



8800 NE Hazel Dell Avenue ■ Vancouver, WA 98665
(360) 576-1195 ■ Fax (360) 576-1198 ■ http://ccfd6.org

MINUTES
Clark County Fire District 6 Commissioners Meeting
Regular Meeting
Station 1, 7:30 p.m.
July 7, 2009

POST

Members present: Vice Chairman Bloemke, Commissioner Collins (Commissioner Spring by phone)

Meeting called to order.

Dick Streissguth led the assemblage in the Pledge of Allegiance

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion approving the June 16, 2009 regular meeting minutes and the June 29, 2009 Special Workshop minutes and to have them posted for public view and on the website.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The annual National Association of Elected Fire Officials conference will be in Las Vegas on September 28th and September 29th. Currently Commissioners Spring and Bloemke are planning to attend.

CITIZENS COMMUNICATION:

Dick Streissguth, 9216 NE Hazel Dell Avenue, indicated he might wish to speak during discussion regarding the use of the Liz Loomis Public Affairs firm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Safety: Safety reports were included in Board packets.
- Parade: District 6 equipment participated in the 4th of July parades in Ridgefield, Felida and Mt. Vista.

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda.

Number of Calls Report:

<u>Calls, June 2008</u>		<u>Calls, June 2009</u>	
EMS	351	EMS	359
Fire	57	Fire	55
Total	408	Total	414

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HAZEL DELL - LAKESHORE - FELIDA - SALMON CREEK - MT. VISTA - FAIRGROUNDS

<u>Calls to Date 2008</u>		<u>Calls to Date 2009</u>	
EMS	2221	EMS	2138
Fire	319	Fire	332
Total	2540	Total	2470

CHIEFS REPORT:

Chiefs and Operation Chiefs of District 6, Vancouver Fire Department and Clark County Fire & Rescue met with ESCi representatives on June 29th to review drafts of a Clark County Training Program Evaluation.

Board members received an electronic copy of a second draft, and plan to meet jointly with Vancouver Fire and Clark County Fire & Rescue representatives at Station 15-1 on July 9th at 4:45 p.m. to receive a presentation by ESCi.

Turnout times continue to exceed the Board objective of 1 minute or less turnout time 90% of the time.

Response time objectives of less than 6 minutes 90% of the time was met at 91% but response times fluctuate monthly.

The Board asked the chief if these reports were beneficial to him. He reported that they are to track trends, but don't necessarily need to be provided monthly to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

The membership of IAFF Local 1805 voted to approve a Letter of Agreement with District 6 to recognize needed modifications pertaining to coverage provided during Amphitheater events.

Upon the recommendation of the Chief the Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion to sign the Letter of Agreement.

The Board asked that staff present a proposal for installing air filtering systems on District apparatus.

District 6 has been offered a unit price of \$9,385.27 including sales tax for 5 or more units.

Staff recommended the Board authorize the purchase and installation of 5 units from the 2009 budget, equipping E61, E62, E63, E64, and S61 and to consider equipping the remaining apparatus in 2010.

The 2009 cost would be \$46,926.35 and would be a major step in working to meet the recommendations made by the Department of Labor and Industry.

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion to authorize the purchase of 5 Ward No-Smoke Filtration Systems out of the 2009 budget for a cost of \$46,926.35 including tax and installation.

Staff was asked to bring forth a proposal to acquire additional filtration equipment in 2010.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 186, dated January 1981 established a procedure to seek reimbursement in instances where individuals made excessive use of emergency medical services.

Staff proposes the Board adopt Resolution 2009-05, superseding Resolution 186, updating the procedure to current times, and adopting the State Fire Chiefs schedule for reimbursement.

District 6 has never utilized the reimbursement option, but has found it to be useful in having individuals who make excessive use of the system seek other alternatives.

Both Vancouver Fire and Clark County Fire & Rescue have similar procedures and neither has exercised that option.

The new resolution does not address calls made to care facilities. This year one individual has summoned District 6 over 50 times.

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion to adopt Resolution 2009-05, superseding Resolution 186.

The Chief suggested the Board might consider reducing the number of engines it maintains from 9 to 8.

Engine 69, a 1984 Mack, has received \$53,143 in service since 1999, or approximately \$5,300 per year. However, the engine is used mostly in drill situations, and rarely responds to alarms.

Volunteer Captains have voiced no objections to the reduction of the number of engines and provided a letter of support.

Staff also recommended that the Board consider placing an order for a new engine to replace E68 later this year for delivery in 2010. Ordering in 2009 would avoid the regular end of year pricing increases. It was recommended that the Board consider paying the entire cost of the new engine at time of order to save approximately \$25,000.

The Board suggested staff determine if E69 could be utilized at Station 15-1 rather than be considered surplus. Being unaware of when the next surplus sales are to be held the Board felt there was no urgent need to reduce the number of engines kept by the District.

Staff was asked to bring the matter back before the Board at its next meeting.

The Board held a lengthy discussion about the proposals made by the Liz Loomis Public Affairs and Alison Peters Consulting firms.

It was recognized that passage of an EMS levy in 2010 was critical to the Districts being able to provide needed service to the District.

The cost of the programs offered by Loomis and Peters were of major concern.

At this point telephone contact with Commissioner Spring was lost. The Vice Chair recessed the meeting at 8:15 p.m. while attempts were made to restore telephone service.

After repeated attempts to reconnect with Commissioner Spring unsuccessfully the Vice Chair called the meeting back to order at 8:30 p.m.

Discussion continued on the Loomis / Peters proposals.

Citizen Streissguth spoke of the dire need for the District to be successful in receiving a positive vote in the planned 2010 EMS election, citing the losses the District would face if the election was not successful. He urged the District to do all it could to inform the public of the critical nature of the election, including contracting with Loomis / Peters for their services.

Following additional discussion the Board decided to postpone taking any action in a contract with Liz Loomis Public Affairs / Alison Peters Consulting until the next meeting and asked that staff contact both firms to determine if they could suggest any way of reducing the cost figures they proposed.

The Chief proposed a change in the method and timing of recognizing new hires and promotions noting that the current ceremonies take place a year after the new hires and promotions.

The Chief recommended that in the future recognition ceremonies be held at the time of hire and promotion.

The Board authorized the Chief to make the changes he proposed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

ROUND TABLE:

Commissioner Collins will be out of town during the next meeting but will attempt telephone participation.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Voter's pamphlets are being printed.

The Board seconded and unanimously passed a motion authorizing payment of current bills.

Fund 6212 Fire Invoices	\$97,869.35
Fund 6242 EMS Invoices	\$7,714.17


The Board seconded and unanimously approved motions authorizing its member's compensation for June.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Dick Spring, Chairman



R.T. Streissguth, Secretary