

**CENTRAL PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
November 8, 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 Chair Holm, Commissioners Stringfellow, Coleman, Willis and Eckroth, Ex-Officio/Mayor Door, Chief Olson, Deputy Chiefs Karns and Stueve, FD Robacker, Assistant Chiefs Juarez, Stueve and Kent, and Executive Assistant Porter, recorder.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chair Holm noted the Agenda was misdated as November 11<sup>th</sup>. He stated the need for an Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to review the performance of a public employee. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to approve the agenda as amended. **MOTION CARRIED.**

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

No public comment.

**CONSENT AGENDA (SINGLE MOTION)**

A. Excused Absences:

B. Minutes: Special Board Meeting of October 18, 2021  
Regular Board Meeting of October 25, 2021

C. Approval of:

Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 56688 to 56688 totaling	\$	11,630.00
Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 56689 to 56709 totaling	\$	688,340.29
Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 56710 to 56719 totaling	\$	5,150,427.71
Accounts Payable Warrants Numbered 56720 to 56739 totaling	\$	143,839.84
Net Payroll Warrants Numbered 107564 to 107571 totaling	\$	54,574.16
Net Payroll Warrants Numbered 107572 to 107572 totaling	\$	324.95
Net Payroll Warrants Numbered 107573 to 107575 totaling	\$	71.93
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6,049,208.88</b>

Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to approve the Consent Agenda with warrants totaling \$6,049,208.88. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**NEW FIRE CHIEF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION**

Chief Olson introduced Dustin Morrow, the Board's selection for the next Fire Chief. Morrow thanked the Board for the opportunity, and offered to answer any further questions. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to approve the contract for Dustin Morrow to be appointed the Fire Chief of Central Pierce Fire & Rescue effective December 1, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**2022 PRELIMINARY BUDGET – SECTION 4 REVIEW**

Operations (Suppression & EMS), Specialty Teams, Academy, Training, GO Debt, Bond Projects and Financial Forecast.

Division heads presented their proposed budgets. FD Robacker reviewed the other components of the budget. Major changes from the previous budget cycle were discussed. Copies of the presentation slides were included in the Board packet.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET**

Chair Holm announced the public hearing on the 2022 Annual Budget and opened the floor for public comment. The proposed 2022 Annual Budget is \$100,604,767, a 12.1% increase over 2021. The tax rate will be set at 101% for the Regular Tax Levy and 101% for the EMS Levy. Having received no comments, Chair Holm closed the public hearing.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING ON 2022 BENEFIT CHARGE**

Chair Holm announced the public hearing on the 2022 Benefit Charge and opened the floor for public comment. The proposed amount of revenue for collection in 2022 is \$25,899,804.00. This reflects a 5% increase over 2021. The cost factor will be adjusted accordingly. Having received no comments, Chair Holm closed the public hearing.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS (SECOND READING AND FINAL ACTION)**

No unfinished business.

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

- A. 2022 Budget – FD Robacker
  - i. Resolution No. 21-05– Regular Levy
  - ii. Resolution No. 21-06 – EMS Levy
  - iii. Resolution No. 21-07 – Benefit Charge
  - iv. Resolution No. 21-08 – Budget Adoption & Levy Certification

First reading only of the standard resolutions required annually by Pierce County.

- B. Resolution No. 21-09 Re-establishing Benefit Charge Policy and Procedures

Attorney Eric Quinn previously brought this resolution forward upon recommendation to modernize and update the benefit charge process.

#### **CONSIDERATIONS AND REQUESTS**

- A. Board Meeting Options

The Board agreed in August to revisit the status of open public meetings in November. Chief Olson recommended continuing virtual meetings due to on-going COVID conditions. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to continue virtual meetings until at least the first meeting in January. **MOTION CARRIED.**

- B. Debt Pay-off Request

FD Robacker said that the Finance Committee's recommendation is to pay off all remaining lease debt, with the money coming from the GEMT and General Funds. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to approve and



appropriate paying off all capital lease debt in the amount of \$3,448,509.03 from Division 201 in the ERF Fund, appropriating General Fund and GEMT transfers as needed. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**C. Equipment Replacement Fund (ERF) Expenditures**

The Finance Committee also recommends that certain apparatus be purchased in 2021 to capture pre-payment discounts. Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Willis seconded to appropriate and authorize purchase/prepayment in the amount of \$3,794,326 from the ERF Fund for one aerial, one engine, and four medic units. **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. Chief Olson referred to her report and the tremendous amount of good work being done by the HR Division.
- B. Training – AC Juarez reported that CPFR was very well represented at the training academy in North Bend both by instructors and Recruit Class 21-1. A smaller than usual recruit graduation ceremony is scheduled for December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm at the Union Hall. COVID protocols will be in place.
- C. Field Operations – AC Kent noted that operations is wrapping up 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter goals. A new KPI report has been created for the Battalion Chiefs.
- D. EMS – AC Bouchard.
- E. DC Operations – DC Stueve's group has landed on a special teams' assessment consultant. Chief Olson noted the incredible body of work that has been done on this project.
- F. Fire Chief – Chief Olson shared that it looks like a pathway has been found to solve the concern on the South Sound 911 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% sales tax issue. Staff met with the EMS Assessment group and they are putting together a report for the Board. There are some COVID exposures with our personnel that are being addressed. We are readdressing procedures, respiratory protection, and training.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. Banner Donation
- B. Citizen Message of Appreciation

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Ex-Officio/Mayor Door is grateful to Chief Olson for his role in the South Sound 911

sales tax issue. The City of Puyallup has sold property near the Senior Center for condominium construction.

Commissioner Stringfellow acknowledged the great job everyone has done on the budget again this year.

Commissioner Willis thanked Chief Olson and Mayor Door for their work on the South Sound 911 finance issues.

Commissioner Coleman thanked everyone for their efforts and great work.

Commissioner Eckroth thanked Tanya for another great job on the annual budget. He also thanked Mayor Door and Chair Holm for their work with South Sound 911.

Commissioner Holm expressed his thanks to Mayor Door, Chair of South Sound 911 Policy Board, and Chief Olson for working behind the scenes to make the sales tax issue happen. He understands and appreciates all that HRD Washo juggles and the fantastic job done by Tanya.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:25 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Eckroth seconded to move into Executive Session for five minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) - to review the performance of a public employee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

At 6:30 p.m., Chair Holm extended the meeting for five minutes.

At 6:35 p.m., Commissioner Stringfellow moved and Commissioner Coleman 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 Willis seconded to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

  
MATTHEW HOLM  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

  
TANYA ROBACKER  
DISTRICT SECRETARY

  
DIANNE PORTER  
RECORDER