

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #25

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING 07/21/2015

DATE/TIME:

Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 4:00 p.m.

PURPOSE:

Regular Monthly Meeting

LOCATION:

Station 16, 12923 156th Ave. S.E., Renton

ATTENDANCE: KCF

KCFD #25

RENTON

Chairman Ray Barilleaux Commissioner Kerry Abercrombie

Chief Mark Peterson
Deputy Chief Chad Michael

FIT Administrator Iwen Wang

PUBLIC

None

1. Call to Order:

Commissioner Barilleaux called the Regular Meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

MOTION made by Commissioner Abercrombie to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2015. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barilleaux and **CARRIED** in one motion.

3. Unfinished/Old Business:

RFA Update – Brian Snure: The Commissioners had some questions regarding the transfer of Fire District 25's reserve fund and what happens to Fire District 25 when an RFA is formed.

Brian Snure explained that an RFA is the equivalent of an Interlocal Agreement consolidation, similar to what District 25 currently has. The RFA Plan is the agreement between the participating jurisdictions.

When the RFA is formed, the City of Renton no longer performs fire service for Fire District 25 and Fire District 25 no longer provides its own fire service. The RFA provides the fire service. The RFA becomes the taxing authority.

If the Fire District 25 reserve fund is turned over to the RFA, the reserve fund would become part of the RFA. The small geographical area (Fire District 25) becomes a large geographical area (Fire District 25 and all of Renton). The RFA Governing Board would set its budget with the guidance of its staff.

If the reserve fund is not turned over to the RFA, the reserves will remain District 25 funds, but there would be consequences with retaining the assets, since there would need to be separate accounting rules, reporting requirements, and auditing.

Commissioner Barilleaux asked if the agreement could state "by turning over the reserve fund from District 25 that the RFA would be compelled to provide funds for the DUI Drill". Brian Snure replied that if the DUI Drill is a program that is important to the Board, and the Board wanted to ensure it's continuity for a period of time, then a provision could be written for the plan. Chief Peterson recommended making the language broader, since it is difficult to determine what the needs would be 3-5 years down the road and thought that stating that there would be "community outreach" would be more appropriate.

Commissioner Abercrombie asked, hypothetically, if there was a conflict between the District and the RFA and legal counsel is needed, what would happen? Brian Snure stated that the only reason that District 25 continues to exist is to provide elected officials to sit on the Governing Board. The purpose of the RFA statute is to allow consolidations of participating jurisdictions. This scenario would be one of the RFA suing itself. Brian Snure further stated that the RFA would be responsible for expenses incurred by the District to continue its operation, which would generally only include election costs. If a situation arises where there is a lawsuit, through the insurance that the RFA carries (and names the District as an additional insured), the RFA would provide the attorney to defend the claim. From a legal perspective, the RFA would be a bigger entity, and the bigger entity would take care of everyone in the RFA.

Commissioner Barilleaux asked what would happen to the Governance Board when and if Fire District 25 annexes to the City and there are not any elected Commissioners from Fire District 25 anymore? Administrator Wang indicated that this would be addressed in the bylaws rather than the RFA Plan.

Commissioner Abercrombie asked if the Governance Board consisting of three Commissioners and three elected officials could be changed in the future? Brian Snure indicated that the RFA Plan would need to state that the Governance could be changed by a vote of the Governance Board, but it has been his experience that City officials do not want to give up this control. Brian Snure further explained that the only role that District 25 would have after becoming an RFA would be to find three people that are elected to serve as Commissioners.

Administrator Wang summarized District 25's options:

- 1. District 25 maintains some level of reserve to provide special programs.
- 2. Add a provision that any Fire District 25 expense will be paid by the RFA.
- 3. Add language in the RFA Plan that the RFA will continue to participate in Community Outreach programs/events desired by the City or Fire District 25.
- 4. Add a voting provision in the bylaws that ensure the minority interests will not be ignored.

Brian Snure asked the Commissioners to determine why they want to keep the reserve. If the driving force is the DUI program, then he suggests something be written in the plan that continues for a certain amount of time, until District 25 goes away, or the value of the reserve fund runs out.

Deputy Chief Michael indicated that community outreach will be critical for the District, the City, and the RFA since it is a shared interest of all to serve the community. He also indicated that the RFA would be challenged with funding when it begins: capital expenditures, replacement schedule, equipment, etc.

Commissioner Barilleaux stated that he would like to have a Special Meeting that would include all Fire District 25 Commissioners, so that they can discuss the Reserve Fund.

Chief Peterson thought it might be a good idea for the Commissioners to also attend a District 37 Board meeting to see how the District operates their business with the Kent Regional Fire Authority.

4. New Business:

(Transfer of Reserve Fund addressed above)

5. Correspondence:

None

6. Citizen and/or Other Comments:

None

7. Seminars/Meetings/Conferences:

None

8. Good of the Order:

- Chief Peterson reported that, unfortunately, Firefighter Eckhardt's cancer has progressed.
- Commissioner Abercrombie reported that his son starts medic school at Harborview on Monday.

9. <u>District Reports:</u>

None

10. Vouchers:

Vouchers prepared were reviewed by the Commissioners. It was **MOVED** by Commissioner Abercrombie and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barilleaux to approve vouchers. Submitted for payment (#082 - 086) in the amount of \$3,302.12. **MOTION CARRIED**.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 p.m. on a **MOTION** made by Commissioner Abercrombie. **SECONDED** by Commissioner Barilleaux and **CARRIED**.

Submitted/Transcribed by:

Rhonda Heyden, Administrative Secretary I Renton Fire & Emergency Services

Approved:

Signature KCFD 25 Board Membe