“I move that we approve the referenced vouchers as detailed in Administrative**  
35 **Memorandum 05.23.2017-1.”**

36 **MOTION PASSES, 5-0**  
37

38 **April Financial Report**

- 39 • Chief Krimmert advised there were a couple of anomalies to the budget in that there are  
40 positions which were not budgeted for, however everything else is on track. He  
41 recommended the Board accept the report.

42 Motion by Commissioner McCullough:

43 **“I make a motion we approve the April Financial Report.”**

44 **MOTION PASSES, 5-0**

45 **Chief’s Report**

46 *Chief Krimmert:*

47 The chief provided his written report to the commissioners.

- 48 • The Fee for Transport (FFT) program is progressing. When it is finalized the chief will  
49 present it to the Board before enacting it. He is also looking into establishing a program  
50 similar to AirCare.
- 51 • The training chief and staff are working hard for an on-island fire academy. It will be a fast  
52 track with candidates training two weekday evenings and Saturdays; eight are on island  
53 residents. In addition, there will be four paying Kitsap students.
- 54 • Call volume is 36 short of last year, totaling 598 calls for the year so far.
- 55 • Both recruits graduated. Firefighter Lenz is pulling shifts; Firefighter McMullen is working  
56 days and will start shift work June 1.
- 57 • On the 16<sup>th</sup> the chief met with the volunteer core and explained his vision for the part-time  
58 paid program. While the chief is struggling with the financials, it was well received. They  
59 would like to see more hours, scheduling flexibility and a better policy regarding benefits.
- 60 • The Quint 55 and Gator will be in service by end of month. We will respond with the Quint  
61 on the highway corridor to Burton and can expand as we become more comfortable with  
62 which roads can accommodate the engine.
- 63 • We had to replace the 25 year old 250 gallon hot water tank in this building.
- 64 • We have a new 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor for IT.
- 65 • The chief executed our contract with ValleyCom and we are fast finalizing the lease  
66 agreement with King County Medic One (KCM1). KCM1 will pay rent when that is  
67 finalized back to February of \$900 per month. These funds could go into a facilities reserve  
68 account. The digital transfer of the final ALS funds is being finalized.
- 69 • At an EMS meeting in Renton, they discussed the CARES cars. While an interesting  
70 program and the chief wants to talk to Neighborcare about it, but it appears the cost is beyond  
71 our scope at this time.
- 72 • The chief asked a member of the Board to accompany him at an interview with VoV during a  
73 program called *Island Crossroads*.
- 74 • A/C Larsen is absent due to a family matter.
- 75 • *Question:* Regarding the fee for transport program, has any public outreach been done?  
76 *Answer:* The program has a July 1 target date, but we need to implement the part time  
77 employees now.
- 78 • *Question by the Board:* Has the chief negotiated the part-time positions with the union?  
79 *Answer:* While a brief informal discussion happened some weeks ago, but it was not  
80 discussed formally. The chief balanced getting one full-time firefighter, which we need, but  
81 at a cost of \$100,000 per year (salary and benefits), he can hire four part-time people.

- 82 • *Question from the Board:* If we charge for transports and our staff will take the patients all  
83 the way, that means taking them out of service longer. *Answer:* In order to keep more  
84 firefighters on the island, based on credentials, two EMTs (only – not firefighters) would  
85 transport first. The goal is to have seven on staff at all times; two on transports and three  
86 staff remaining on the island.
- 87 • Chief Krimmert stated he intends to hire one more full-time Firefighter/EMT to fill out the  
88 career staff. While he doesn't have a start date, his goal is to enroll them in the September  
89 academy with the consortium. One benefit for PT firefighters is that they become the hiring  
90 list moving forward.
- 91 • *Question from Bob Johnson:* What type of shift program do we have? *Answer:* We have a  
92 four platoon system. Bob then asked if a Detroit system with Kelly Days wouldn't provide  
93 more coverage. The chief answered was that the Detroit system requires a larger pool of  
94 employees.

95 **New Business**

96 None.

97 **Old Business**

98 District Overviews

- 99 • What We Do: It's a reactionary business because we have no control over calls. Last  
100 year we had 1,617 calls. We were toned out for an explosion last year.
- 101 • Where Do We Need To Go: 25 years ago we had 600 calls per year. This year  
102 represents an increase of 267%, but since 2012 it's only risen 9%. We're starting to  
103 top out. With a population of 11,500, including summer people, our population is  
104 only projected to increase 6.5% by 2040. We've actually decreased .7% from 2015 to  
105 2016. So our focus is a top population of 12,000 and a call volume of 2,000 per year.  
106 Those numbers influence our aspirational goals.
- 107 • Where Are We: We have a service area of 37 square miles but 60% of our call  
108 volume occurs above 204<sup>th</sup>. That means our stations aren't located for the best  
109 responses. In 2016, 78% of our calls were EMS; of that 200 were fire calls, 38 were  
110 MVAs.
- 111 • When: 41% of our calls take over 2 hours; the average time is 155 minutes. It takes  
112 one hour to transfer the patient at the dock. Average response time across the island,  
113 is seven and a half minutes. 10% of calls happen at the same time.
- 114 • How: We've touched on staff and fleet. He and Chief Larsen are working 10.5 hour  
115 days and then on call and responding 24/7. Every responder is responsible for 200  
116 island residents. It costs the District \$3,273 on average per call.
- 117 • *Question from Bob Johnson:* Do you have mobile data terminals with a mapping  
118 system? *Answer:* All four aid cars and one engine have MDTs for maps of calls.  
119 There are 5,000 households on Vashon. Approximately 200 students come here from  
120 off island.
- 121 • By the end of month June, the chief will supply a recap summary of all these white  
122 papers.
- 123 • *Question from the Board:* How is the Blue Ribbon Team doing? *Answer:* The Blue  
124 Ribbon Team is assisting the District on getting the information out and may have  
125 mailer forums. The chief is meeting with them Wednesdays. But first before we  
126 determine how we want to proceed, we have to complete the state of District and have

127 the decisions by the Board on the chief's levy recommendation. Then the Blue  
128 Ribbon Team can help get the information out closer to the November election.  
129 Information is being disseminated in our public meetings and in the Beachcomber  
130 before then and the chief is happy to provide a copy of his white papers to anyone  
131 who asks.

- 132 • The chief received a call from a patient who was transported during a storm last  
133 winter. Initially she was unhappy that she was transferred at dock because they didn't  
134 take her to the hospital she wanted due to impassable streets. But after reading the  
135 Beachcomber article about the transport fee and understanding our challenge with  
136 staffing she called to tell the chief she felt everyone was doing the best they could.
- 137 • There needs to be more information in the paper about the Transport Fee and the  
138 chief is happy to purchase some space to explain to the public why it is vital we  
139 institute the charge. Comment from the Board is that the chief is doing a fabulous  
140 job. The Board asked the chief to continue with public communication. Chief  
141 Krimmert does have a Voice of Vashon radio interview coming up. While he feels  
142 we are making inroads, we don't want to get ahead of ourselves. He is prioritizing his  
143 research and reporting so every member of the Board will have the same information  
144 to answer questions.
- 145 • The chief is also working on retooling the annual report to the community so it  
146 contains the information in his white papers such as fleet, staff, etc. He is also giving  
147 consideration to a graphic designer. Michael Soltman credited Facebook for the  
148 school district winning their bond. The chief has asked our new Administrative  
149 Assistant, Raechel to pick up the social media and wants to bring her on full time.  
150 The Board complimented the chief on his presentations, calling them amazing.
- 151 • It was commented that summer and ferry issues make for not only long transport  
152 times, but increased waits at the hospital for admittance.

#### 153 Errors and Omissions Issue

- 154 • Grievance 10-001 old is ten years, was administratively resolved but not financially.  
155 With a \$22,996 exposure, the chief filed an E&O claim with the District's insurance  
156 carrier and they accepted it. They will pay all but a \$1,000 deductible. \$10,500 is  
157 owed by current employees and the rest is former employees. He asked whether the  
158 Board wanted to pursue payments. The District is entitled to reimburse ourselves for  
159 the deductible; any further collectibles would go to the insurance company. All our  
160 state audit reports acknowledge this outstanding debt. Some of the people paid the  
161 money back or partially paid.
- 162 • Commissioner Turner wants people to pay it back. There is an RCW that allows for a  
163 repayment plan. The overpayments range from three to four figures. Commissioner  
164 McCullough would like a letter sent to the employees. Commissioner Brown stated  
165 it's been almost ten years since the employees were notified and would like to let it  
166 go and move forward. Commissioner Staczek realized that it is an ethical issue but  
167 questioned the cost for administration to continue to try to get the funds back. If it is  
168 let go, will the employees that paid back the overage want to be reimbursed because  
169 of the insurance reimbursement? The chief stated that was a stretch. It was pointed  
170 out that the previous administration made a decision to not pursue it. Commissioner  
171 Hoffmann believes it is a morale issue and since the auditor knows about it, he  
172 suggests we request the money back.

173 • It was asked if the overpayment would be a gift of public funds and because of  
174 inaction for some years, would the District be held accountable? The chief believes  
175 that because the insurance company is reimbursing the District for the loss of funds,  
176 there is only the deductible that the District is out. It was thought while the insurance  
177 resolves the debt; there is still an ethical and moral issue. It was asked if the letters  
178 go out would we then go to collections if there is no re-payment. The chief gave  
179 three paths: 1) Do nothing (allowing the insurance claim to resolve the issue); 2) Send  
180 a letter demanding payment; and 3) Economic sanctions.

181 Motion by Commissioner Turner:

182 **“I make a motion to recoup the money.”**

- 183 • *Question:* Are there legal statutes that apply to the discovery of the error? The answer  
184 was that there was no paperwork on how errors occurred in 2008 but there is on 2009  
185 and it was 2009 paperwork that resulted in the grievance.
- 186 • Susan Wolf commented that she was one of the employees who was overpaid, given a  
187 letter demanding the funds and repaid it. She stated Barbara Cooper also repaid her  
188 funds and Linda Hamilton was owed money and it was paid to her. Now Susan and  
189 the CPA employee have been unable to find any record in the accounting software  
190 (two versions prior) that the payments were made. They were also unable to locate  
191 the receipt register and banking records that far back are not in existence.
- 192 • Ben Davidson commented that it sounds like there are no records, but it was pointed  
193 out while there is no physical evidence for reimbursements *to* the District, there *is*  
194 background for those union members who were overpaid but did not repay the  
195 District. The union grievance suggested that a third party do an audit.  
196 Chief Krimmert pointed out that the CPA employee was a third party and that the  
197 state auditors also are another outside party.
- 198 • The prior District administration wrote letters and emailed that the grievance was  
199 resolved but nothing further was done. Commissioner Brown commented that she  
200 doesn't want to get into it with a collections agency as it will affect morale.

201 **Commissioner McCullough:**

202 **“I make a friendly amendment that the union and chief sit down, look at the**  
203 **numbers, and make an attempt to resolve this in-house before sending the letters out.”**

- 204 • The chief is to come back to the Board with the results of that discussion. A  
205 rhetorical question was asked, “If people who were overpaid but did not pay it back  
206 offered to reimburse the District for the deductible could that resolve it?”

207 **MOTION PASSES as amended, 4-1**

208 **General Comments**

209 None.

210 **For the Good of the Order**

211 The Board thanked the chief for doing an outstanding job.

212 **Documents Signed**

213 **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

214 The public meeting moved into Executive Session at 7:54 p.m.

215 The Executive Session falls outside the scope of the *Open Public Meetings Act, RCW*  
216 *42.30.140* in that it has to do with collective bargaining contract negotiations or adopting the  
217 strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective  
218 bargaining.

219 The executive session was extended by Chief Krimmert at 8:10 for ten more minutes; and again  
220 at 8:20 p.m. for ten more minutes. The Executive Session was closed and the public meeting  
221 adjourned simultaneously at 8:30 p.m.

222 *The meeting on 5/30/17 has been CANCELLED.*

223 *The next Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, 6/13/17 at 6:30 p.m. at 10020 SW Bank Rd, Vashon*

Approved this 13 day of June, 2017.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Camille Staczek, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Wolf, Minute Taker



**Chief's Report**  
for the  
**Fire Commissioners' Meeting**  
of  
**23 May 2017**

As a brief overview of the District, focusing on highlights since the board's meeting, please accept the following information:

**1. Overarching Operational Topics:**

- a. The FFT (Fees for Transport) program is being advanced and agreements, protocols and policies are being established...
  - i. A large amount of the necessary paperwork was submitted to our invoicing partner, Systems Design, last week and included applications to Medicaid and Medicare...
  - ii. As we finalize everything it will be presented to the Board, as requested, before it is activated/implemented...
  - iii. In association with the transport fees program we are investigating following its introduction with a voluntary post-insurance payment waiver program...

**2. Overarching Training Topics:**

- a. Chief staff is actively advancing upon an on island volunteer firefighter fire academy with a start date of July 25<sup>th</sup>...
  - i. At this time it appears we have eight island residents (+/-) and four South Kitsap volunteers...

**3. Service/Call Volumes:**

- a. As of 07:30, shift change today, the District has responded to 598 calls...
  - i. Based on the averaging of last year's call we should be around 634...

**4. Staff/Personnel:**

- a. Recruit Lenz started pulling shifts 17 May 17 and Recruit McMillian is still on days until he is better familiar with our protocols. He is schedule to start pulling shifts on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June...

- b. The Part Time Paid (PTP) program presented to volunteer corps evening of 16<sup>th</sup>. Generally well received but mixed reviews and interest for several points:
  - i. Scheduling of 48 hour shifts instead of 24...
  - ii. Partial plan roll out & scheduling flexibility...
  - iii. Better details regarding benefits...

**5. Fleet:**

- a. Quint 55 and Gator 55 are scheduled to go into service start of June...

**6. Facilities:**

- a. Earlier this week a substantial, but sporadic, water leak appeared in the basement of Station 55. The building's original, 25 year old 250 gallon water heater failed and was required to be replaced. Emergency repairs were completed yesterday...
- b. Efforts to update and upgrade the District's computer systems/networks are on-going. At this time our consultant is routinely on site Fridays as we work to address foundational/fundamental concerns and problems...

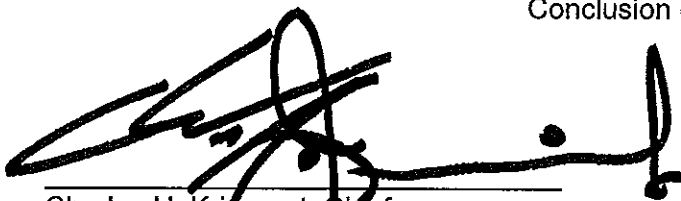
**7. Financials:**

- a. I have executed our renewal agreement with Valley Communications Center for our dispatch services (16 May 17)...
- b. The final draft of the Medic's lease agreement is being finalized; execution is likely in the very near future...
  - i. Rent will be \$900/month and retroactive to February 1, 2017...
  - ii. I would recommend the board use the first of these funds to establish a Facilities Reserve account where this revenue shall be regularly deposited...
- c. The final transfer of funds from King County Medic One still has not been finalized; with such the ALS financial transition will be completed...

**8. Miscellaneous/Noteworthy Topic(s):**

- a. 10 May I attended a county EMS meeting discussing CMT (Community Medical Technician) programs. At this time it appears the costs of such programs are well beyond our means...
- b. I have been asked to be on the Voice of Vashon show "Island Crossroads" the evening of June 5<sup>th</sup>. I have been asked to recommend additional guest to join me and believe a board representative appropriate if one of you are interested...

Conclusion of Report



Charles H. Krimmert, Chief  
Vashon Island Fire & Rescue  
1 206 463 2405 (Office) Extension 301  
1 206 300 0952 (Mobile)



WHO	WHAT	WHERE	WHY	WHEN	HOW
<p>1,000 APPROXIMATE POPULATION OF ISLANDS...</p> <p>67% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>52.0 PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>45+ NUMBERS OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>24 PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>20% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>6% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>5% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p> <p>0.2% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE BY PERSONS OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE...</p>	<p>1,017 CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>488 CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>267% INCREASE IN CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>200+ PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>154 CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>65% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>30 CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>0 PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>9% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p> <p>-0.1% PERCENTAGE OF CALLS MADE IN 2016...</p>	<p>2300 STATION 155</p> <p>65% STATION 155</p> <p>60% STATION 155</p> <p>49% STATION 155</p> <p>27% STATION 155</p> <p>13% STATION 155</p>	<p>BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>78% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>30% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>23% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>20% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>4% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>13% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p> <p>2% BECAUSE WE ARE...</p>	<p>OCTOBER 2016</p> <p>AUGUST 2016</p> <p>FRIDAYS</p> <p>4-5 PM</p> <p>443</p> <p>155 MINUTES</p> <p>2050</p> <p>724</p> <p>2</p>	<p>8100</p> <p>5073</p> <p>60% or 3/5</p> <p>40%</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p> <p>100% PROMISE TO UPON THE PRESENTATION...</p>

**RESULTING ASSUMPTIONS ±**

- 12,000 POPULATION
- 2,000 ANNUAL CALL VOLUME
- 1,500 EMERGENCY CALLS
- 1,500 TRUCKS PER YEAR
- 440 FIRE PER RESCUE CALLS

ALL NUMBERS ARE APPROXIMATIONS & BASED ON PREVIOUS NUMBERS & VARIOUS CALL RECORDS & OTHER INFORMATION...

THESE NUMBERS ARE APPROXIMATIONS & BASED ON PREVIOUS NUMBERS & VARIOUS CALL RECORDS & OTHER INFORMATION...