

**King County Fire District 44**  
**Scheduled Board of Commissioner Meeting**  
**August 11, 2015**

**I. Meeting Called to Order**

Commissioner Farrell called the regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 6:30 pm.

**Present from District 44**

Commissioner Jim Farrell  
Commissioner Cathie McKinney  
Commissioner Joanne Seng

Chief Greg Smith  
Deputy Chief Mike Barlow  
Darrol Iverson, Union President

**Not Present**

Commissioner Mark Clayton  
Commissioner Dan Bjurstrom

The meeting was held at District 44 Station 95—32316 148<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, Auburn, 98002

**II. Pledge of Allegiance, United States Flag**

Commissioner Farrell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Approval of Agenda**

It was moved by Commissioner McKinney and seconded by Commissioner Seng to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Seng moved and Commissioner McKinney seconded to approve the consent agenda including the minutes from the July 14, 2015 meeting as presented. Motion carried.

**V. Account Balance Report—Dep. Chief Barlow**

62% of budget is spent year to date. WA State Patrol has a grant system that covers some of the cost for basic firefighting training. There is a certain amount allotted per trainee. So far the district has received more money than originally budgeted. All other revenues are tracking according to the budget.

**VI. Budget Expenditure Report—Chief Smith**

Since we did not meet during the second half of July our total expenditures for July was about \$437,066. The first half of August was \$240,230. We had another DNR deployment so the district should be getting another \$5-6,000 in addition to the \$3,200 for a previous deployment. The total amount paid by the DNR might cover the \$10,000 voted on by the board at the previous meeting on July 14 to cover the cost of purchasing Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) for wild lands firefighters. Median house sale prices dipped in July.

		Aug
1st	Vouchers	111,733
1st	Payroll	128,497
2nd	Vouchers	
2nd	Payroll	
<b>Totals</b>		
	payroll	128,497
	Vouchers	111,733
	<b>Total</b>	<b>240,230</b>

**VII. Public Comment**

None

**Union Comment**

Darrol Iverson, Union President distributed overtime costs. Overtime costs are up quite a bit at the moment--\$139,419 which is 111% of the budget. Some of the extra overtime costs included time at the White River Amphitheater and the Pacific Raceways. Also, the district is losing a career firefighter. Overtime Costs for WRA and PR are reimbursed by venues.

**VIII. Chief's Report**

Chief Greg Smith presented a PowerPoint report which is incorporated by reference and reviewed Personnel, Facilities, Vehicles, Equipment, Budget and Emergency Incidents/Responses.

- Between July 14<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup> there were 204 incidents, averaging 7.3 per day.
- There were several wildfires in Mason County, the Puyallup area, and Klickitat County (off Hwy 8). KC Fire District 44 had personnel dispatched to some of them. We have 4 wild land trucks in use during this time.
- The Chief will be at the Ad Hoc meeting with Black Diamond on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> with the mayor and city council to work on the draft for Pre-annexation.
- Met with the Enumclaw and Buckley Chiefs on Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>.
- On Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> meeting with Civic Plus about the district website.
- Maple Valley wants to annex 14 acres of land in our fire district for the purpose of developing it and building 69 homes. Chief Smith feels the land area in question might belong to Black Diamond. Further inquiries will be made.

- The Chief brought to the board's attention that so far this year we have spent \$92,972 to repair vehicles. This amount is excessive considering a full time mechanic could be hired for \$82,000-93,000 with benefits. There is a mechanic on staff at this time, but the workload is too much for one mechanic and so the district has had to go to other mechanics which is becoming costly and the year still has 4 ½ months to go. A new hire would work under the current personnel. Commissioner McKinney commented that on National Night Out (August 4<sup>th</sup>) some of the firetrucks that were used to visit the local communities broke down. Commissioner Seng moved that the board authorize Chief Smith and Dep. Chief Barlow to research and bring info to the Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> budget meeting the cost and process of hiring a new mechanic for the district. Commissioner McKinney seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- The Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) has been making inquiries into erecting a 140 foot radio tower possibly at one of the station houses. They are currently doing engineering studies.

### **Unfinished Business**

#### **1. Ad Hoc City/District Fire Committee (report)**

Meeting scheduled for August 13th.

#### **2. District News Letter (Web Page report)**

On August 13<sup>th</sup> there will be a call-in with Civic Plus.

#### **3. Capital Improvement Plans (report)**

There was a meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

- Concerning Station 97—they will be changing the siding to hardi-board. Bids will be going out this week.
- Concerning Station 92—there has not been any substantial work done on the building since the 1970's. Minor changes were done in 2004 to make it live-able for career staff personnel. It is starting to show its age. Costs for upgrading the building are not in the 2015 budget, but it needs to be higher on the priority list. A new building might be possible 10 years out, but there need to be some cosmetic changes done now.

#### **4. Post-Retirement Medical (report)**

No report

#### **5. Strategic Plan (report)**

There were 11 volunteers from the various station houses for the meeting in early August. It lasted about 3 hours and we gathered good info and it was enlightening. The group has agreed to try and meet quarterly and move forward.

#### **6. Staffing Discussions (committee report)**

Have not met yet and there might not be enough info to present at the Aug. 20<sup>th</sup> budget meeting. A meeting was scheduled for Aug. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Station 96.

**IX. New Business**

Chief Smith presented information about the Best Starts for Kids which will be a levy on the ballots this November. The concern is that this will possibly impact the tax money coming into the fire districts. Chief Smith has not had an opportunity to discuss this with the other local chiefs, but we need to stay aware of how this could impact the fire district. Commissioner Farrell will be meeting with Dow Constantine and others on Aug. 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss this topic and its impact on local districts. If this levy passes, they will hopefully add some protection agreement to protect the districts.

**Commissioners Report**

Commissioner McKinney and Seng went to the National Night Out event on Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> with Tim Perciful and volunteer Sarah to seven different locations on the fire trucks. They visited the home of the Mayor of Black Diamond and several BD locations. Handed out pencils to the kids. It was a lot of fun and well worth the effort.

Commissioner Farrell will be meeting on Aug. 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm with Gov. Inslee and Senator Murray's staff to look at training facility funding.

**X. Executive Session**

No executive session was held.

**Signing of Documents**

July 14<sup>th</sup> board minutes were signed.

**Board Meeting Adjourn**

Commissioner McKinney made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting. Commissioner Seng seconded. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Next meeting will be August 25, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Station 95.

Cathie Valentine-McKinney

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James Farrell, Chair

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Joanne Seng

**NOT PRESENT**

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Dan Bjurstrom

**NOT PRESENT**

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Mark Clayton

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Kim Baker, District Secretary