

**King County Fire District 44  
Board of Commissioners Meeting  
June 24, 2008**

- I. Meeting Called to Order.** Commissioner James Farrell called the regularly scheduled meeting of the board of commissioners to order at 18:30 hours.
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| <u>Present from District 44</u>                    | <u>Present from District 17</u> |
| Commissioner James Farrell                         | Commissioner Robin Mauro        |
| Commissioner Fred Heistuman                        | Commissioner Andy Benedetti     |
| Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom                      |                                 |
| Commissioner Phil Hamilton had an excused absence. |                                 |

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

Union Representative: Ryan McGinnis.

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 James Farrell led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- III. Approval of Agenda.**  
Commissioner Fred 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 June 10, 2008 and the vouchers. Commissioner Fred Heistuman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

REVIEW DATE: June 24, 2008  
FOR VOUCHER PERIOD: June 16, 2008 through June 30, 2008

Period	Voucher #	Amount	Total
June 2 half-Operations		53250	45,019.94
June 2 half-Payroll			114,794.51
June 2 half-Payroll Volunteer Reimbursements			983.52
June 2 half-Volunteers Operations		53305	313.60
<b>Total</b>			161,111.57

**V. Account Balance Report.** 64% of budget remaining after Bars Account balanced with KC Investment Pool.

**VI. Budget Expenditure Report.** Half year mark, Emergency Operating Funds set aside (\$37,000) is half of typical year due to loss of Lea Hill.

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

**Union Comment.** n/a

**VII. Chief's Report.**

1. **Investment Pool.** Commissioner Farrell met with Covington Water District. They have their funds in the King County Investment pool as well. After reviewing their other options they have decided to leave their funds with King County. District funds can be invested with County, State or private investment firm.

2. **Incident Responses.** All calls routine in nature. Will review 1<sup>st</sup> half year 2008 call response times at next board meeting (7/8/08).

3. **Kent Funeral.** We sent a three man crew to cover for funeral June 10,2008.

4. **City of Black Diamond.** Chief Smith provided city council with a semi-annual report on June 19, 2008. Topics covered: Response times, Plymovent installation at Station 98, KC17 merge, Enumclaw/28 update, Public Educator activities, fireworks, and volunteers.

**VIII. Joint 17/44 Business.**

1. **Merger.** Election was certified June 4, 2008. Resolutions forthcoming for board approval. District 44 will need to re-negotiate their contract for Fire services with the City of Black Diamond.

**IX. Old Business.**

1. **Station 96 replacement.** Replacement will be tied with the bond approval. Currently waiting for written report from industrial hygienist and Department of Labor and Industries inspection before moving to re-occupy. Target date August 1, 2008.

2. **Bond 08.** Bond committee met and provided recommendations for approval of the board. Three options were given:

- 5.5 million – replace equipment, building maintenance only
- 7.5 million – replace equipment, building maintenance, and funds for station 96 replacement at a reduced size and/or explore other building options.
- 10 million – replace equipment, building maintenance, replace station 96 with large station

The committee recommends 7.5 million to keep the annual increase in taxes to the district residents under \$100 annually. And will also allow us to explore building a shared station with KCFD28 in future to best serve our mutual districts.

Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom made a motion to approve the 7.5 million Bond request. Commissioner Fred Heistuman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. **Enumclaw/28.** Chief Smith meets with Enumclaw/28 on June 25, 2008. Continued discussion and directions should be forthcoming. Chief confirmed that regardless of future decisions made we would continue to keep good relations going to improve mutual aid.

4. **MOU Addition of "24hr Lt. Flex shift".** Request set before the board for a staffing change. The proposed change will consist of two Lieutenants assigned to Station 92 move to a 24 hour flex shift. This should not affect the current budget with the exception of unknown sick leave usage. The board requests updates on overtime expenses regarding this change.

Commissioner Fred Heistuman made a motion to approve the MOU for a six month period, July 5, 2008 through December 31, 2008. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. **MOU extension of Local 3186 2006-2008 contract.**

Chief Smith reviewed requested financial data regarding article 17 of the 2006-2008 labor contract to include local as well as administrative wage increases.

With projected earnings increased by 234,192 for 2009 (excluding KC Investment Pool, burn permits, CPI increase from Black Diamond and new construction) cost of living wage increases will take \$211,010 of the \$234,192 leaving \$23,182 balance for other operational expenditures.

Three options were presented for approval:

- Approve MOU to extend contract through December 31, 2009
- Modify current contract
- Re-negotiate current contract

The board noted their concern over the sustainability of wage increases. Chief Smith confirmed that during contract negotiations comparables are researched and wages agreed upon jointly. There are no funds in the 2009 budget year to hire additional staff.

Commissioner Fred Heistuman made a motion to approve the MOU for a twelve month period, January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## 6. **Lea Hill Taxes.**

Draft letter forwarded to Brian Snure, Attorney to complete and send to King County Assessor office. A portion to read as follows regarding pre-existing debt obligation. This will mean that District 44 can still collect on 30% of the debt from Lea Hill area taxes.

*When any portion of a fire protection district is annexed by or incorporated into a code city, any outstanding indebtedness bonded or otherwise, shall remain an obligation of the taxable property annexed or incorporated as if the annexation or incorporation had not occurred.*

*Local Loan #2534-0001      Balance as of 1/1/08   \$125,709.81*

*Local Loan #2534-2-1      Balance as of 1/1//08   \$119,736.15*

## 7. **Affect of two appointed board positions 17/44 merge.**

Commissioner vacancies reviewed by term dates. The board of commissioners will have eight board members on January 1, 2009. By 2014 through term endings we will be back to a 5 person board.

We are currently accepting resumes' for position #3 left vacant by Kenneth Seng.

## **X. New Business.**

### **1. Contract for Professional Engineering Services.**

Phase 1 of updating VHF radios is a system review of current needs to 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 . This project is fully funded from impact monies received from the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.

Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom made a motion to approve phase 1 – system review by ADCOMM to expand footprint of VHF system after legal review received. Commissioner Fred Heistuman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## **XI. Commissioners Report.**

1. Covington Water visit. See Chief's report, item 1. Also offered Covington Water District employees to take NIMS100 and NIMS700 training next time it is offered at the district.

2. **Enumclaw Fire.** Commissioner Heistuman brought forth community comments regarding the recent fire with loss of life. Chief Smith reviewed incident response information presented at June 10, 2008 board meeting providing information for all in case of future questions. Requests were made for Operations to review current

engine operations in South Battalion to determine if any changes can improve responses. It was noted that no response predictions can be made due to the nature of no two incidents being similar.

Fire Prevention education in the community is a viable way to help improve loss of life and property, ie; smoke alarms.

**Executive Session.** n/a

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

KCFD17/44 joint meeting adjourned at 1911.

As there was no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Farrell asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Fred Heistuman made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner F. Dan Bjurstrom seconded the motion. The motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2002.

The next regular meeting at Station 95, July 8, 2008 – 1830 hours.

The next joint meeting at Station 95, July 22, 2008 – 1830 hours

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Pamela Ratcliffe, Secretary

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James Farrell, Chairperson/Commissioner

n/a

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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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