



Renton Regional Fire Authority
18002 108th Ave SE
Renton, WA 98055
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MINUTES

RFA Governance Board Regular Meeting

4:00 P.M. – Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Fire Station #14 – 1900 Lind Ave SW, Renton / Video Conference

CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

Governance Board Chair Pérez called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Governance Board Members Present:

Kerry Abercrombie (Fire District 25)
Ruth Pérez, Chair (City of Renton)
Ryan McIrvine (City of Renton)
Myron Meikle (Fire District 25)
Randy Corman (City of Renton)
Linda Sartnurak (Non-Voting Advisory Position, Fire District 40)

Governance Board Members Not Present:

Marcus Morrell, Vice Chair (Fire District 25)

Administrative Staff Present:

Fire Chief Steve Heitman, Chief Administration Officer Samantha Babich, Deputy Chief Chuck DeSmith, Fire Marshal Anjela Barton, Deputy Chief Mark Seaver, Deputy Chief William Aho, Lieutenants Hyslop and Krystofiak, Facilities Manager Scott Murphy, Communications Manager Katie Lewis, Deputy Fire Marshal Sara Ferguson, IT Technician Wyatt Humphreys, Administrative Supervisor Christine Noddings, Administrative Specialist Evyn Villa and RFA Attorney Brian Snure.

Public Present:

Angelina Benedetti

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Abercrombie and **SECONDED** by Board Member Corman to excuse the absent Board Member from this meeting. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no agenda modifications.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

Promotion Ceremony

Renton Regional Fire Authority promoted 6 members effective June 1st, and will promote 4 members effective August 4th:

- Will Aho – Battalion Chief to Deputy Chief of Response Operations
- Jim Ochs & Dan Alexander – Captain to Battalion Chief
- Marcus Rismiller & Mark dos Remedios – Lieutenant to Captain

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- Brandon Myking, Chris Ellis, Jamie Durkan – Engineer to Lieutenant
- Bryan Estibal & Nathan Facchini – Firefighter to Engineer

Fire Chief Steve Heitman gave an introduction of the ceremony. Members were presented a certificate and badge by their supervisor or peer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvin to approve the consent agenda for July 13, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

SIGNING OF VOUCHERS

The members of the Governance Board signed the Voucher Approvals for July 13, 2021.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Board Committee reports.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Heitman's report included the following:

- Congratulations are in Order: Please join me in congratulating FF Sean Pageau, FF Spencer Armstrong and FF Jace Reyes for completing their JATC Step 2A.
- Promotions/Retirements: Neil Samuelson is retiring after 40 years of service and Bob Homan is retiring after just shy of 35 years of service. Their last day is July 30th. Today we congratulate the following members on their promotions during a pinning ceremony (see above).
- King County Fire District 40 Contract Negotiation Update: One more meeting has been scheduled, which we believe will be to finalize the last couple of items for the contract. Once that is complete, we will bring it forward to the Board.
- Opening the Stations to the Public: This decision was made through a coordinated effort of the Fire Chiefs. Since the State opened on June 30th, the RFA opened stations on July 6th as part of our phased approach to reopening to the public. This means we are open for our residents to receive blood pressure checks and walk-in patient care, ask for assistance, and obtain information. CPR classes, station tours and open houses, and large gathering events are proposed to begin in September. We are evaluating when we will go back to live meetings of the various boards and committees as well. Our masking policies will remain in effect until we receive further guidance from L&I.
- Fire Benefit Charge Renewal: We are in the process of hiring a consultant from interviews and applications we have received. This measure will be placed on the ballot sometime between November of this year and April 2022. We are communicating with Local 864 leadership to keep them informed so we can be a united front as we work together to get the FBC passed. Information is being sent to residents so they can make an informed decision with their vote.
- Department of Natural Resources Contract Renewal: At the request of WA State Fire Chiefs Association and WA State Fire Commissioners Association, legal counsel worked to negotiate changes to the proposed 2021 DNR Interagency Agreement (IAA). The new agreement improves the operating capabilities of the fire service with the DNR and has provisions for all-

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hazard (non-wildfire) incident dispatching of personnel and equipment, provides for the payment of volunteers through the casual hire process and ensures the dispatching of personnel that participate with incident management teams. Renewal of this agreement is effective as of June 24th and supersedes the previous IAA that was scheduled to terminate in 2024.

- Governance Board Notifications: Per our procurement process and policy, I am notifying the Board of the following purchases. These have already been shown on the vouchers.
 - Station 12 LVT Vinyl Flooring Upgrade & Tile Floor Cleaning – \$33,132.39
 - Public Relations Consultant (FBC Renewal above) – \$30,000.00

DIVISION REPORTS

Administration

- Public Education Translatable Website Forms: The Admin Services team created web pages on the Renton RFA website to provide information about various Public Education topics including cooking safety, life jacket safety, smoke alarms, and more. These pages can be translated into 16 languages to print in PDF format.

EMS/Health & Safety

- New EMS training this month for responders: The RFA began using high performance mannequins that talk and bleed, providing the best EMS training for responders.
- Safety Stand Down Review: One focus of this review was the need for mental resilience training first for responders, followed by partnering with Crisis Solutions to provide de-escalation training in response to HB 1310. This training began in June 2021.
- HB 1310 Update: If Renton PD does not respond to a call by Renton RFA personnel, RFA personnel has been instructed to stand down and not enter. The RFA, along-side law enforcement, is working to define new guidelines for responders.

Support Services

- Station 11 & 16 Updates: A notice of advertisement for bid for the Station 11 Remodel project was published in the Kent and Renton Reporter newspaper. The RFA will accept bids until the morning of July 23rd, then open them to select a contractor to begin two weeks after selection and ninety days to complete the work. The RFA met with TCA Architect and King County to discuss the Station 16 Replacement project. The project will need to go in front of the King County Council for approval, which at this time has a 6-month wait for reviews.
- Training Trucks Arrived: They've arrived and are currently awaiting documentation and insurance coverage to replace the two surplus rigs.
- Pierce Visit: DC Seaver thanked Fleet Manager Brice Callaway, and Engineers Dan Johnson and Jamie Durkan for visiting Pierce with him to become familiar with their process and timeline for the new vehicles, with a delivery date of early Spring 2022.
- Aid Unit/Brush Rig Update: There is no lag for the new aid unit, with an expected arrival date of early Spring 2022. There is still no timeline for the brush rig. The contract is in place to maintain the RFA's place on the waitlist for when the manufacturer receives chassis to build that model.
- Ecology Grant: The HazMat team submitted a grant for metering equipment, and the RFA is waiting on a response.

Response Operations

- Significant Incidents: 6/22 Fairwood Apartments Fire, 6/26 Brush Fire behind Cedar River Dog Park, and 6/28 Brush Fire response to Cedar Hills with Eastside Fire.

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- Water Rescue Responses: 8 total that our crews responded to, including one on Cedar River, one on Lake Washington, and six in Zone 3 (Angle Lake, Green River, Redondo, Lake Tapps).
- Heatwave Responses (6/26 - 6/28): 395 total over the 3 days, including 58 fire alarms most due to malfunctioning heat sensors, 216 medical responses, 11 structure/brush/minor fires – includes one mutual aid commercial fire in Tukwila, and 110 MVAs, service, water rescue, other call types.
- Training: Recruit Academy #11 Graduation (nine graduates), three graduates on 1st shift dispatched for Fairwood Apartments fire, live fire training at Station 14, three successful JATC tests, and deep diver training off Redondo with Valley RFA.
- Operations: Updated Department of Natural Resources contract has been signed, the RFA upstaffed two wildland firefighters at Station 17 for 6/26 to 6/28 and recalled one engine company on 6/28, and upstaffed with two additional engines and one aid unit for 7/4.

Office of the Fire Marshal

- OFM Quarterly Report: Fire Marshal Barton summarized the OFM quarterly report provided in the packet. Fireworks ban notices were posted around the City of Renton to bring awareness to the fire danger with the dry conditions presented with recent weather patterns. Fire Marshal Barton and DC Aho visited the Red Lion de-intensification center to assess tenant safety and conducted a fire drill that went very well. During the heatwave, Renton experienced 58 false alarms due to heat detectors in attics reaching an upwards of 160°F.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Bad Debt Policy

An updated finance policy was presented to the Board for their review. As part of the policy review process, the RFA updated the Bad Debt policy to include references to RCW 62A.3-515 and RCW 19.16.500 and changes to language in sections 1.3 and 5.2 and increasing the CAO's write-off authority from \$100 to \$500 due to the Fire Marshal fee increase.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Abercrombie and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvine to adopt the revised Bad Debt policy as presented. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

Establish Public Hearing Dates

In order to meet the required deadlines for filing property tax levy and FBC information with the County, RRFA staff proposed a special meeting to be scheduled on October 26, 2021 in order to hold a public hearing on the proposed levy and fire benefit charge.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Abercrombie and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvine to hold a Special Meeting on 10/26/2021 at 11:30 am (after Committee meetings) at a location to be determined for the purpose of holding public hearings regarding the proposed Levy and the Fire Benefit Charge. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

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Regular Board Meeting Schedule

The move to virtual meetings in 2020 generated a discussion that led to Board decision to hold future in-person meetings at Fire Station #14 to ensure enough space was available for social distancing. RRFA staff asked the Board to revisit this, taking into consideration the new in-person meeting guidelines of eliminating the 25% room capacity.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Abercrombie and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvine to approve staff to draft a resolution to amend the regular Board meeting schedule to be on the second Monday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at Fire Station #13, effective August 9, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was no good of the order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Monday, August 9, 2021, 10:00 a.m., Governance Board Regular Meeting, Fire Station #13 (18002 108th Ave SE, Renton) / Video Conference
- Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 9:00 a.m., Budget/Finance Committee Meeting, Fire Station #13 (18002 108th Ave SE, Renton) / Video Conference
- Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 10:30 a.m., Operations/Capital Committee Meeting, Fire Station #13 (18002 108th Ave SE, Renton) / Video Conference

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member McIrvine and **SECONDED** by Board Member Abercrombie at 5:20 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**



Ruth Pérez, Board Chair



Christine Noddings, Board Secretary

