

**King County Fire District 44  
Board of Commissioners Meeting  
May 13, 2008**

- I. Meeting Called to Order.** Commissioner James Farrell called the regularly scheduled meeting of the board of commissioners to order at 18:34 hours. Present from District 44  
Commissioner James Farrell  
Commissioner Phillip Hamilton  
Commissioner Fred Heistuman  
Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom

Also present were Chief Smith, Deputy Chief Mike Barlow and Secretary Pamela Ratcliffe.

Union Representative: n/a

The meeting was held at District 44 Headquarters, Station 95, 32316 – 148<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Auburn, Wa. 98092.

- II. Pledge of Allegiance.** Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- III. Approval of Agenda.**  
Commissioner Frederick Heistuman made a motion to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- IV. Consent Agenda.**  
Commissioner James Farrell called for approval of the consent agenda, which includes minutes of April 22, 2008 and the vouchers. Commissioner Frederick Heistuman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REVIEW DATE: May 13, 2008  
FOR VOUCHER PERIOD: May 1, 2008 through May 15, 2008

Period	Voucher #	Amount	Total
May 1 half-Operations		53036	56,595.61
May 1 half-Payroll			100,096.13
May 1 half-Payroll Volunteer Reimbursements			2,310.78
May 1 half-Volunteers Operations		53118	2,556.98
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 161,559.50</b>

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**V. Account Balance Report.** Finance will re-align several accounts during it's normal account review in August 2008. Several accounts are over budget due to unexpected expenses ie; moving fuel tank from 91 to 95, flood repair at Station 96.

**VI. Budget Expenditure Report.** n/a

**VII. Public Comment.** n/a

**Union Comment.** n/a

**VIII. Chief's Report.**

1. **KC Investment pool.** No further information.

2. **Recruit Academy** graduation, Sunday, May 18, 2008, 1500.

3. **Annual pump** tests completed. Several vehicles failed, are being repaired, and will be re-tested. Each test runs approximately \$200 per vehicle. Chief Smith shared information regarding the purchase of a mobile pump testing unit. This will be reviewed for department use and renting to other departments to use along with the possibility of building our own test pit.

4. **Incident Responses.** 08-00608. 5/9/08, 16:49 Airplane crash on the (180<sup>th</sup>) Thomas Rd. E92 was on scene within minutes extinguishing the resulting fire. Kent Fire provided a PIO to help with the news media coverage.

5. **NIMS** training completed for the City of Black Diamond officials.

6. **Comprehensive** draft for Fire Department services has been submitted to the City of Black Diamond. Review of the sprinkler requirements in new buildings is being worked on. The fire department is asking for a more stringent sprinkler requirement than the city currently has in place. This issue impacts staffing.

Being involved with the comprehensive plans give the department a voice in the development of Black Diamond.

**IX. Old Business.**

1. **Station 96 replacement.** Preliminary report was submitted May 13,2008 from the realtor hired to review properties. A meeting will be set up for the committee to review.

2. **Bond 08.** Contract has been forwarded to James M. Nelson, bond underwriter, of Martin Nelson and Company, Seattle, WA.

Resolutions will be voted on during the June 10, 2008 board meeting for the bond, the election, and the voters pamphlet.

Education of the districts public will be the next task assigned. Newsletters, power point presentation, public meetings, website information, in-house handouts. A committee will be designated to work on this (see Commissioners Report).

Separate “YES” committee with local members. Capt. Jewett, FF McGinnis, FF Hangartner, FF Lowrie, Chief Smith, Chief Barlow will need to set a series of meetings. Contact should be made with Machinist Hall for constituent phone contacting.

3. **Enumclaw/28.** Fred Heistuman presented from the May 7, 2008 meeting with the board from District 28 and Mark Bauer from the City of Enumclaw. District 44 provided the participants with a proposal. Talks are still preliminary and will continue. Next meeting scheduled for May 28, 2008 at 0900.

Mr. Bauer is taking the proposal to the Public Safety Committee for review. He has indicated an interest in 24 hour coverage.

Issues on the table are the finance, volunteers, training, vehicles, and communications.

Chief Smith has open communication with Acting Chief Dawson. Our work with the City of Black Diamond will set example for future talks with Enumclaw/District 28. District 44 will continue to determine what Enumclaw/KCFD28 would like and try to help them achieve their goals in steps all departments are comfortable with.

4. **44/17 Merger.** May 20, 2008 vote. All mail-in ballot voters pamphlet has been mailed. Local newspapers have printed several articles for public review. Merge, if approved by voters, will become effective January 1, 2009. District 44 will then need to develop a contract for services with the City of Black Diamond.

5. **Volunteer FICA/Medicare.** In response to a query from Commissioner Bjurstrom. With the advent of reimbursing volunteers through payroll to adhere to the State Auditor’s Office request for taxing Social Security and Medicare on Volunteer Officer and Resident/Sleeper points, it has been determined that the financial obligation the district can expect at maximum is \$8,194.68 based on the current budget.

Account	Description	Budget	YTD
522-20-12-01	44 Vol. Officers Stipend	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 5,688.53
522-20-12-03	44 Vol. Resident/Sleeper	\$ 73,000.00	\$10,320.00
522-21-12-01	BDFD Vol. Officer Stipend	\$ 5,760.00	\$ 1,214.88
522-20-12-03	BDFD Vol. Res/Sleeper	\$ 12,360.00	\$ 7,156.36
	Total Vol. FICA Stipends	\$ 107,120.00	\$24,379.77

Total Employee FICA Obligation	\$ 8,194.68	\$ 1,865.05
Total Employer FICA Obligation	\$ 8,194.68	\$ 1,865.05
	\$ 16,389.36	\$ 3,730.10

**X. New Business.**

**1. Radio/Communications.** Chief Barlow has received quote documents from consultant hired to review upgrade and expansion of the existing VHF system. (Attached-ADCOMM Engineering Company, Communications Consulting Engineers, dated May 2, 2008). This process has prior approval and funds have been received from the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe impact funds.

The first step- Task 1. Upgrade and expand the footprint of the existing VHF system (licensed under KJF883) to facilitate interoperability with Black Diamond Public Works, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Security, and Enumclaw.

Task 2. Identify the approximate costs of extending the Valley Com alphanumeric paging footprint to provide reliable service on the Enumclaw Plateau.

Task 3. Identify options to improved inter-station communications by exploring the feasibility of wireless voice and data connectivity among stations.

**2. Division Assistant.** The need for an assistant for Assistant Chief Robert Young has been confirmed. The local has indicated to move forward with no delay in regard to pending contracts with Enumclaw/KCFD28. Job announcement will be forthcoming.

**XI. Commissioners Report.**

**1. Commissioner Ken Seng** has unexpectedly passed away on May 7, 2008. His service will be May 16, 2008, 15:30,

Messiah Lutheran Church  
805 4<sup>th</sup> St NE  
Auburn, WA 98002  
(next to Auburn High School)

Donations: Flowers to the church OR Seattle Cancer Care Alliance  
P O Box 19023  
Seattle, WA 98109-1023  
[www.seattleccca.org](http://www.seattleccca.org)

His family will appreciate a department presence.

2. **Committees.** Committees were set to work on several issues both long term and temporary as follows: These committee members are for board-district communication. Other members will be incorporated from district staff to accomplish tasks.

**Enumclaw/28:** Fred Heistuman, James Farrell  
**Bond:** F. Dan Bjurstrom, James Farrell  
**Insurance:** Pamela Ratcliffe, James Farrell  
**Finance:** James Farrell, F. Dan Bjurstrom, Phillip Hamilton  
**Personnel:** Greg Smith, Mike Barlow, Pamela Ratcliffe  
**Facilities:** no assignment

**Executive Session. N/A**

**XII. Signing of documents.** The commissioners signed approved documents.

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Farrell made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Phillip Hamilton made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 20:08.

The next regular/joint 17-44 meeting at Station 95, June 27, 2008 – 1830 hours.

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Pamela Ratcliffe, Secretary

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James Farrell, Chairperson/Commissioner

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Phillip Hamilton, Commissioner

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Frederick Heistuman, Commissioner

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F. Dan Bjurstrom, Commissioner

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