

PIERCE COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #3
WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE.
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 06, 2024

Chair Dalton called the meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 5:30. A quorum was present with Commissioner Sheeran excused. Also in attendance were D/C McCurdy, D/C Boltz, A/C Hebeisen, A/C Adams, A/C Dobbs, and Director Wick

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Pledge of Allegiance

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Dalton asked for a motion to approve agenda. Commissioner Casebolt motioned. Commissioner Clancy seconded. All approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION

- Humanitarian Award – Jakob Lindbom – Briefed the Board on the Humanitarian award and how the award is accomplished. Read the letter regarding the bone marrow donation that Jakob went through. Commissioners and Staff congratulated Jakob Lindbom on his compassion and representing our organization in such a professional and positive manner.
- Retirement – Rich Carbone – Chief Sharp brought forward Rich and thanked him for his years of service. Chair Dalton read his proclamation and thanked Rich for his 48 years of service. Chief Sharp commented on the work and care Rich has done over the years. President Bryan Copeland also presented a plaque to Rich for his hard work and thanked him for the support. On behalf of all of Local 1488, thank you for your dedication and always being there for them.
Chair Dalton adjourned for five minutes at 6:40 for pictures. Meeting called back to order at 6:45.

CONSENT AGENDA

Board Minutes of January 16, 2024. Warrant #70639 through #70708 totaling \$346,526.54. Warrants #70717 through #70765 totaling \$202,378.91. Warrants #70766 through #70803 totaling \$423,353.19. January payroll \$3,599,100.10.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you letter from a citizen and her pet

CITIZEN COMMENTS

STAFF REPORT

- Audit Report – Director Wick briefed the Board on the exit interview with the auditors. Completed 2021 accountability, 2023, accountability and financial audit. Next audit will be in July for 2023. Needed this audit for our credit rating for our bond issue. Chief Sharp thanked Director Wick and her Staff on the hard work. Auditors commented on how organized and structured they are.
- Chiefs Report – Chief Sharp briefed the Board:
 - 50th Cert academy starting March 5, 2024.
 - Our AmeriCorps volunteer, Aidan Rotondo, is now in our Recruit Academy. Aidan and another candidate were chosen from the Youth Academy program
 - Working with the Town of Steilacoom on fire investigations and code enforcement services, and all the work that goes along with new construction permits. Working with them on an agreement to provide these services. Just finishing up a final draft to bring to their council. Once approved they will have same services as we provide for Lakewood.
 - Negotiating with the Station 32 property owner. Looking to get a letter of intent. It is the instrument to lay out what you have agreed on. First step we need to start the information to our

consultants. Hope to have good news in the next couple of weeks. Will bring to the Board for final decision.

- January 29, 2023 AFG grants opened and we will be going over the review on how we can make a few changes. Will be applying for SCBA equipment again. Grant cycle closes March 8, 2024.
- Fire Benefit Charge review. Chief Sharp briefed the Board on the work that Staff will be doing to research the Fire Benefit Charge. Briefed the Board on the benefits and what is required to approve. Commented on the different taxing types. Briefed the Board on the challenges and the well versed community we have with the levy we have in place now. Validation is becoming more difficult with a four year timeline. Felt it was prudent to evaluate the Fire Benefits Charge and bring a report to the Board with a Staff recommendation. Commented on the timing of running this vote and what the advantages are to running in 2024. More information will follow regarding this review and evaluation. Will bring forward a recommendation soon.
- Tax Incremental financing. Talk among Commissioners and Chiefs. Briefed the Board on the TIF that is occurring at the City of Lakewood. Briefed the Board on what a TIF is. Once designated by the city or county that is the amount of AV from that area. Once the property value increased that money goes back to the city to repay the development costs. Once that is paid back after 20-25 years then the value difference will come back to the fire department. The fire department does not gain the new revenue. Economic development is the rising tide. Investing in that area improves the area and the beneficial value is strong. Briefed the Board on the difference in AV assessment and Fire Benefits Charge. Chief is meeting with the city to discuss the location, size and plan development of this TIF and how it impacts the fire district. Will follow up with the Board on this discussion.
- Commissioner Casebolt questioned how it works if the district was to approve the Fire Benefits Charge funding, Director Wick and Chief Sharp briefed the Board on the logistics of finance and the different mechanism that will be put in place. Lots of education will take place to help the community understand.
- PFSAG donated to Kindred Soles, which is an animal group who connects them with adopted family. Gave money to child study center at Western State hospital also.
- Staff went back to IAFF conference in Florida. Good conference
- Caring for Kids fundraiser. Sold two ice cream parties for \$500.00. Idlewild and EFN auctioned off two also, Raised over \$1900 for the community.
- Lion Club crab feed is February 17, 2024.

ACTION ITEMS – None

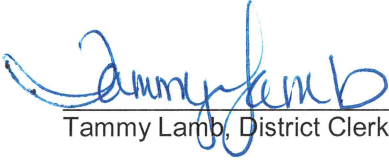
BOARD COMMENTS

- **Commissioner Casebolt** – Dittoed the Chaplain comments and attest to the impact they make. 48 years is a huge deal. Always happy to see a Chaplain come in the door on calls. Good to know as a firefighter that they are in good hands. What a selfless act Jakob Lindbom performed.
- **Commissioner Clancy** – Congratulated Rich and Jakob. Nice to see we hired two people from the Youth Academy. That is awesome. Congratulated Rachel for her 50th CERT class. The community loves CERT and value the experience to be able to help out. Great program.
- **Commissioner Durr** – Very impressed with the Chaplain program and how we honored Rich Carbone. Thankful for the spiritual support. 48 years is incredible.
- **Chair Dalton** – Presentations were great. Both are well deserved. Very glad we recognize like the Humanitarian awards. Youth Academy is a great reach out to our kids in the community. Two kids that were in Youth Academy are now in our recruit academy. So awesome to see. Rachel and Colleen have done a great job building the CERT program. Very important. WPFR has quality employees and programs. Kudos to all.

ADJOURNMENT

There being nothing further to bring to the Board, Chair Dalton adjourned the meeting at 6:16 PM.

Next meeting: February 20, 2024 @ 5:30 Station 31



Tammy Lamb, District Clerk



Bart Dalton, Board Chair



Koree Wick, District Secretary