

Spokane County Fire Protection District 8
Minutes of Regular Commissioners Meeting
March 21, 2007
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Board Chair Hesse at 6:03 p.m. Present were: Commissioner Hesse, Commissioner Boling, Commissioner Ferraiuolo, Chief Walkup, Deputy Chief Blystone, Deputy Chief Nielsen, Deputy Chief Rash, Administrative Assistant Carol Trescott, members of the district, and the public.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Hesse asked to add Item B to New Business – Ben Burr Street Vacation. **Motion: Boling/Ferraiuolo to approve the agenda for the meeting as amended.** The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Boling/Ferraiuolo to approve the consent agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Surplus Equipment/Apparatus – Chief Walkup reviewed the history of two pieces of District 8 owned apparatus which have been on loan to Fire District 11 since November of 2002. Staff has determined the apparatus no longer meet the needs of the district and are therefore recommending the 1974 Ward Lafrance Engines and associated equipment be declared surplus in accordance with statute for the disposal of surplus property.

Motion: Boling/Hesse to adopt Resolution 07-02, A Resolution Declaring the 1974 Ward Lafrance Pumpers VIN #7242104603786 and VIN #7242104603787 Surplus to the Needs of the District to be Offered for Sale. For the record, Chief Walkup read the text of Resolution 07-02. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Ben Burr Street Vacation – Commissioner Hesse attended a Spokane County Commissioner’s meeting the previous night and reported on testimony from the Ben Burr area residents and the developers on a proposed Ben Burr Street vacation. Hesse said the project has been thoroughly studied by the the property owners, site managers and developers. He reported that Ben Burr does not meet the existing county code requirement of a 300 foot distance from the main intersection. That intersection at 57th and the Palouse Highway is only 239 feet from Ben Burr. Commissioner Hesse said that both sides presented strong points for and against the proposal. He felt the abandoned property has become a possible safety concern. Commissioner Boling said that a great number of vehicles use Ben Burr, and that if closed, traffic would be required to drive past Station 81 at 61st and the Palouse Highway. His concern was that a vacation of Ben Burr would impact the 5-way intersection at Waneta, 61st, and the Palouse Highway, and may require a traffic control

device such a red or flashing light. Commissioner Hesse said the plan was to improve the east side of the Palouse Highway by widening it and including turn lanes. He added there was a two-year traffic study on the vacation of Ben Burr and what affect it would have on the area. Because it is a 5-way intersection, turn lanes have been proposed in lieu of a traffic signal. Commissioner Boling also noted the possible addition of a county water park in that area. Hesse felt the developers and property owners have both done their homework and are working in the area resident's best interests. Commissioner Ferraiuolo addressed the question of the city's potential interest in the annexation of that area should further development occur. Chief Walkup responded that the city may not have an interest in annexation of the water park area as it is on the edge of the UGA which is part of the current issue the city has with extending water services to that area. He said the city may not want the county's facility as it would not generate any tax revenue. He felt that the area at 57th and Palouse may entice the city somewhat depending on further development at its northwest corner.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

A. Public Disclosure Commission Filing – Reminder of the April 15th deadline for the PDC filings.

B. Legislative Update – Chief Walkup reported that despite all assurances, HB1369 - the six-year Lid Lift - did not pass out of the House.

C. Ballot Language Changes – Chief Walkup said the county prosecutor and SCFD8 have agreed on language for the May 15th EMS Lid Lift ballot. The prosecutor made some minor changes to the previous language which were technical in nature and clarify the ballot language.

CORRESPONDENCE – 1) A copy of an article from legal regarding the court ruling on Frey vs. SCFD8. 2) A thank you letter from a citizen for the care she received from District 8 personnel after her MVA in December. 3) A news article in tribute to Charlie Plumb. 4) A news article regarding the BRB's approval of the City of Spokane's annexation of the Costco area in north Spokane County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners broke for Executive Session at 6:45 pm to review matters of personnel regarding negotiations with Local 3711. No action is expected to be taken at the conclusion of Executive Session.

The meeting was called back to order at 7:48 pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2007, 6:00 pm at Station 82.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Hesse adjourned the meeting at 7:49 pm.

Gregory A. Hesse, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

William A. Walkup
District Secretary