

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
April 13, 2009**

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. at East Valley Fire Station 40. Those present were Commissioners Joe Gendron, Dan McNulty and Les Riel. Others present were Deputy Chief Riel, District Secretary Michelle Rosen, East Valley Fire District Personnel, and audience members.

Chairman Joe Gendron called the meeting to order and conducted the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McNulty requested that an executive session be added to the agenda under RCW 42.30.110 (g). There being no other changes, the agenda was approved.

LIMITED OPEN PUBLIC INPUT FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA – Public comment for items that are on the agenda are allowed as the item comes up for discussion during the meeting. Please stand and be recognized by the Chair and limit your comments to three minutes.

Chairman Gendron recognized audience member Jacqui Walker. Mrs. Walker asked if any action was taken after the executive session at the meeting on Friday, April 10. Commissioner Riel responded that he had made a motion which was seconded by Commissioner McNulty to have Waters Consulting Group conduct a further background and reference check on one or more of the candidates for Fire Chief. Chairman Gendron added that this request was for a more in depth check.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a. March 23, 2009 Special Meeting – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on March 23. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The minutes were so approved.

b. March 23, 2009 Regular Meeting – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 23. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion. The minutes were so approved.

c. April 3, 2009 Special Meeting – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting on April 3. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The minutes were so approved.

d. April 10, 2009 Special Meeting – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting held on April 10, 2009. Chairman Gendron seconded the motion. The minutes were so approved.

EDIT LIST APPROVAL

a. Batch #266684, \$17,429.68 – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve Batch Edit List #266684 in the amount of \$17,429.68. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b. Cash Voucher \$30.00 – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to approve the cash voucher for \$30.00. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion. The motion carried.

c. Cash Voucher \$651.96 – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to approve the cash voucher for \$651.96. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion with discussion and inquired as to why the voucher was so much. District Secretary Rosen explained that the annual association membership fees for Conference of Governments was included and was inadvertently left off the agenda. The motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

District Secretary Rosen did not have anything to report at this time.

CORRESPONDENCE

District Secretary Rosen noted that there was no correspondence to discuss at this time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Opening of bids for support truck

Chairman Gendron explained that the Board had previously decided to request bids for the truck in lieu of the state bid and noted that they had received two sealed bids. The first bid was from Bob Hall Chevrolet for a 2009 truck for \$28,317. The second bid was from C. Speck Motors in Sunnyside for \$28,209. Commissioner Riel noted that the original state bid was for \$22,700. The Board concurred that this matter would be tabled for a later date. Commissioner Riel made a motion to refuse all bids presented to the Board. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

There being no new business, Chairman Gendron continued the meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Riel noted that a state board meeting would be held in a couple of weeks. Chairman Gendron added that a legislative report had been released and explained that the state budget proposed cutting funding to districts for EMTs and paramedics and encouraged the board and audience to write their state legislators.

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY REPORTS

Chairman Gendron noted that Department Activity Reports would be on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deputy Chief Riel announced that the district had six new recruits who will be working on completing their physicals and agility tests. The following applicants introduced themselves to the Board and audience: Casey Yeager, Harvey Wolney, Craig Worrell, Danielle McNulty, and Miguel Ceja. Chairman Gendron welcomed the applicants and expressed his appreciation for their participation and interest in serving the district. The Board thanked them and wished them well. Deputy Chief Riel added that Brandon Lambert was not in attendance, but was also a new applicant and noted that three of the applicants already had some training established and would be starting at the probationary status level.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

RCW 42.30.110(g) Personnel matters of the district

Per the request of Commissioner McNulty, Chairman Gendron dismissed the Board into executive session under the aforementioned RCW at 7:11 p.m. for 30 minutes.

Audience member Mrs. Walker inquired as to what part of item 'g' in the RCW citing the Board would be meeting under and requested specifics. Commissioner McNulty and Riel reiterated that it was to discuss personnel matters of the district.

At 7:41 p.m. District Secretary Rosen announced that the executive session would be continued for another 15 minutes.

Chairman Gendron reconvened the meeting at 7:56 p.m. and reported that no decisions had been made.

GENERAL DISCUSSION – Limited between Board and Staff – NO PUBLIC INPUT

Commissioner McNulty felt that it needed to be made known to the audience that under Washington State law, the Board cannot speak to each other outside of a meeting. Chairman Gendron added that per state law, the Board is barred from making decisions in executive session. He continued by noting that if a decision needs to be made, it is done in the form of a motion in an open public meeting, and executive sessions are strictly for discussion; voting is not conducted in executive session nor are any decisions made in executive session. Commissioner Riel reiterated that topics could be discussed and opinions could be stated in executive session, but voting must occur in an open public meeting.

Commissioner McNulty stated that on a recent visit to Station 41, he noticed that the thermostat was set at 73 degrees with no personnel in the building. He added that he then visited Station 42 and the thermostat was set at 67 degrees which he felt was appropriate. Deputy Chief Riel noted that the heating and ventilation company had just recently moved some thermostats in Station 40 in an effort to control the settings and readings in the building. Chairman Gendron requested that D.C. Riel visit Station 41 to check the settings.

SIGNING OF DISTRICT DOCUMENTS

District Secretary Rosen presented the documents to the Board for their signature.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, Commissioner Riel entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion and the meeting was so adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chair of the Board

District Secretary

Vice-Chair of the Board

Commissioner