



Pierce County
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No.17
 Headquarters – Station 170
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 Eatonville, WA
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**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
 FOR PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 17**

July 20, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for South Pierce Fire and Rescue 17 held at 302 McNaught Street South, Roy WA 98580, was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Guenther led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioner John Christian, Chairman Mark Guenther, Commissioner Dan Morris, Commissioner John Sebastian and Commissioner Olivia Werner.

FC Vellias, DC Chris Grant, DS Brenda Murphy, as well as a several firefighters and citizens.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **Minutes** – Special Meeting Minutes - June 15, 2015 and Regular Meeting Minutes from June 15, 2015.
- **Accounts Payable Vouchers** – Numbered 805 – 857 for the amount of **\$39,257.82**
- **Payroll Vouchers** – Numbered 866 – 913 for the amount of **\$251,094.92**
- **Total Amount for Payroll and Vouchers - \$290,352.74**

On a motion made by Commissioner Werner and seconded by Commissioner Christian, “the Consent Agenda” for the July 20, 2015 regular Fire Commissioners Meeting was unanimously approved.

LOCAL 726

Cadets: None

PUBLIC COMMENT – *None*

SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE – *Enclosed*

CHIEFS’ REPORT

Monthly Call Report -----	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Total Calls This Month:	225	172
Year-To-Date Calls:	1155	1055

CHIEF'S REPORT (Continued)

PILT Money - Update

- **FC Vellias** the June 30th Pierce County Council meeting and testified the need for PILT funds to the four (4) districts surrounding Mount Rainier National Park. This action was approved by a 7 to 0 vote. He will be working with the county on a contractual agreement that will release these funds each year.

AFG Safer Grant Award

- The District received an award notice on the AFG confirming the award of a SAFER Grant. This grant will pay salary and benefits for two (2) people for two (2) years.
- **Preliminary Assessed Valuation**
- Received the 2016 Assessed Valuation for our district. Residential came in at 3.2 (covers 95% of the district) and Commercial came in at 6.8 (covers only about 5% of the district). Land values took a big hit, i.e., Station 171 2015 valuation was \$133,000 – 2016 valuation is \$64,900. SPFR is land rich and house poor.
- **Eatonville Consolidation**
FC Vellias has been having favorable talks with the town and the local on the consolidation contract. Should have a final at next meeting. The contract would bring in \$400,000 from the town, \$180,000 from transport revenue, and \$20,000 from PILT monies. If this passes it would allow the district to hire four (4) personnel. He will be meeting with the Eatonville Safety Committee and on August 10th he will meet with the Eatonville Town Council. He expects that Eatonville will sign the contract at that time and FC Vellias will have the contract for the Board at the regular August 17th Commissioners Meeting.
- **July 4th Call Summary**
The county had over 160 calls on the 4th. SPFR had two (2) insignificant calls.

DC Report

- Reported that he had provided the Board with additional information for their review in executive session regarding the property the district has declared surplus.
- Received a \$340,000 grant for a pumper/tender. He is working with local sales representatives. The grant was written that the truck would come furnished with a full complement of equipment as provided by NFPA. This will limit the number of companies. Looking at interlocals that we may be able to piggyback on. If not satisfied with this source may have to advertise and bid.
- On July 3rd after assisting with the Eatonville Community Fireworks, E173 suffered a failed brake can. The engine was secured at the Eatonville fire station until Monday. John replaced two (2) brake cans for \$158 each and the engine was back in service. No tow bill, no shop time.

AC Reports

- AMAs/RORs are up. \$80,000 behind last year in transport revenue. The districts around us are facing the same issue. SPFR AMAs/RORs is at 30%. Graham Fire is at 33%. AC Yount recognizes this is a crisis and keeping an eye on it.
- Training is going well. Will be attending Base Station Coordinator Meeting and reviewing the new protocol changes.
SPFR has been awarded \$300,000 towards the purchase of a new pumper/tender.

BVFF Recap – None

Community Events

- FC Vellias was in charge of the parade in Roy, he and DC Grant attended the community fireworks in Eatonville, and Scott Crawford was in charge of the Eatonville parade apparatus. The Association is considering bringing back the Rodeo Breakfast and possibly a dinner.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Resolution 15-010 – Surplus Mountain Highway Property**

Commissioner Guenther announced the executive session was being moved on the agenda to allow the Board to discuss the Mountain Highway property.

Executive Session

At 7:25 p.m. Commissioner Guenther announced a 10 minute Executive Session to reconvene at 7:35. Commissioner Guenther stated the Executive Session would be in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)© - To consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public.

Meeting was reconvened into regular session at 7:35. Commissioner Guenther announced that the District is moving forward with selling the Mountain Highway property for \$159,900.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution 15-012 – Void Unused Warrant** – was read into the record by DS Brenda Murphy – On a motion made by Commissioner Werner and seconded by Commissioner Christian, “Resolution 15-012 to authorize voiding warrant #1196790 issued to Genes Towing, Inc. in the amount of \$560.88 was unanimously approved.
- **Layoff Fact Sheet** – FC Vellias reviewed the Fact Sheet he prepared for tonight. This fact sheet covered the district’s demographics, assessed valuation comparison from 2009 to 2015 and the cuts and changes implemented to avoid layoffs. This Fact Sheet also covered areas with significant increases (salaries and medical/dental), contract concessions, grants, fire protection contracts, reserve fund, and the mid-year budget hearing. After his presentation, Commissioner Guenther took questions and comments from the citizens and firefighters in attendance regarding the information presented and the present financial crisis of the district. The Board thanked everyone for their comments/concerns/suggestions and encouraged members of the audience to attend more of the meetings. Their input was much appreciated (*attached*).
- **2015 EMS Levy** – FC Vellias reported that it had been discussed to run the EMS levy in 2015 and run it as a permanent levy. FC Vellias stated that it is his opinion that due to the devaluation of property values since 2009 it would not be in the best interest of the District to submit a levy one year early to our voters. When the levy is passed by the voters the assessor’s office will reset the highest lawful tax based on the current year assessed valuation. Currently SPFR is over the current lid on its EMS highest lawful levy. The District will lose the ability to capture the remaining amount of capacity and be subject to the 1% limit set by initiative 747 if the levy passed (*attached*).
- **Appreciation Letter to Central Pierce Fire and Rescue** – DS Murphy reminded the Board that at the last meeting they asked her to prepare an appreciation letter to Central Pierce for the help they provided SPFR with items Central Pierce had on surplus. This generosity helped offset the startup costs for the new contracted mechanic.

Good of the Order

Commissioner Werner- Thanked everyone for coming out. Commissioner Werner told the audience to be assured that their concerns did not fall on deaf ears.

Commissioner Sebastian – Glad you spoke up, David Chase.

Commissioner Christian – Good to hear from all of you. Maybe we did not go down the right road, but trying to do the right thing.

Commissioner Morris - Stated he was also a district taxpayer. The Board has been working not to have layoffs for 5 – 6 years. Maybe we had a little tunnel vision. Commissioner Morris congratulated the Chiefs on successful grants.

Commissioner Guenthner - Service is rendered on the line. Great news on the grants, but need people to work.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made by Commissioner Sebastian and seconded by Commissioner Werner, the regular meeting for the Board of Fire Commissioners for South Pierce Fire and Rescue District 17 adjourned at **20:28 hrs.**


Chairman Mark Guenthner 08/17/2015
Date


ATTEST: Brenda Murphy 08/17/2015
District Secretary Date