

Spokane County Fire Protection District 8
Minutes of Regular Commissioners Meeting
January 8, 2008
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 6:00 p.m. Present were: Commissioner Greg Hesse, Commissioner Lee Boling, Commissioner Jonathan Ferraiuolo, Chief William Walkup, Deputy Chief Dan Blystone, Deputy Chief Tony Nielsen, Deputy Chief Lonnie Rash, Administrative Assistant Carol Trescott, and members of the district.

Commissioner Hesse amended the meeting Agenda as follows:

- 1) Oath of Office for Commissioner Ferraiuolo moved from New Business to immediately following the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) Add New Business, Item D, Seminar for Newly Elected Officials.
- 3) Add one item to the Executive Session.

Commissioner Boling also requested adding discussion regarding the Chelan seminar to New Business, Item D.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OATH OF OFFICE – Board Chair, Commissioner Hesse, administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Jonathan Ferraiuolo affirming his election as fire commissioners in the November, 2007 General Election.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: Boling/Ferraiuolo to approve the Meeting Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Boling/Hesse to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Oath of Office – Item moved after the Pledge of Allegiance

B. Chair Position – Commissioner Ferraiuolo asked that this item be tabled. Commissioner Hesse questioned the request and, after hearing from Commissioner Ferraiuolo relative to his thoughts Commissioner Hesse tabled the item.

C. Process for Adding Items to the Meeting Agenda – Commissioner Hesse initiated discussion on the procedure for placing items on the meeting agenda. After prior review of district policy, he stated any of the commissioners were allowed to add items to the agenda, but

felt out of fairness to all commissioners if an item were to be placed on the agenda both the chief and the board chair should be notified.

Commissioner Ferraiuolo asked for clarification as to whether Commissioner Hesse wanted the chief and chair to be copied in on new agenda items for notice, or to be consulted for approval before new items are placed on the meeting agenda.

As a member of the Washington State Fire Commissioners Association Education Committee, Commissioner Boling said he was aware this was an issue facing other boards as well. He said in past practice in the fire district any member of the board could notify the district secretary who would then add the item to the agenda. He requested that all three commissioners attend the Washington Fire Commissioner Association's seminar in Chelan this May. He also respectfully requested that all three commissioners go through the Ethics for Fire Commissioners Policies and Procedures. Because of the upcoming seminar in May, he recommended remaining status quo until after they attended that training. Commissioner Boling said after that time, and with the guidance of a facilitator, the board could schedule a workshop to develop policies and procedures for current and future District 8 commissioners.

Chief Walkup said at times when he is asked to add an item to the agenda he may not know the rationale behind the request. He can add an item to the agenda but may not be able to explain it if asked.

Commissioner Ferraiuolo said he sees all three commissioners as equals with an equal say and an equal vote. He felt if any of the commissioners thought an item should be on the agenda he had no problem with conveying that information to the district secretary and copying anyone else in on the request. He said his responsibility is to notify the district secretary when he wants something placed on the agenda and the district secretary's job is to send out notice which is done through the meeting packets.

Chief Walkup reminded the board that the agenda they receive is a draft until they take action during the meeting to approve it. He said if any of the three commissioners feels there is not enough background information for discussion of a specific item they can always chose not to approve the agenda or table an item at the time of approval. The chief added one of the actions they take each meeting is to approve the meeting agenda and items can be added or deleted at that time.

D. Seminar for Newly Elected Officials and Appointed & Experienced Commissioners – Commissioner Hesse reminded the board of the Chelan Seminar in May for Newly Elected Officials and Appointed and Experienced Commissioners. He said the class was informational and material presented was excellent for commissioners. He highly recommended they all attend.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

A. Planning Workshop – Chief Walkup presented the board with materials for their planning workshop scheduled for 9:00 am, Friday, January 11th. He informed the board that the packet would explain the issues and provide background information in order to make their time during the planning session valuable.

B. Legislative Workshop – Chief Walkup reminded the board of the Legislative Workshop on January 24th. Commissioner Hesse, Commissioner Boling and Chief Walkup are scheduled to attend.

C. NW Leadership Seminar – Chief Walkup asked for a headcount of those who are planning to attend the NW Leadership Seminar in Portland March 5, 6, & 7th. All three commissioners, Chief Walkup, one staff member, and the president of the Local have indicated they would like to attend. Commissioner Boling asked that previous meeting minutes be reviewed to confirm they had committed to sending a firefighter, lieutenant, or someone from those ranks. If the Local chose to send their president he felt that should be their decision. Chief Walkup said he would review the minutes for record of that discussion. Commissioner Boling said they had funding to send one individual and wanted to confirm that they were in line with what was previously discussed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Public Records request
- 2) Thank you from the Fire Protection Policy Board
- 3) E-mail regarding alarm response statistics
- 4) E-mail thank you for District 8 response
- 5) Thank you regarding Santa visit
- 6) Thank you from Centennial Middle School coaches and players

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- County Fire Commissioners meeting, January 10, 2008, Percy's Café Americana
- Planning Workshop, Friday, January 11, 2008, 9:00 am, Station 82
- Thursday, January 24, 2008, Legislative Day
- SCFD8 recognition event, Friday, January 25, 2008, 6:00 pm, Decades

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners broke for Executive Session at 6:28 pm to discuss matters of personnel. Commissioner called the meeting back to order at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Hesse adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Gregory A. Hesse, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

William A. Walkup
District Secretary