

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
September 14, 2020**

Chair Holm called the Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Central Pierce Fire & Rescue to order at 5:00 p.m. at District Headquarters – 17520–22nd Ave E, Tacoma, Washington. Present in person were Chair Holm, Deputy Chiefs Eric Stueve and Russ Karns, FD Robacker, HR Director Washo, and Executive Assistant Porter, recorder. Attending by call-in were Commissioners Stringfellow, Coleman, Willis and Eckroth. Ex-Officio/Mayor Door joined the meeting by phone at 5:08. Audio call-in was available to the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to approve the agenda. **MOTION CARRIED.**

CITIZEN COMMENTS (FOR ITEMS NOT SPECIFICALLY ON THE AGENDA)

No citizen comments were received.

CONSENT AGENDA (SINGLE MOTION)

A. Excused Absences:

B. Minutes: Regular Board Meeting of August 24, 2020

C. Approval of:

| | | |
|--|----|---------------------|
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 55095 to 55130 totaling | \$ | 142,511.99 |
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 55131 to 55142 totaling | \$ | 4,261,584.15 |
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 55143 to 55143 totaling | \$ | 6,106.04 |
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 55144 to 55164 totaling | \$ | 561,935.85 |
| Net Payroll Warrants Numbered 107443 to 107450 totaling | \$ | 51,092.20 |
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 54786 to 54786 totaling | \$ | (133.53) |
| Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 55080 to 55080 totaling | \$ | (490.00) |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 5,022,606.70 |

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to approve the Consent Agenda with warrants totaling \$5,022,606.70. **MOTION CARRIED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (SECOND READING AND FINAL ACTION)

No unfinished business

NEW BUSINESS (FIRST READING – FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW ONLY)

No new business.

CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUESTS

A. Lieutenant EMS Eligibility List and Captain EMS Eligibility List

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Coleman seconded to approve the Lieutenant – EMS Eligibility List and Captain – EMS Eligibility List effective September 14, 2020, through June 30, 2022. **MOTION CARRIED.**

B. ERF Budget – Fuel Delivery System

DC Karns explained that this was brought to the Board's attention last year, but was not implemented. The proposed system will be much more reliable for fuel delivery tracking and other data collection. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to authorize 2020 appropriation of \$158,000 from the Equipment Replacement Fund (ERF) to Division 204 for fuel delivery system replacement.

MOTION CARRIED.

C. Board Policy Approvals

i. 216 – Conflict of Interest/Gifts

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to approve updated Policy 216 – Conflict of Interest/Gifts dated September 14, 2020. **MOTION CARRIED.**

ii. 354 – Memberships in Service and Civic/Service Organizations

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Coleman seconded to approve Policy 354 – Memberships in Service and Civic/Service Organizations dated September 14, 2020. **MOTION CARRIED.**

iii. 357 - Surplus

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to approve Policy 357 – Surplus Property dated September 14, 2020. **MOTION CARRIED.**

STAFF, LOCAL, FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION AND FIRE CHIEF REPORTS (For Information Only)

Chief Karns updated the Board on Station 72 activities.

The following divisions provided a written report in the packet:

- A. Training – AC Juarez
- B. Health & Safety – AC McKenzie
- C. Logistics – AC Stueve

- D. Human Resources – HRD Washo gave an update on Local 726 contract negotiations.
- E. Community & Government Relations – Capt. Shaw
- F. DC Operations – DC Stueve expanded on the Duty Chief program.
- G. Fire Chief – Chief Olson. DC Stueve provided updates on several topics in the Fire Chief's report. Commissioner Stringfellow remarked that it was a well-thought-out letter included in the report. DC Stueve gave credit to our people for responding where needed during the recent events. DC Stueve asked the Board if anyone would prefer to attend BOC meetings at headquarters in a clean environment with face-to-face capabilities.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter of Appreciation

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Stringfellow strongly expressed his desire to instruct the Fire Chief and Admin to detail, in writing, communications that the District has been involved in to defend its position on fire safety with Pierce County. It will be important to share that information with our citizens. Pierce County officials are not seeing what is going on and the builders association is protecting their own interests at the risk of public safety. The District is being disrespected and trivialized in their attempt to change the fire code to save lives. Discussion followed on bringing forward a motion at the next meeting. He also commented that Staff provided a strong conflict of interest policy for employees to follow. He was sorry to hear of retired firefighter Bob Helle's passing; he was a great guy and will be missed.

Commissioner Eckroth supports preparation of a motion for the next meeting. He voiced his concern that SS911's system may not be robust enough.

Commissioner Holm expressed his frustration with those representing the builders and their lack of accurate information. There needs to be more awareness of what the District has done to promote fire safety and also the responses, or lack thereof, to our concerns. As a representative of the SS911 Board, he is aware of their system outages and it may be time to explore alternatives. He praised those responsible for managing the District's Operations Center and their foresight to have the room staffed and ready to dispatch calls. DC Stueve noted that dispatching our own calls was a cost to the District. Chair Holm said that, through earlier communications with the Board, the majority is willing to come in to a clean environment to attend meetings, as face-to-face communications are important.

Commissioner Willis supports a motion to direct documentation of fire safety concerns brought to the county. He spoke of SS911 system failures and the lack of redundancy of services. Staff did well covering during the time dispatch was down.

Commissioner Coleman echoed other Board members' comments and he hopes to see resolve of the issue with the county.

Ex-Officio Door concurred with the option of face-to-face meetings. She thanked everyone for educating her and other city leaders on recent events. She requested the cost to the District to cover dispatch during the outage.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.



MATTHEW HOLM
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



TANYA ROBACKER
DISTRICT SECRETARY



DIANNE PORTER
RECORDER