

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
July 12, 2021**

Chair Holm called the Regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Central Pierce Fire & Rescue to order by Zoom webinar at 5:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Holm, Stringfellow, Coleman, Willis and Eckroth, Chief Olson, Deputy Chief Stueve, HRD Washo, FD Robacker, L726 President James, and Executive Assistant Porter, recorder. Mayor Door joined the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION #1**

At 5:04 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to move into Executive Session for 15 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. Attorney Ron Van Wert joined the meeting during this session until 5:19 p.m.

At 5:19 p.m., Chair Holm extended the meeting for five minutes.

At 5:24 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Coleman seconded to return to Regular Session. **MOTION CARRIED.** No action was taken during Executive Session.

**PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT SPECIFICALLY ON THE AGENDA)**

No public comment.

**CONSENT AGENDA (SINGLE MOTION)**

A. Excused Absences:

B. Minutes: Regular Board Meeting of June 28, 2021

C. Approval of:

Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 56281 to 56311 totaling	\$	173,795.80
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>173,795.80</b>

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to approve the Consent Agenda with warrants totaling \$173,795.80. **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. Fire Chief Selection Process

The application period is open and runs through July 31, 2021. HRD Washo reported that six applications have been received.

B. Consultant for Strategic Messaging

The purpose of hiring a consultant is to assist with providing continuity in delivering a clean, clear message for the upcoming elections in 2022. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to approve authorizing Fire Chief Olson to sign the agreement with Lund Faucett and appropriate \$27,000 from the Administration budget for levy messaging. **MOTION CARRIED.**

C. Board of Commissioner Meetings Transition

Open public meeting options have become available. Discussion followed on options moving forward. Commissioners shared their concerns in immediately returning to in-person meetings. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to continue status quo with Zoom meetings and evaluate at the end of August. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

The following divisions provided a written report in the packet:

- A. Human Resources – HRD Washo is working on unexpected recruitments for Payroll Analyst and IT Director along with some that were expected. Work with L726 on contract negotiations has begun.
- B. Training – AC Juarez reported that Recruit Class 21-1 had a good first week. His division is working with AC Stueve on a Train-The-Trainer program for ladder truck training.
- C. Field Operations – AC Kent provided the June Operations/EMS Report in the packet. 4<sup>th</sup> of July update –Operations was upstaffed and ready with the District Operations Center was open. It wasn't as busy as expected. Kudos to the crews on overtime and those that manned the DOC. There is a push to update



operations policies. He reported on a fire today. Crews were fast, safe, and aggressive.

- D. EMS – AC Bouchard. Almost 80 EMTs and Paramedics were recertified through Pierce County EMS and the Department of Health. It was a big project. Kudos to Jackie Wood and Captain Fox for a job well done.
- E. DC Operations – DC Stueve reported that despite diligent follow-up on our in-house Active Units application, it is down. We are looking to replace it with a commercially available product.
- F. Fire Chief –Chief is working with Attorney Quinn on ballot language for the benefit charge in 2021 and he will be at next meeting to explain language. E911 funding continues to move along. Pierce County adopted our fire code request. It has been the accumulation of three years of work and has a profound effect on safety in the future. Fitch is on-site for the EMS study. Thanks to DC Stueve for coordinating their visit. The Board will receive an overview of the new website at the next meeting. Pictures of the new ladder truck were provided in the packet. They are great looking vehicles and thanks to Chief Karns and AC Stueve for taking the lead to get these trucks delivered for our community. Thankfully, we didn't have the opportunity to need our high level of preparedness over 4<sup>th</sup> of July. It is okay to be over-prepared. Good job to AC Kent. Chair Holm expressed his appreciation for the hard work on the fire code adoption. It is a big step to better serve citizens and the community.

L726/President James reported the Local is working on negotiations and looks forward to working with management. They are hoping to host more events at the Union Hall and, hopefully, host the holiday get together this year.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Ex-Officio Door reported on Puyallup City Council activities.

Commissioner Coleman thanked everyone for their hard work and continued service to the community.

Commissioner Eckroth requested the Board send a thank you letter to Pierce County Council for their adoption of the fire code updates. Chief Olson offered to draft a letter for their review. He expressed his appreciation to the EMS crew that recently helped a family member and will send a letter to EMS Chief Bouchard

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION #2**

At 6:21 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to move into Executive Session for 10 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the

performance of a public employee until 6:31 p.m.

At 6:31 p.m., Chair Holm extended the meeting for 10 minutes.

At 6:41 p.m., Chair Holm extended the meeting for 3 minutes.


At 6:44 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to return to Regular Session. **MOTION CARRIED.** No action was taken during Executive Session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

  
MATTHEW HOLM  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

  
TANYA ROBACKER  
DISTRICT SECRETARY

  
DIANNE PORTER  
RECORDER