

Spokane County Fire Protection District 8
Minutes of Regular Commissioners Meeting
February 12, 2008
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Boling at 6:00 p.m. Present were: Commissioner Lee Boling, Commissioner Jonathan Ferraiuolo, Chief William Walkup, Deputy Chief Tony Nielsen, Deputy Chief Lonnie Rash, Administrative Assistant Carol Trescott, members of the district, and members of the public. Commissioner Greg Hesse's absence was excused.

INTRODUCTIONS

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Agenda was amended as follows:

- 1) Commissioner Boling: Move **Election of Chairperson** from New Business, Item A, to Unfinished Business, Item A. This item was tabled at the previous meeting.
- 2) Chief Walkup: Add Executive Report, Item G, **Proposed Ponderosa Development**.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Election of Chairperson – Commissioner Ferraiuolo nominated Commissioner Greg Hesse to serve as Chairperson of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the year 2008.

Motion: Ferraiuolo/Boling to elect Commissioner Greg Hesse as Chairperson of the Board of Fire Commissioners for 2008. The Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Draft MOU with 3711 - Chief Walkup reported the purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding with Local 3711 was to address items effecting the collective bargaining agreement in reference to implementation of the proposed Advanced Life Support program. The MOU resolves those issues that both management and the bargaining unit could find in relationship to the program. The bargaining unit's executive board has reviewed the document and is scheduled to present it to their body for approval. Chief Walkup informed the board he will be asking for their action on the MOU at the February 21st Special Meeting.

Commissioner Ferraiuolo asked how the figures for salaries were derived. Chief Walkup said the district is using the same comparable agencies that were used to develop the bargaining unit's current salary schedule. He acknowledged the salary ranges are at the low end of those comparables and said 3711's executive board recognizes the district is attempting to get the program up and running. Commissioner Ferraiuolo thanked the local for working with the district.

Commissioner Boling asked the likelihood of attracting qualified candidates with the current salary range as listed. Chief Walkup responded that the salary range is fairly broad and said staff feels it should draw competent people to fill the needs of the district.

Commissioner Boling thanked everyone involved in the process.

B. Draft Levy Lid Lift Resolution and Ballot Title – As addressed during the recent Planning Workshop, Chief Walkup introduced draft Lid Lift Resolution and Ballot language, which he noted had been reviewed by legal counsel. Chief Walkup said he will be asking the board at the February 21 Special Meeting if they still want to run a Levy Lid Lift and if so, what rate they would want to levy.

EXECUTIVE REPORT

A. Newsletter – Chief Walkup informed the board that staff is moving forward with Lid Lift information to share with the community. The newsletter will also include an article on a recent CPR save at Mullen Road Elementary School.

C. Annexation Legislation – Chief Walkup told the board there are 20 bills addressing annexation in the current legislative session. He said at this time HB 2938 appears to be moving and could potentially come out of committee with an amendment or a first or second substitute bill which would include employee protection language. In addition, he thought that SHB Bill 1622, which addresses increasing the Boundary Review Board's authority to expand boundaries, may have an addition to it as well. The chief said Senator McCaslin is sponsoring a bill which includes a 10th objective addressing mitigation of impacts from annexation on other jurisdictions. Each of these proposed bills have come out of committee and must be out of the house by February 19th in order to move forward.

D. SCC Sabbatical – Chief Walkup informed the board the district has an opportunity to acquire a staff member of SCC who is on sabbatical and would be available to work part-time, 2-3 days a week, on projects for the district. This person has the skills to assist staff with professional development plans for our members, aid in the implementation of the district's new ALS program, develop a records custodian program for the district, and has experience in curriculum development. The cost to the district is \$6,500 which the chief felt would bring an excellent return.

E. Brush Units Bids – Chief Walkup reminded the board that bids are currently being accepted for two new brush units. The bid opening is scheduled for the next board meeting, March 11th.

F. Special Meeting – A Special Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners is called for Thursday, February 21, 2008, 11:30 am at the Spokane Club. The purpose of the meeting is to ask the board for authorization to sign the current MOU with 3711 regarding the ALS program.

In addition, the board will be asked to take action on their preferred Ballot Title and Resolution for a potential April 22nd Levy Lid Lift election. Commissioner Boling announced the meeting is open to the public.

G. Status of Station 82 – Chief Walkup addressed the catastrophic failure of the roof structure over the apparatus bay at Station 82 on February 6th. He noted the apparatus had been relocated and moved outside of the building before the roof collapse. Belfor Construction Services, a company specializing in fire and flood restoration, has been retained by the district and is coordinating the work effort of several contractors. The facility is in service and staff is able to work out of the both the administrative areas and living quarters. The chief reported Belfor, the engineering firms, and the insurance company is working with the district to determine if the building can be brought up to code. Chief Walkup noted Commissioner Ferraiuolo’s experience in this area and suggested that staff seek his input if needed. Belfor’s general manager is working with building and safety departments and expressed his desire that the building inspector require the facility be brought up to code.

As acting chair, Commissioner Boling appointed Commissioner Ferraiuolo to assist with the construction as needed.

H. Proposed Ponderosa Development – Chief Walkup told the board he received a visit from Larry Gutherie, who along with his father Ralph Gutherie, have developed a large portion of the Ponderosa area. Mr. Gutherie has eight lots remaining in the south end of Ponderosa Drive which he would like to develop and he asked for the fire district’s support. The chief said his response to Mr. Gutherie’s request was based on recent events in the area. He told Mr. Gutherie he was relatively certain the fire district was not going to be taking a position to support additional development but would review the plans with respect to the standards currently in place.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Letter to the City of Spokane relative to the Open Public Records Act

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Spokane County Fire Commissioners Association meeting, March 13, 2008, 7:00 pm at SCFD8, Station 81. Tom Mattern, Emergency Services is scheduled as guest speaker.
- The next Regular Meeting of Spokane County Fire District 8 Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11, 2008, 6:00 pm, at Station 82.
- Commissioner Boling expressed his pride in the work efforts of district members during and after the recent roof collapse at Station 82. He witnessed each member undertaking jobs as they were assigned and is in their area of expertise. He thanked Lt. Wainwright for his ability and skill in handling the situation, Chief Rash for his attention to the news media, and Captain Barker for the use of his motor home, and the crew who helped to dig the motor home out the snow. Commissioner Boling further thanked the entire membership for their efforts during this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The commissioners broke for Executive Session at 6:25 pm to discuss matters of personnel performance. No action is expected to be taken during Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Commissioner Hesse adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm.

Gregory A. Hesse, Chair
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

William A. Walkup
District Secretary