

**SPOKANE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO 8  
Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting**



**MEETING MINUTES**

October 4, 2022, 6:00 pm

**CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners was held at Station 82 and accessible on Zoom. Chair Lee Boling called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. In Attendance: Commissioner Andy Rorie, Commissioner Greg Hesse, Commissioner Lee Boling, Fire Chief Lonnie Rash, Assistant Chief Chris Wyrobek, District Secretary Carol Trescott, members of the District and members of the community.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Resolution 22-02, Regular Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Date Change.** A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioners Hesse: Move to adopt Resolution 22-02 as written. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Delete: New Business, Resolution 22-03

Delete: New Business, Resolution 22-04

Add: New Business, Apparatus Purchase

A motion was made by Commissioner Hesse and seconded by Commissioner Rorie: Move to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**

The following warrants and electronic transfers were approved for payment:

- Warrant Numbers 114280 through 114359 totaling \$416,634.20
- Electronic Transfers 09/01/2022 – 09/30/2022 totaling \$781,850.66

A motion was made by Commissioner Hesse and seconded by Commissioner Rorie: Move to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**A.** Maintenance and Operations Levy: In-depth discussion regarding a renewal of the District's Maintenance & Operations levy took place at the September 27th budget workshop. Chief Rash asked the Board to now determine an election date to place the M & O measure on the ballot and the amount they wish to request.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Hesse: Move to place the M & O levy request before the voters at the February 7, 2023 Special Election and at a rate of \$0.50. The motion carried unanimously.

Chief Rash will return to the Board in November with a resolution.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**A.** Draft 2023 Budget: Chief Rash presented the Board with a 2023 draft budget inclusive of capital projects. The draft budget meets contractual obligations with labor groups and contains a cola or salary adjustment for non-represented staff. The budget also funds many items and projects as discussed at the recent budget workshop.

The Chief said the request for funding to renovate Station 85 was removed from the budget until the time when a final set of drawings and an estimated cost for the project is complete; he believes both will be available mid-2023. Chief Rash will return to the Board in 2023 for potential action; at that time he will request a budget amendment in order to allocate funds from the Capital Improvement Plan to the expense plan.

Based on the insurance provider's cost/benefit recommendation, funding was added for station exterior surveillance. In addition, funding was also added to vehicle and equipment maintenance to cover unanticipated repairs.

**B.** Apparatus Purchase: Chief Rash said the 2022 budget includes funding for the purchase of one new structural engine, and the apparatus committee has completed specifications for that engine. Due to price increases, the cost of the engine is substantially more than the amount budgeted. In addition, delivery time for an engine is approximately 20 months. The Chief said the District is in critical need of two apparatus in order to complete the front-line replacement program and that a second engine purchase is in the Capital Replacement Plan in 2025.

As a result of the September budget workshop, and based on recent and future manufacturing increases, staff is requesting to purchase two like structure fire apparatus at a cost savings of approximately \$80,000. After working with Hughes Fire Equipment and Pierce Manufacturing, the Chief presented the Board with a proposal to order two Pierce engines in 2022. Staff was able to negotiate with Hughes to pay for one engine now and the second in 2024. The cost for two apparatus, inclusive of tax, is \$1,454,083.45. A payment of \$738,583 for the first engine is due in November of this year, and \$298,889 for a chassis prepay for the second engine will be due in January 2024. The final payment of \$416,612 will be due in April of 2024.

Members of the apparatus committee will have an opportunity to visit the manufacturer for a pre-design engineering conference, and then again for a final inspection. Pierce personnel will deliver the engines to the District.

Chief Rash provided the Board with an agreement between the District and Hughes Fire Equipment for purchase of two Pierce Saber Pumpers, Hughes Fire Equipment's proposal, and Brian Snure's legal opinion that using the Sourcewell purchasing cooperative meets purchase compliance requirements for acquiring the apparatus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rorie and seconded by Commissioner Hesse: Move to purchase two Pierce Saber Pumpers and authorize the Fire Chief to enter into the purchase agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE REPORT:** Chief Rash

**A.** Washington State Ratings Bureau: The Washington Surveying and Ratings Bureau (WSRB) is in the process of rerating the District. Chief WYROBEK reported that he met with a WSRB representative to provide them with specific documentation and records they had asked for. Records were compiled by each Division Chief in their area of responsibility and included apparatus maintenance and pump testing, preplans, hydrant locations and flows, access to information on responses, and run cards. The representative also took a brief tour of the station. Chief WYROBEK said the meeting went well and he anticipates receiving a final report from WSRB by the end of the year.

**B.** Washington State Covid-19 Vaccination Mandate: The state Firefighters Council and the state Chiefs Association are working through final outcomes relative to the governor rescinding the Covid-19 emergency order, as well as direction from the Department of Labor & Industries and the Department of Health. The District is bound by the Department of Health for emergency responders' licensure. Chief RASH said he anticipates returning to the Board for action in November.

**C.** City of Spokane Dispatch: The Spokane Fire Department is in negotiations with SREC to provide dispatch services for their agency. They are currently working on an Interlocal agreement in addition to looking at bringing that work to SREC long-term.

**D.** Pierce Trading Cards: The District's therapy dog, Pierce, now has his own trading cards. The cards provide a great opportunity to promote Pierce and are a good way to initiate conversation about the District's therapy dog program.

**E.** Baltimore Property: Mr. Hume mailed letters to five homeowners who live near the District's Baltimore Road property; the homeowners are to respond back by October 8<sup>th</sup>. A follow-up letter of confirmation will be mailed to those who did and to those who did not respond by the 8<sup>th</sup>. Chief RASH said the BoFC may wish to declare the property as surplus in an upcoming meeting. Attorney fees for legal counsel's work is \$200 per hour.

**F.** Draft Non-represented Salary Schedule: Chief RASH used the same comparable agencies used in union negotiations and completed a salary survey for the District's non-represented staff. The Chief provided the Board with a draft four-step salary schedule for their consideration with the goal of maintaining a spread between positions in order to eliminate salary compression.

**OPERATIONS REPORT:** Chief WYROBEK

**A.** The District's three SCBA technicians are inventorying the new SCBA equipment, fit testing all members, and working with Chief WILKINS on a training plan to put the equipment in service early next year.

Maintenance has completed an inventory of the new extrication tools and is working on a setup for mounting the equipment on the trucks. The extrication cadre is working with Chief WILKINS this month on developing a lesson plan for training with the expectation of having the equipment on apparatus by the end of this year.

Captain Wainwright worked with Streetwise to resolve a glitch in their software; we are now able to see the entire county's resources on our maps and in real time.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. WFCFA Annual Conference is 10/26 – 10/29 in Spokane
- B. NWLS will be 03/01/2023 – 03/03/2023 in Portland

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

At 6:41 pm, Commissioner Boling recessed the regular meeting to Executive Session for 10 minutes per RCW 42.30.110 (1)(c), to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price; and, RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. Commissioner Boling stated the regular meeting will resume at 6:51 pm.

At 6:51pm, Commissioner Boling announced Executive session will be extended for an additional eight minutes, until 7:00 pm.

At 7:00 pm Commissioner called the regular meeting back in session. No decision were made in Executive Session.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:01 pm Commissioner Boling adjourned the regular meeting.

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Lee C. Boling, Chair  
Fire District 8 Commissioner

ATTEST:

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Carol L. Trescott, District Secretary