

**GRAHAM FIRE & RESCUE  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 11, 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 Ryan Baskett, District Secretary Kathy Hale and Public Prevention Education Officer Myra Merdian-Drake.

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

A moment of silence was held for retired volunteer EMS Chief John Mead who passed away June 6, 2007. Chief Mead was very instrumental in starting Graham Fire & Rescue's EMS program in the early 1980s and one of the first EMTs in Pierce County.

**OATH OF OFFICE**

Commissioner Pierson administered the District Secretary Oath of Office to Kathy Hale.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:**

**The minutes of the Special Board Meeting of May 24, 2007, were approved as written.**

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- Thank You Letter from a citizen to Lieutenant Low, Fire Fighter/Paramedic Davison and Fire Fighter Zohn.
- Letter from Chief Jack Andren, Central Pierce Fire & Rescue, announcing they are going to a new 911 response numbering system.
- Letter from Lori Augina, Pierce County Election Manager, confirming our filing of the EMS Levy election information.

**FINANCIALS:**

Vouchers #06001 through #06073 in the amount of \$67,507.28, were presented for approval. **Commissioner Gustafson moved to accept the payables in the amount of \$67,507.28 after proper auditing. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATION:**

**Chief's Report**

Station No. 21-0. Assistant Chief Baskett reported there was no asbestos found in the Station. He has been busy coordinating the removal of all the items stored in the Station to get ready for a June 28<sup>th</sup> demolition date.

Station No. 21-5. Chief Romines reviewed with the Board a Feasibility Study prepared by Assistant Chief Baskett regarding the purchasing of a residential home next to Station No. 21-5. Commissioner Pierson announced that further discussion would be taken up in Executive Session under acquisition of property at the end of the meeting.

Countywide Numbering System. Chief Romines explained that during the past several months the Pierce County Chiefs' Association has been discussing a new 911 response numbering system for vehicles and personnel, similar to the concept that was brought before the Board last summer. A study group was formed, with Deputy Chief Franz leading the group.

Deputy Chief Franz reported that after several meetings to develop the concept, many of the fire districts dispatching with Fire Comm decided not to move forward with the change until a much later date. He went on to explain that last week the concept resurfaced and now the majority of the fire districts have decided to go forward and change their numbering system.

Deputy Chief Franz reviewed the numbers which will be assigned to each fire district, with ours being the 90 series.

Commissioner Skaggs voiced his displeasure with Graham Fire & Rescue not retaining the 20 series and recommended that the numbering for the individual stations remain the same, 21-1, 21-2, etc. He reminded the group that we are legally Pierce County Fire District No. 21. Commissioner Skaggs further stated that he understands the desire to renumber – to shorten up the call-out and dispatch language – so will agree to the move forward with the change.

Commissioners Pierson and Gustafson concurred with leaving the station numbers as they are, but going ahead with changing the 911 response numbers to the 90 series.

Medic 95-1. Chief Romines reported that the rig has been sold for \$1,000.

EMS Levy Renewal. Chief Romines reported that staff is working on the EMS Levy Renewal flyer, which will be mailed to the citizens of the District explaining facts of the six-year renewal.

PPEO Report. Public Prevention Education Officer Merdian-Drake presented her monthly report to the Board. She highlighted that \$750 has been raised for the Best Scholarship Fund and donated in the name of Dee Bamford. There have been 760 kids that have gone through the station on tours this school year – it's been a very busy year. Don't forget the Eatonville 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade!

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution No. 665, Investment Officer for the Fire District, was read into the record by District Secretary Hale. **Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve Resolution No. 665, Investment Officer for the Fire District, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution No. 666, Appointing District Secretary Pro Tem, was read into the record by District Secretary Hale. **Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve Resolution No.**

**666, Appointing District Secretary Pro Tem, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution No. 667, Appointing District Agent to Obtain Disaster Funds, was read into the record by District Secretary Hale. **Commissioner Gustafson moved to approve Resolution No. 667, Appointing District Agent to Obtain Disaster Funds, as presented. Commissioner Skaggs seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution No. 668, Change Address and Agent to Receive Claims Against the District, was read into the record by District Secretary Hale. **Commissioner Skaggs moved to approve Resolution No. 670, Change Address and Agent to Receive Claims Against the District, as presented. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Assistant Chief Baskett commended those fire fighters who stepped forward to participate in last weekend's Pile Up in Puyallup. Our team did a fantastic job! Fire Fighter McAllister thanked the Board and Chiefs for their support and backing for the team to be able to attend this competition!

Chief Romines reported that the negotiation teams for the District and Chiefs' Bargaining Unit have tentatively reached agreement with the contract. It will be brought before the Board at the next meeting for review and possible ratification.

Commissioner Pierson announced that he will be running unopposed for fire commissioner for another six-year term.

Chief Romines presented the Board with a draft job description for the position of Assistant Chief of Operations for their review.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chief Romines requested an Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) for five minutes and under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) for five minutes.

**Commissioner Pierson announced an Executive Session under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), to consider the acquisition of real estate when public knowledge could effect price for five minutes and under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), to evaluate the qualification of a public employee or review their performance for five minutes, with possible business to follow. Executive Session was announced as beginning at 8:00 p.m.**

**An announcement was made at 8:10 p.m. to extend the Executive Session another five minutes.**

**Commissioner Pierson reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:15 p.m.**

Commissioner Pierson announced that during the Executive Session discussion was had regarding the acquisition of property. He reviewed that the property has had a home inspection completed with a few items the owner has agreed to fix and also an

architect has reviewed the structure and given a positive feasibility to connect it with our fire station next door.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved to purchase the property and residence at 7809 188<sup>th</sup> Street East for \$265,000 based on the feasibility study and architect report. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

Commissioner Pierson announced that during the Executive Session discussion was also had regarding the performance of a public employee.

**Commissioner Skaggs moved to increase the IT Manager Lyle Stahnke's salary \$500 per month beginning July 1, 2007. Commissioner Gustafson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.**

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Verne M. Pierson, Commissioner

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Kathy J. Hale, District Secretary