## MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 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 February 2, 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: Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew presented the call summary for January 2021. There were approximately 55 fewer calls in 2020 than in 2019. Chief Pettigrew also discussed Covid statistics. In January, there were only 19 Covid-related incidents. There is hope that the "holiday spike" has passed.

- (2) Announcements: The 2021 Winter Webinar Series by Brian Snure was announced as follows:
  - February 26 Bid Laws, Procurement and Public Works
  - March 12 Fire Service Employment Law

Correspondence. None.

Public Comment. None.

Local 1461 Comment. Matt Ready thanked Chiefs Marrs and Pettigrew for working collaboratively with the Local on a personnel matter this past weekend. Chief Marrs thanked Firefighter Ready for making himself available.

Administration Reports. Chief Marrs

Facilities. N/A.

**Equipment.** Chief Marrs said the final numbers are in for the apparatus the District plans to purchase (two engines, one ladder truck and one aid car). After

February 2, 2021

document review, the plan is to propose the board approve purchasing at the next regular meeting.

Captain Wayne Metz gave an update on Logistics. Six new recruits started academy yesterday. There are no issues with PPE. Captain Metz also updated the board on the hiring process.

<u>Personnel.</u> Chief Marrs congratulated Matt Nugent, who became a First Class Firefighter on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Gunnar Wilson and Brandon Cowell completed their one-year probation on February 1, 2021. Chief Marrs had great things to say about both firefighters. See Motion under New Business regarding permanent appointment to firefighter positions.

Chief Marrs congratulated firefighters Manahan and Root upon graduation from the academy. He also congratulated FF Manahan for receiving the Chief's Company Award.

Six new recruits started the academy on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The posting for hiring firefighters for the September 1 hire date is open now on the National Testing Network web site, from February 1 to March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Marrs discussed the excellent Performance Evaluation he signed for Chief Pettigrew. He recommended, at the next board meeting, that the board approve the evaluation and approve the full 5% merit increase provided for in his employment contract. Chief Pettigrew has a little over a year left until his projected retirement date.

Chief Marrs updated the board on the Assistant Chief selection process. There are about 11 or 12 candidates and four of them are current employees. He discussed his proposal that Chiefs Marrs and Pettigrew, along with Trina Norsen, review all resumes administratively, to narrow the field down to the top six or seven. Thereafter, Chief Marrs proposes that the remaining candidates would undergo an administrative interview with staff, which would lead to a ranking of the top three candidates. The top three would then be invited to interview with the board at a board meeting. Commissioner Peden said he will be out of town during the month of March. Presumably, the meeting would be virtual in any event.

Chief Marrs said he will report on the status of labor negotiations in executive session later in the meeting.

Chief Marrs updated the board on the DRS audit. Six out of 14 retiree releases have been received back from retirees. Payments to those six retirees are scheduled for the end of February.

<u>Events.</u> Chief Marrs said the annual audit for 2019 is continuing. He said this process has been very different and that doing it remotely presents a host of new challenges.

Commissioner Peden asked if the district has trained employees on any scamavoidance measures, such as not opening fraudulent emails or other correspondence. Chair Elwell added that scammers are definitely targeting government agencies.

An update on Covid-19 was provided. King County agencies are moving toward mobile vaccination sites. This could begin as early as next Tuesday. Chief Marrs discussed the pockets of vulnerable populations in King County such as adult family homes. The vaccines move from the State to the county and then to Puget Sound Regional Fire Authority for distribution to other EMS agencies such as our district. Chief Marrs said the board members could request vaccination through the district if there are leftover vaccines after appointments are completed. Commissioner Peden asked about the timeline for mobile vaccinations. Chief Marrs expressed confidence in the process. He said his understanding is that it will be the Moderna vaccine.

Chief Marrs said that the trend in Covid testing is downward.

**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 Regular Meeting of January 19<sup>th</sup>, and the Special Meeting of January 31, 2021.

## Unfinished Business. None.

New Business. 1. Motion: Permanent Appointment of Firefighter Gunnar Wilson.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to appoint Gunnar Wilson to a permanent firefighter position effective February 1, 2021, upon his completion of the one-year probationary period. Motion carried, 3-0..

## 2. Motion: Permanent Appointment of Firefighter Brandon Cowell.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to appoint Brandon Cowell to a permanent firefighter position effective February 1, 2021, upon his completion of the one-year probationary period. Motion carried, 3-0.

Executive Session. Chair Elwell announced at 5:45 p.m. that the board would adjourn into executive session to discuss contract negotiations, which are outside the scope of the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a). It was stated

that the executive session would last for 20 minutes and that the board would take no final action after the open meeting resumed. The board extended the executive session for ten more minutes at 6:05 p.m. and then the session concluded at 6:15 p.m.

Good of the Order. Commissioner Sitterley mentioned that he was going to Hawaii for a vacation.

**Adjournment.** It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. At 6:16 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. Notice of Hiring Firefighters

Minutes Approved: Feb 16, 2021

Chris Elwell
Chairman

Attest:

Joseph F. Quinn, District Secretary

Ted Sitterley Commissioner

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