



Draft Business Meeting Minutes, September 9, 2020

BVFF Committee: Molly, Chief Andrews and Karen (recorder) were present. Carsen Smith was not in attendance.

There were no BVFF charges to approve.

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm on video conference using Zoom app, with a link posted for public access. Present were Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, Vice Commissioner Chair Pat Sample, and Commissioners Michelle Adie, Molly Olson, Doug Rupp and Leigh Christianson. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Assistant Chief Ernie Walters, Division Chief Jarrod Spence, Captain Rob Thurston, Captain Brandon Vargas and Secretary Karen McPeters (recorder).

Public Commentary: No public

EXECUTIVE

There is some preliminary discussion with District 5 about solving some of the issues of ALS service, and possibly sharing a MSA.

Although Snohomish County escaped most of the fire threat, we have been very active helping other agencies as we balance keeping an adequate response force here. There was a record number of state mobilization requests of 12 in less than 36 hours. Many requests were unanswered simply because of no other resources available to send. The wind and smoke prevented air support so crews on the ground were all the defense available. Ground crews were no match for wind driven fires and they quickly lost ground and many structures. There were many saved however by their efforts. We have three brush engines out today working on various fires at Graham, Bridgeport and Davenport.

The fire levy lid lift final ballot title and voters pamphlet info was reviewed and approved so it is in the voters' hands now.

At last count our call volume was up 13 % over last year, which was 11% up from the previous year. Trail rescues continue to increase as the recreational use of our area has exploded. As of today we were at 1,040 calls so far this year. Reaching over one thousand in August is a record. We have such great volunteer / part time personnel that a chief could not be prouder of. They respond to the calls around the state without hesitation and then the others pick up the void of filling shifts and responding to more and more calls. A remarkable group of people we have!

OPERATIONS

We are working with the drone manufacturer on some PR videos and have shared some of the

videos that we have recorded during training flights. We are still getting the word out to all the other agencies that we work with (SCSO, WSP, Fire Districts 5 and 7) to let them know that we have the drones and that they can request us if needed.

We did not receive our submitted Covid 19 PPE grant but there is another chance for us to apply for the grant in early October.

The new SCBAs were supposed to be shipped by the end of last month but were delayed due to the problem with the regulators.

We submitted all data to PCG for them to complete the cost reports to submit to the state.

The estimates for the remodels of Stations 53 and 54 should be available to present to the commissioners at the next commissioners' meeting for approval.

SUPPORT SERVICES / TRAINING

The fire academy is underway with a great bunch of folks. You will be seeing many parked cars on training days.

EMS

Matt is finishing up records for transports that will help getting reimbursement under the CARES act as he transitions out with his last day of September 30th.

Secretary's Report

The Systems Design report and run totals are available for review. Secretary is reviewing changes to 941 reporting and new deferred tax withholding options. Billing for mobilization reimbursement is time-consuming as well.

Budget

Currently at 70%

Minutes: Molly moved to approve the August minutes. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Vouchers: Bill moved to approve vouchers 393 through 426 for \$46,650.27 and vouchers 427 through 435 for \$15,935.04. With a second from Pat, the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Bill moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$139,433.78. With a second from Michelle, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

There was further discussion regarding replacement of MSA Abers, and resolving issues with providing medic services to Sultan.

There was discussing of the neutral position of the Board of Commissioners with regard to logging projects in the district.

"Volunteering to Make a Difference"



Leigh attended the Sno-Isle Commissioners' Assoc virtual meeting and shared topics including DEM PPE purchases for the pandemic.

The October meeting will feature an economist making some revenue forecasts.

Doug requested a nomination for firefighter of the year for an award from the VFW.

Next meeting October 14 at the Index Resident House, unless required to video conference again.

Adjournment 8:04 pm

"Volunteering to Make a Difference"

