

# Spokane County Fire Protection District 8

## Minutes of Regular Commissioners Meeting

July 8, 2008

6:00 p.m.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Hesse at 5:00 p.m. Present were: Commissioner Gregory Hesse, Commissioner Lee Boling, Commissioner Jonathan Ferraiuolo, Chief William Walkup, Deputy Chief Tony Nielsen, Administrative Assistant Carol Trescott, members of the District, and members of the public.

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion: Boling/Ferraiuolo to approve the Consent Agenda with discussion of Item C, Approval of Expense Vouchers.** Commissioner Boling asked staff to research language used on the Voucher Approval relative to current practice in order to ensure statutory requirements are being met. The motion carried unanimously.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Volunteer Points Adjustment** – A placeholder was included in the 2008 Budget for an adjustment to volunteer points; payment rates for the District's volunteer members were last adjusted in 2004. Chief Walkup informed the Board that staff had completed an analysis report and recommended an increase of 16.6% for 2008 based on the Consumer Price Index. The recommended adjustment would leave a 13% cushion in place in the budgeted line item. The Chief reported the total expenditure would be an increase of approximately \$5,587 and requested the Board review the staff report and take any action they deem to be appropriate.

Commissioner Hesse suggested reviewing volunteer reimbursement on a more frequent basis given the rising costs incurred by the District's members. He stated his interest in being fair to the volunteer members.

Chief Walkup said there are a number of strategies the District could employ for reimbursement, including a fuel surcharge as used by the state mobilization act. He noted making an adjustment at this time is a start, and for further review, the District is nearing the 2009 budget development cycle.

Commissioner Boling asked if volunteer members receive mileage. Chief Walkup replied members receive points for incident response, but if a member participates in other types of preapproved District activities they can receive mileage.

**Motion: Boling/Ferraiuolo to authorize a 17% adjustment to the volunteer point value and direct the Fire Chief to research additional options to help offset the rising cost of fuel to the District's volunteer members.**

Commissioner Ferraiuolo inquired, and Chief Nielsen clarified, that the 16.6% figure was derived from the last three to four years consumer price index, June to June.

The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Monitor Nozzle Bids** – The District received two bids in response to its request for bids for four new Initial Attack Portable Monitors as budgeted for in the 2008 Budget. Chief Walkup opened each bid and read as follows:

- 1) General Fire Apparatus, Spokane, WA
  - a. Four (4) Akron Brass Mercury Attack Monitors, \$2,043 ea, plus tax; options additional
- 2) LN Curtis & Sons, Spokane, WA
  - a. Three (3) Blitz Fire Monitor Packages, \$2,500 ea, plus tax; options additional
  - b. One (1) Blitz Fire Monitor, demo model, \$2,300 ea, plus tax; options additional
  - c. Four (4) Akron Brass Mercury Attack Monitors \$1,781.25, plus tax; options additional

**Motion: Hesse/Ferraiuolo to direct staff to review all bids received for the Initial Attack Monitors and accept the lowest, most responsive bid.** The motion carried unanimously.

## **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

**Teambuilding Work Effort** – Chief Walkup reported the vendor chosen by RFP to conduct a teambuilding workshop had completed an initial assessment, interviews, and on-line assessments. The vendor compiled the data and spent the day with the Board and Chief Walkup reviewing that information and establishing strategies on how the board can work together more effectively.

Commissioner Hesse thanked his fellow commissioners and staff for their participation. He stated the workshop was informative for the Board and he felt the session that day had been productive. He also thanked the teambuilding facilitator, Rick Kramer.

Commissioner Ferraiuolo felt it was a positive day as well and helped the Board share viewpoints and gain new perspective. He added the exercises used and tool received were valuable for the Board's future development and will aid them in moving forward in a positive way.

Commissioner Boling agreed with both Commissioner Hesse and Commissioner Ferraiuolo and thanked the staff and Lt. Wainwright for their participation. He stated the Board received an outline of areas they need to work on and felt all involved walked away committed to working toward a positive, District oriented, Board.

Chief Walkup stated it was important to note that the interview data and analysis showed there is a lot going right within the District and much to be proud of in terms of strength of the membership and the commitment of the Board.

**B. Station 82 Update** – Chief Walkup informed the Board Spokane County has received the plans for Station 82’s roof rebuild and is now in the plan review and permitting stage.

The project is moving forward with Belfor Construction currently prepping the walls for new trusses.

**C. Staff Vehicle / Apparatus Bids** – Chief Walkup reported staff is currently exploring options for staff vehicles and is including a review of fuel efficient models.

Engine specifications are near completion for the new rescue pumper and should be out to bid in the near future.

**D. FTE Hire** - Chief Walkup and staff are close to selection on a FTE to fill the vacancy created when one of the District’s full-time members was called to military active duty. The Chief anticipated the process will be complete and a swearing in ceremony should take place at the BoFC meeting in August.

**Engine 82 Accident** – Chief Walkup shared details of an accident in which a vehicle towing a trailer lost control on the Palouse Highway and spun into Engine 82. According to patrol reports, if the engine had not stopped the vehicle, the SUV and trailer would likely have gone over an embankment. There were no injuries; the engine sustained damage to the front driver’s side corner and is currently at an auto shop for repairs.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 1) Various correspondence from legal
- 2) Spokesman Review articles regarding the City of Spokane and AMR
- 3) Invitation to SCFD9 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House, Sunday, July 13, 2007

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners is August 12, 2008, 6:00 pm
- Spokane County Fire Commissioners Association meeting, Thursday, July 10, 2008, District 2, Fairfield
- SCFD9 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Sunday, July 13, 2008

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, Commissioner Hesse adjourned the meeting at 5:28 pm.

---

Gregory A. Hesse, Chair  
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

---

William A. Walkup  
District Secretary