

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
October 22, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Pierson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Attendance:**

Present: Commissioner Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner Gerald W. Gustafson, Commissioner Robert E. Skaggs, Fire Chief Reggie Romines, Deputy Chief Gary Franz, Assistant Chief Tony Judd, Assistant Chief Oscar Espinosa, and District Secretary Kathy Hale.

Absent: Assistant Chief Baskett and Public Prevention Education Officer Meridan-Drake had excused absences.

Commissioner Pierson led the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed the audience.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**The minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2007, were approved as presented.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Thank you letter from a Citizen.
- E-Mail from Battalion Chief Clawson regarding a thank you phone call from a citizen.
- Copy of a letter to Pierce County Department of Planning & Land Services from Chief Romines regarding his concern over the egress and ingress to the Lipoma Firs Community.
- Copy of a letter to Craig Dinklage from Chief Romines regarding the ability of our apparatus to navigate certain dirt roads.
- Copy of a letter to Chuck Kleeberg, Pierce County Department of Planning & Land Services, from Deputy Chief Franz requesting additional information on Environmental Application No. 573932, Cameron Place.
- Thank you letter from Cub Scout Den 3 thanking Graham Fire & Rescue for the use of our facilities.
- Certificate of Appreciation from Parkland/Spanaway Kiwanis Foundation for our auction donation to their Scholarship Auction.

**FINANCIALS:**

Vouchers #10062 through #10178 in the amount of \$361,127.58, Account Transfers in the amount of \$310,242.84 for a total of \$671,370.42, of which \$434,646.47 were for Payroll and \$236,723.95 were for Payables were presented for approval.

**Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$671,370.42 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:**

### **Chief's Report**

Chief Romines reported that District Secretary Hale will be on vacation from October 29, 2007, until November 7, 2007. Also, with Board approval, he will be out of the area from October 30, 2007, until November 4, 2007. The Board gave their approval.

Thank you Commissioner Pierson and wife Shirley for replacing the trees that were stolen from Station No. 21-4.

Station No. 21-0. Nothing new to report.

Station No. 21-4. Chief Romines reported that the warrantee items are being worked on this week and next.

Multi-Year Lid Lift. Chief Romines referenced a letter from Roger Ferris, Washington Fire Commissioners' Association, wherein Mr. Ferris discusses the confusion over EBS 5498, Multi-Year Lid Lifts, an Editorial that came out in the Seattle Times regarding such and whether the intent of the Bill was for a temporary or a permanent lid lift. Mr. Ferris suggested that in order for the final annual levy rate, after the expiration of the time length, to be used as the base for calculating future rates that fire districts place in their lid lift resolution language specifically stating such.

Training Equipment. Chief Romines asked that the Training Division be allowed to use left-over instructor training funds to purchase equipment to outfit the training engine. The Board gave their approval.

International Residential Code. Commissioner Skaggs voiced that he is in full support of the Department's stand on maintaining the five-foot setbacks on residential homes. He also thanked Chief Romines and Commissioners Pierson and Gustafson for attending the recent hearings. Deputy Chief Franz stated that the final hearing will be held November 9, 2007.

### **Training Report**

Assistant Chief Espinosa reported that the NIMS 300 and 400 classes will be held here this Wednesday and Thursday. Also, the Volunteer Recruit Academy is scheduled to start January 15, 2008. Graduation is tentatively set for June 12, 2008 – please let Chief Romines know if that date will work for each of you to attend.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution No. 682, Specific Transport Accounts be Written Off. District Secretary Hale read Resolution No. 682, Specific Transport Accounts be Written Off, into the record.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved the approval of Resolution No. 682, Specific Transport Accounts be Written Off, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Chief Romines thanked Commissioner Pierson for helping last Thursday at the Graham Business Association's Grazing in Graham. The event took place here at Station No. 21-4.

Chief Romines presented the Board with a Memorandum of Understanding to his contract for their review. He explained the MOU allows for the sell-back in November of 75 hours as opposed to 50 hours, which is currently in his contract, of vacation time. He further explained that this MOU will allow for that sell-back of the increased hours in the event his new contract is not signed by the end of November.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved the approval of the addendum to Chief Romines' current personal services contract wherein he be allowed to sell-back 75 hours of vacation time. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Following discussion regarding the need to further discuss Chief Romines' contract before it is presented to him, the Board scheduled a Special Meeting for this Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 4:30 p.m. Since all Board members and the District Secretary will be attending the Commissioners' Conference in Pasco, the meeting will be held at the Pasco Red Lion.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

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Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

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Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary