



Clark County Fire & Rescue Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes

January 27, 2016

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kolke at 3:00 p.m.

Flag Salute lead by Kolke.

Present: Commissioners Jon Babcock, Dave Town, Bob Johnson, Larry Bartel. Chief Administrative Officer Ron Oliver. Division Chiefs Dan Yager, Mike Jackson. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth. Jerry Kolke excused.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Bartel to *adopt the consent agenda with the change that we remove the two requests for pay for the community event in La Center as in October we passed a unanimous motion to change our pay policy for the remainder of 2015 and all of 2016 to reflect that to save money and set the example we would not authorize pay for these types of events.* Second Town. Discussion.

Bartel shared that he had a conversation with Commissioner Kolke where he told Bartel he had forgotten the October discussion. Bartel stated that Commissioner Kolke did not mean to put down a pay request for the La Center event. Bartel suggested that the Board be cautious to avoid doing things in conflict with established policy.

Babcock stated he wasn't sure what to call it, but felt it was a worthwhile event. In the past the Board has neglected the relationships with our neighboring agencies. Felt it was a compensable event. He stated that things have changed; the District was previously in crisis mode. The union stepped up with a wage freeze to add a position. Agreed that was needed and appreciated the fact. Stated that as Kolke felt it was a mistake, then okay reverse the pay, but reminder to everyone that we need to start thinking about rebuilding relationships. The Board needs to attend agency events to make that happen. Let's not forget the big picture. Bartel stressed the importance of following policy and agreed the Board needs to get involved again, but not be compensated unless there is a policy change. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously. Kolke and Babcock time will be adjusted in the next pay cycle.

COMMUNICATIONS

Received a note from a citizen thanking the crews for excellent service provided on an A shift call earlier this month.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board

Will be rebidding the interior paint project. Engine 151 was placed into surplus to be sold at auction. There is a significant flooding issue on one of the driveways. County Public Works will take a look and see what, if anything, they can do. The run off drain line may need to be rotored if there is a blockage to be cleared.

Clark County Risk Management Group

No meeting. Nothing to report.

EMS Council

No meeting. Nothing to report. Next meeting in March.

RFA Committee

Next meeting on Tuesday, February 2; 6pm at Station 21. Liz Loomis, a political consultant, will be presenting a proposal at the meeting.

Cowlitz Negotiation Committee

To be discussed.

Finance Committee

No meeting.

Commissioner Updates

None.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Chief Oliver provided an update on the fire chief recruit process. There are six candidates. Two from Washington, two from Oregon, one from Nevada and one from California. All have similar experience and credentials. Working on assembling the assessors for the interview process. Ensuring that the IT bugs are worked out prior to the video conferencing portion of the process. Clark 2 Commissioner Ken Ayers will participate as an assessor. The District social/banquet is scheduled for Friday, March 11. Jason Leavitt is coordinating. Good discussion at the last senior staff meeting regarding the new chief. Talked about what the Board expectations might be. Need to get the process going for the strategic plan update. Talked about what can be done to make this a healthy place for the new chief to step in. Let him get to work on the Board's goals. Focusing on improving station and apparatus cleanliness and daily maintenance. Importance of keeping things prepped and ready for the next shift. Want to be consistent among all shifts and stations. Working on commercial building familiarization and pre-fire development. Oliver is doing research for a formal mobilization policy. Has spoken with Chief Dave LaFave at Cowlitz 2 Fire & Rescue. They are also in the process of developing a policy. Need to set some boundaries. Important to be fair, but must do the right thing for the District. Currently identifying issues and have assigned personnel to research and make recommendations for corrections. Won't start working on the Strategic Plan until the new chief starts. He will determine the priority order of things to do. Chief Oliver commented that there are a number of good people in the department. Individuals are really stepping up to the challenges. The department has great potential.

Chief Yager advised that the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau has given notice that they will be re-rating the District this year. Asking for a postponement until after the new

chief starts. Staff capacity is also an issue. Will need to get a handle on workload before getting going on this huge project.

COWLITZ INDIAN TRIBE SERVICE CONTRACT

Bartel summarized some of the possible improvements that might be funded with the Cowlitz service contract. Discussion. Motion by Town to enter into the Fire and Emergency Medical Protection agreement with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe as presented. Second Johnson. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Annual contract amounts are based on what other businesses would pay in the District utilizing insured value, which is close to assessed value. The Clark County Assessor has declined to assess the property. The contract includes language for renewal negotiations at the end of this contract period. Contract will go before the Tribal council on Friday, January 29.

Ground breaking at the casino work site will be held on February 14. Asked for the District to be on stand by. Bartel advised they will be sending an official invite to the event.

Konkright asked about the payment breakdown – why different amounts in each year. The plan is to open the casino over memorial weekend in 2017. Based on occupancy and substantial completion, the Tribe could've waited two years before making any payments. It is a good faith effort to compensate the District as progress is made. Coverage cost for any additional commercial structures will be negotiated as they come up. Will look at applying the District's current millage rate should the County start assessing the buildings.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS/OTHER

Bartel advised that Clark 3 Chief Steve Wrightson is doing much better. Oliver stated Chief Wrightson will be participating in the assessment process.

LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

Executive Session

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 3:32 PM.



Attest, Ron Oliver
Interim Chief Administrative Officer

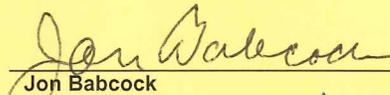


CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE CONSENT AGENDA January 27, 2016

1. Minutes – January 13 General Meeting
2. Pre-paid Invoices
 - \$ 33,201.60 (CCFR Q4-15 Payroll Tax)
 - i. Check Nos. 5554 – 5555 dated December 31, 2015
 - \$ 70,201.87 (CCFR Benefits – January Med Ins Premiums)
 - i. Check No. 5556 dated January 14, 2016
3. Current Invoices
 - \$151,874.35 (CCFR)
 - i. Check Nos. 16045 – 16076
 - \$ 1,926.03 (FFFB)
 - i. Check Nos. 16041 – 16044
4. Approved Commissioner Stipends Payable January 29

Name	For the Period December 16 thru January 15						Total
	Regular Meeting	Committee Meeting	RFA Mtg	Assn Meeting	Educ	Other	
Babcock	2					1	3
Bartel	1	1					2
Johnson	2	1					3
Kolke	2					1	3
Town	2						2

5. Financial Report
 - 2015 Financial Statements
 - 2016 YTD Financial Statements



Jon Babcock

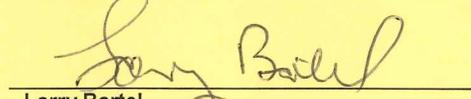
Jerry Kolke



James R Johnson



David Town



Larry Bartel

Staff Report



To: Commissioners, Chief Administrator Oliver, Division Chief Dawdy

From: Dan Yager, Administrative Division Chief

Date: 1/27/2016

Re: BVFF Volunteer Pension Benefit

Historically, the annual \$60 pension contribution to the Board for Volunteer Firefighters has been split 50/50 between the District and the interested volunteer. There are generally only 10-15 members who participate in this program.

As an additional benefit to promote volunteer longevity, we propose paying 100% of the pension contributions for all volunteers with 3 years of service completed as of January 1 of the year payment is due. Additional conditions are that the volunteer has made at least one pension contribution co-pay and that they are current with their training and response requirements.

Should everyone remain up to date, there are currently 13 members who will meet the proposed guidelines on January 1, 2017. There are an additional 8 members who have or will hit the 3 year mark this year, but have not yet made a contribution to the pension program. The estimated *additional* cost to the District would be between \$390 and \$630, dependent on 2016 participation. This represents only half the total cost, but the District is already obligated to contribute 50% for those members desiring to participate in the program.

Over the next four years we project the total annual cost to be \$750 to \$1,200. Historically, specific individuals in the 3-5 year range come and go, but the overall total is pretty consistent so this should be a fairly stable number. There are a handful of members in the range of 19-21 years of service. They will drop off once they hit 25 years – the maximum number of contributions allowed.

Of the incentives available to our volunteers, this is a relatively inexpensive method to encourage and reward volunteer longevity.

Recommendation that the Board approve funding the expansion of the District's volunteer retention benefits whereby the District will cover 100% of the BVFF pension program contribution for those compliant volunteer members who have completed 3 years of service and have provided at minimum one year of contribution co-pay.