# MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2021 REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 2

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire District No. 2 was held remotely on January 5, 2021, commencing at 5:00 p.m., pursuant to proper notice. District officials in attendance, pursuant to virtual meeting software Go To Meeting were: Commissioners Elwell, Sitterley, and Peden. Also attending virtually were: Chief Mike Marrs, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, Captain Wayne Metz, Trina Norsen, and Acting District Secretary Eric Quinn. Others in attendance will be shown on the Attendance Roster.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Commissioner Elwell who led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Agenda Approval. It was moved, seconded and carried 3-0 to approve the agenda as submitted immediately prior to the meeting.

**Presentations/Announcements.** (1) Presentations: Chief Ray Pettigrew presented the year to date call summary for 2020. There were 415 fewer calls in 2020 than in 2019. He presented per unit call summaries that outlined turnout times and other metrics. Commissioner Elwell asked about the average turnout time of 1:54 and whether the district is meeting its goals.

(2) Announcements: January 21, 2021: Closing date for applications for AC post. January 28, 2021: Academy graduation for recruits Manahan and Root.

Correspondence. None.

Public Comment. None.

**Local 1461 Comment.** Matt Ready introduced himself as the newly elected President of Local 1461. He said he looks forward to working with the commissioners.

Administration Reports. Chief Marrs delivered the Chief's Report as follows:

Facilities. N/A.

<u>Equipment.</u> Chief Marrs said we are awaiting specifications and proposals from Hughes (fire engine) and Braun NW (aid cars).

Chief Marrs said there will be a motion under New Business to approve purchase of 6,400 N-95 masks from Hughes Company for \$7,040. Captain Wayne Metz discussed January 5, 2021

the importance of purchasing masks and the district's current stock of PPE. He indicated the supply of PPE is currently good for the suppression employees. The UV light boxes should help with decontamination. He will be reaching out to the commissioners in the coming weeks regarding apparel. Commissioner Peden inquired as to whether the PPE was stored in a station or in an exterior building as some other departments have experienced some theft of PPE. Chief Marrs indicated that most of the PPE is stored at Station 28. Captain Metz discussed inventory and how the PPE supply is monitored.

<u>Personnel.</u> Chief Marrs updated the board on the two new recruits at the Academy. He will forward the link for the January 28<sup>th</sup> graduation when received. The AC job posting, open until January 21, has already resulted in seven applications.

Chief Marrs updated the board on the status of union negotiations, which are going well. They have met once since the last board meeting. The atmosphere is positive The district is looking at comparables in order to prepare a counter-proposal. He asked Commissioner Sitterley for his thoughts; Commissioner Sitterley said the negotiations sessions have been very amicable.

The Chief updated the board on the DRS matter. Letters for releases have been sent out to all retirees. The next step will be to reach out to the current represented employees. We need to get buy-in from the union prior to engaging with individual represented employees. Progress is being made. Commissioner Elwell asked about responses from retirees. Chief Marrs referred that question to Trina Norsen, who told the Board that releases are starting to come in from some of the 13 retirees.

<u>Events.</u> Chief Marrs said the annual audit for 2019 is continuing. He will be interviewing with the auditor very soon. The attorneys have been asked to disclose any material claims.

An update on Covid-19 was provided. After a conference call on Monday with King County EMS, we are off to a very slow start on vaccination. So far, about a third of the King County EMS workers have received their first shot. People over 75 that are high risk are also being vaccinated now. There are about 110,000 health care workers in King County, but only 85,000 doses available for all of the prioritized individuals. Optimally, 14,000 doses per day for six months is needed to reach the level of 70%, estimated for herd immunity to begin. So far, they have only administered about 9,000 doses per week. The vaccination effort obviously needs to ramp up. He said the pandemic will continue like this for another six months.

The Chief addressed the mutation of the virus that has appeared in Europe and now in some states here. Scientists are still evaluating if this variant is more lethal than the original coronavirus. There is a second mutation now coming out of South Africa. The symptomatology seems to be more severe with that one. Dr. Fauci predicts that this variant will eventually come to the US due to world travel. Washington State is doing

better than most, especially California. The Chief said the department needs to keep doing what it has been doing, if not better.

The Chief discussed some vaccination scams that exist now. He said the vaccination rollout is better in Washington than in Florida. Chair Elwell asked if the new variants remain on surfaces longer than the original, and Chief Marrs deferred to the CDC guidance on that question. He did say the guidelines on surface contact in general have become more and more relaxed.

The Chief said there will be a Motion under New Business relative to the IRS reimbursement for 2021 mileage.

Chief Marrs said the staff is researching grant opportunities that Commissioner Peden had mentioned.

### Executive Session. None.

Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda, all of which was approved 3-0, upon a motion made by Commissioner Sitterley and seconded by Commissioner Peden, consisted of the Chief's Report, the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 22, 2020 and approval of the Declaration of Surplus as to obsolete and/or damaged equipment, which is no longer serviceable for current operations (hose list attached).

## Unfinished Business. None.

New Business. 1. Motion: Resolution 2021-01 for Year 2021 Mileage Rate Reimbursement.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve Resolution 2021-01 for Year 2021 Mileage Rate Reimbursement in the amount of \$0.56 per mile effective January 1, 2021. Motion carried, 3-0.

# 2. Motion: Purchase of N-95 Masks.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve the purchase and authorize Chief Marrs to purchase 6,400 3M 8210 N-95 masks from R.S. Hughes for a total price not to exceed \$7,500.00 including Washington State Sales Tax. Motion carried, 3-0.

#### Good of the Order. None.

Adjournment. It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. At 5:48 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Attachments. Attached to these Minutes are copies of:

- 1. the Meeting Notice
- 2. the Meeting Agenda
- 3. the Attendance Roster
- 4. Call Summary Report
- 5. Hose Surplus List
- 6. Resolution 2021-01
- 7. R.S. Hughes Acknowledgment

Minutes Approved: Ocn 19, 2021

Chris Elwell Chairman

Attest:

Joseph F. Quinn, District Secretary

Ted Sitterley Commissioner

Rudy Peden Commissioner