



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY  
FIRE DISTRICT 26**

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**Business Meeting Minutes, June 13, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 19:20. Present were Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, Vice Commissioner Chair Pat Sample, and Commissioners Molly Olson, Kate Hayes, Michelle Adie, Mike Moore, Leigh Christianson, Dean Johnson, Doug Rupp and Dean Johnson. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Assistant Chief Ernie Walters, and Secretary Karen McPeters (Recorder). Lieutenant Rob Thurston was also present to assist with the new commissioner laptops.

Commissioner Mike Moore resigned his position after many years of service to the fire department. Mike was a long-time commissioner, previously a firefighter, and was instrumental in forming the FD. He has given a letter of resignation to the board, and there is no plan to refill his position.

**Public Commentary:** There was no public commentary.

**Chief's Report**

**2019 Taxes** - Brian Snure has drafted a resolution for the collection of taxes in 2018. Karen has been working with the county treasurer and comptrollers for next year's levy. The county needs direction from the commissioners as soon as possible to arrange 2019 tax assessments. The board determined during the investigation phase that GO Bonds would only apply to the tax payers in the area that was originally voted to approve them. After talking to our attorney this is entirely up to the board of commissioners. The board will, however, stick with this plan, since that was conveyed to residents of the prior District 28 before the vote to merge. The resolution stipulates that GO bonds stay with voters approving and all other taxes will be equally applied.

**Water Rescue** - We have had two drownings already this year on the river with large rescue responses. One victim was the step brother of Chief Silva from Fire District 7. We are posting many reminders of the dangers of the river and our life vest loaner program.

**CWPP** - Partnering with Snohomish County Department of Emergency management, DNR and the USFS our district has created a wildland safety community. This has been used in other states in certain communities that have a high wildland fire risk but is new to Snohomish County. A public open house took place tonight at Station 54 1700 – 1900 hrs. The event was very well attended.

## **OPERATIONS**

**Brush Truck:** The new brush truck is operational and being outfitted with equipment. The truck is awaiting the last truck box to be delivered, but it is fully operational.

We finished the initial and refresher class for our wildland firefighter and we currently have 28 personnel on our deployment list for this year. (We had about 16 last year).

**Station 53 update:** Assist Chief Walters emailed the Mayor (Bill Clem) multiple times to try and set up a meeting to discuss the Precinct building at station 53 with little success. Commissioner Tubbs is working on getting an appraisal on Linda and Marney Larsen's house to see how much it is worth. An appraisal will be scheduled. The assessed value is \$130,000. The lot is only 33x108 ft, so it's not yet clear if a variance would be possible.

**WSRB Review:** This week we had the Washington State Rating Bureau come out and start the process of rerating the new merged district. The previous ISO rating for District 26 was: Town of Gold Bar – 5, Unincorporated Snohomish County – 5. The previous ISO rating for District 28 was: Town of Index – 7, Unincorporated Snohomish County – 8. The expected new ISO rating would be a 5 across the board. (We discussed this with WSRB personnel prior to the merger and they expected it to be a 5).

**BURNING REDUCTION PROGRAM** – Free chipping will be available at Station 54 on July 14<sup>th</sup> from noon to 4 pm. Branches up to 6 in in diameter will be accepted.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES / TRAINING**

**Maps** – Deputy Chief Jarrod Spence is working on establishing new maps showing new District boundaries.

**Computers** – The district has completed installation of commissioners' computers and set them up with district ID's. Karen has a new laptop for district business that can be taken home or to meetings and docked in office. We have established a new server room and once everything is run for wires and equipment we will make the change sometime over the summer/fall. All the departments are currently linked and operating as needed. Once moved we will also finish linking up the phone systems.

**New Member Testing** - Testing is in progress to establish a new list of members. A written test was given last week, and interviews are scheduled in next few weeks.

**Truck Academy** - We recently put on a Truck Academy for the department and had 15 individuals from our department take part. Most instructors were returning or current volunteer members who now work either full time around the northwest or maintain their current volunteer status at district #26. The academy was established in coordination with the training division and headed by our volunteer member Lt. Willis Reed who also works full time with Shoreline Fire. Willis and other members worked hard in preparing training props to allow live fire burning and effective fire scenarios providing essential ventilation, search, forcible entry and fire attack

training unlike any other department currently around the county. Thanks goes to Willis and other members who worked hard on this academy. It provides a huge cost savings to the department through in-house training and valuable experience and hands on training between past and present members.

**Fire Attack Training** - LT Reed is also looking at holding an Engine Academy focusing on fire attack, hose handling and other engine crew responsibilities. With the additional props already built this will be another excellent training opportunity for our members.

**Basic Firefighter 26/7 Academy** – Spence is in talks again with District 7 to plan for the upcoming joint academy. It will be primarily based around using a combination of online and hands on training using NFPAs, free online-based training that was trialed here last year for the first time in our county. Since then a number of districts have reached out for help and guidance with its use. This type of training will put more ownership on the individuals for the book knowledge and provide a greater opportunity for essential hands on training. With the previously mentioned academies, the district has new and improved props to increase essential practical training to improve on recruits' and volunteers' skill levels. The Academy will be in starting in September.

## **EMS**

**Certifications** – MSA Matt Abers is working with State Department of Health combining EMS certifications from FD 28 moved to FD 26. He is establishing ten new employees with state EMT certification affiliation with our agency.

**King County EMS Funding** – Abers has attended several meetings with King County EMS on the renewal of their six-year levy. They are seeking information and justification for our costs associated with providing King # 50 ALS services. We are proposing an increase to current level funding, as well as Capital Asset Funding to help fund capital EMS equipment purchases.

**EMS Training** - All EMT-B's were trained in the use of Supraglottic airways. This allows our Basic EMTs to insert a more secure patient airway than they were previously allowed to perform, and is extra training added to EMT B training. 10 new EMTs are coming online.

**Q.A.** - Two Quality Assurance investigations were reviewed, one considered minor and one unfounded.

## **Secretary's Report**

**Transports:** May transport payments by level of service were viewed.

**Notary Public:** Notary services are now available. Pat moved to not charge a fee for now and re-evaluate in Dec. Kate seconded.

**Budget-** 5% over for to date, due to insurance and apparatus expenditures. Also transport revenue is only at 30%. The revenue report with the combined funds from the merger will be

available next month.

## **Consent Agenda**

**Minutes:** Molly moved to approve the minutes from the May 10 Consolidated District 26/28 meeting, and with a second from Pat, the motion passed unanimously.

**Vouchers:** Bill moved to approve vouchers 233-2018 through 272-2018 for \$78,798.70 and 273-2018 through 280-2018 for \$19,208.26. With a second from Dean, the motion passed unanimously.

**Payroll:** Bill moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$71160.44 and with a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

## **Action Items**

**Galena Rd Cell Coverage:** Doug spoke to the Wireless Infrastructure Assoc, and a company called CTM. They had questions about the power source for the SERS tower (powered by generator), and how the data is sent (via microwave link). Permission from SERS would be needed to use tower. The state legislature would have to fund, and there are funds available for this kind of project.

**FD 26 Resolution 05-2018, Guidance for Assessor:** Bill moved to adopt Resolution 05-2018 stating that outstanding G.O. Bonds for both Districts 26 and 28 shall be assessed only against the properties within the original boundaries of the two districts, and non-voted bonds shall be paid out of the general property tax levy and assessed within the entire boundary of the merged district. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

## **Discussion Items**

**Commissioner Elections:** The board is still researching the requirements for reducing the size of the board now that the merger is complete. It is believed that every 2 years, all commissioners whose terms expire run for a single position until 5 commissioners remain.

## **New Business**

The next meeting of Fire District 26 will be on July 11 at 19:00 at Station 53.  
Leigh may not be in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 20:31.