

**YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 4
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING / PUBLIC HEARING
November 10, 2008**

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

There being no 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 Jacqui Walker. Mrs. Walker questioned the status of the outstanding claim against the district by Mr. Gay. Chairman Gendron explained that the district's insurance company out of Philadelphia hired two attorneys from a Seattle law firm to represent the district and added that the district had just been served with a suit earlier that evening.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A. October 27, 2008 Special Meeting – approve or deny

B. October 27, 2008 Regular Meeting – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting held on October 27. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor, thus approving the aforementioned meeting minutes.

EDIT LIST APPROVAL

A. Batch #259888, \$8,397.45 – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel questioned page 2, line 7, payment to Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs in the amount of \$850. District Secretary Rosen explained that the payment was for individual membership dues for D.C. Riel, herself, Lt. Lenseigne, Lt. Schrank, and Firefighter Evers. D.C. Riel added that in order to receive training discounts and voting rights, all members needed to be added. There was additional discussion regarding the individuals who the Board felt needed to be active paying members. Commissioner Riel made a motion that only the Chief and Deputy Chief should be active paying members of the Washington State Association of Fire Chiefs. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve edit list #259888 with the aforementioned change. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor. District Secretary Rosen reported that she will make the appropriate adjustments to the edit list.

B. Cash Vouchers, \$73.50 & \$30.00 – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the cash vouchers as submitted. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

District Secretary Rosen reported that the Commissioner's dinner was going to be held on Thursday, November 20 at the Zillah Civic Center. District Secretary Rosen will RSVP on behalf of the Commissioners Riel and McNulty, and the guest speaker, Roger Farris.

REVIEW & FINALIZE 2009 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Recess Regular Meeting Opening of Public Hearing

Chairman Gendron recessed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing pertaining to the 2009 budget at 7:10 p.m.

Limited Open Public Input to Commissioners (Fire Budget) 5 minutes

Audience member Jacqui Walker questioned if there was a difference between the 2008 and 2009 budgets. Chairman Gendron explained that the district would be receiving more in tax revenue in 2009, and that the budget was more in line with added fuel and capital improvements expenses. Commissioner Riel noted that the 2009 Fire Budget was projected at \$1,325,100.00. Chairman Gendron added that this was an increase of \$68,770 from the 2008 budget. There was additional discussion and explanation regarding the projected tax revenue information the district received from the county assessor's office which is based on 2008 assessments.

Mrs. Walker questioned if the salary expense in 2009 was higher than in 2008. Chairman Gendron explained that it was higher because of increases in wages, not because of an increase in personnel. He continued by stating that the budget did include funds to add an additional two staff members to the department after June 2009 if the new Chief deemed it necessary.

Chairman Gendron closed the public hearing regarding the Fire Budget at 7:19 p.m.

Limited Open Public Input to Commissioners (EMS Budget) 5 minutes

Chairman Gendron explained that salaries are split between the Fire and EMS Budgets at 70 / 30%. He added that the total 2009 EMS budget was projected at \$165,160.00. Commissioner Riel explained that the EMS monies are generated from the county EMS levy which is \$.25 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation and expires in 2012. YCFD's portion of that is roughly \$.18 cents which is calculated by a three part formula developed by Yakima County and the EMS operations board. Chairman Gendron added that all fire districts receive a portion of the EMS monies generated by the EMS Levy.

Close of Public Hearing Reconvene Regular Meeting

Chairman Gendron closed the public hearing regarding the 2009 proposed budgets and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:21 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

A. RESOLUTIONS

a. #2008-08, levying the 2009 ad valorem property taxes and excess levy taxes – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel read into record the aforementioned resolution and made a motion to adopt Resolution 2008-08. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

b. #2008-07, increase Yakima County Fire District 4 2008 property tax levy above the "limit factor" up to 101 percent – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to adopt Resolution 2008-07. Chairman Gendron seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

Commissioner Riel explained that in order for the district to request above the 100% limit factor, it must provide a reason why it is necessary and stated that in order to be in compliance with the revised safety standards for firefighters and due to rising costs of goods and services, the Board deemed it necessary to pass the aforementioned resolution.

B. Adopt 2009 Fire Budget – approve or deny

Commissioner Riel made a motion to adopt the 2009 Fire Budget in the amount of \$1,325,100.00. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

C. Adopt 2009 EMS Budget – approve or deny

Commissioner McNulty made a motion to adopt the 2009 EMS Budget in the amount of \$165,160.00. Commissioner Riel seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. approval of rates for advertising

Commissioner McNulty expressed his concern that that wording of “executive chief” was still being used. Commissioner Riel suggested that D.C. Riel contact Mr. Oldani with Waters Consulting Group to change the wording to “Executive Search for Fire Chief”. Commissioner Riel made a motion to approve the rates for advertising for an executive search for a fire chief. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor. D.C. Riel confirmed that the Board wished to have the document wording changed prior to signing. Chairman Gendron will sign on behalf of the Board when the document is changed.

B. approval of Waters Consulting Group timeline

Audience member Jacqui Walker requested that the timeline be read to the audience. Chairman Gendron read into record the proposed timeline. Commissioner Riel noted that this document will be made available to the public after the change in the header has been completed. Chairman Gendron explained the five groups that will be involved in developing the candidate profile: group one will consist of the Board; group two will consist of day staff; group three will consist of Chief Dave Leitch of West Valley, Chief Brian Vogel, Deputy Chief of Yakima Bob Stewart, and Sheriff representative, Brian Winters; group four will consist of Yakima County Commissioner Rand Elliott, Mayor of Moxee Greg LaBree, THIA representative Mike Dooley, East Valley Community Enhancement representative Gina Crane, and an East Valley School District Superintendent representative; group five will consist of Captain Rob Layman, Claude Shipley, Captain Deccio, Brent Nye, Captain Mike DiTomasso, and Richard Abhold.

Chairman Gendron dismissed the Board into executive session at 7:31 for 20 minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION RCW 42.30.140 (g)

A. Personnel matters of the district

Chairman Gendron reconvened the meeting at 7:49 p.m.

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

Commissioner Riel made a motion to accept the resignations of firefighter Edward Schibig and Chris Robillard. Commissioner McNulty seconded the motion. The Board was all in favor.

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 7:52 p.m.

ATTEST:

Chair of the Board

District Secretary

Vice-Chair of the Board

Commissioner