



Renton Regional Fire Authority
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MINUTES

RFA Governance Board Regular Meeting

10:00 A.M. – Monday, June 12, 2023

Fire Station #13 – 18002 108th Ave SE, Renton

CALL TO ORDER

Governance Board Chair O'Halloran called the regular meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Governance Board Members Present:

Kerry Abercrombie, Vice Chair (Fire District 25)

James Alberson (City of Renton)

Sean Cook (Fire District 25) – Joined Zoom at 10:03 a.m.

Marcus Morrell (Fire District 25)

Valerie O'Halloran, Chair (City of Renton)

Ruth Pérez (City of Renton)

Andrew Schneider (Non-Voting Advisory Position, Fire District 40)

Administrative Staff Present:

Fire Chief Steve Heitman, Chief Administration Officer Samantha Babich, Fire Marshal Anjela Barton, Deputy Chief Mark Seaver, Deputy Chief Dan Alexander, Facilities Manager Scott Murphy, Site Reliability Engineers Wyatt Humphreys and Javier Esparza, Finance Manager LaQuanza Flowers, Business Intelligence Analyst Kelvin Li, Board Secretary Samantha Vergara, and RFA Attorney Brian Snure.

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Fire Chief Heitman requested to move Executive Session before New Business.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Alberson and **SECONDED** by Board Member Abercrombie to approve the agenda modification. **MOTION CARRIED (5-0)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no announcements, proclamations, or presentations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of minutes from the May 8, 2023 regular meeting and the approval of vouchers.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Alberson and **SECONDED** by Board Member Abercrombie to approve the consent agenda for June 12, 2023. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

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SIGNING OF VOUCHERS

The Governance Board members signed the Voucher Approval letter for June 12, 2023.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Board Committee reports.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Heitman presented his report. Additionally, he announced that our Finance Team has won the distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the GFOA, acknowledging the efforts of Finance Manager LaQuanza Flowers and CAO Samantha Babich.

DIVISION REPORTS

Each of the division managers presented an overview of their respective division reports. Fire Chief Heitman presented the Administration report on behalf of CAO Babich and Deputy Chief Seaver presented the EMS/Health & Safety report on behalf of Deputy Chief DeSmith.

Regarding the Office of the Fire Marshal report, Board Member Alberson inquired about the reason for the vehicle fires. Fire Marshal Barton noted it is primarily opportunity of individuals being destructive, and in most cases they are stolen vehicles.

For the Support Services report, Deputy Chief Alexander noted the options for a new logistics warehouse will be discussed within Executive Session.

In presenting the Response Operations report, Deputy Chief Seaver noted the May 21st multiple shooting event and recognized the efforts of Renton Police as they worked with the Kent Police Department and WA State Patrol to address the street racing problems on E Valley Hwy and S 180th Street. Board Chair O'Halloran noted the alleviated problem in Renton may have moved elsewhere.

Additionally, DC Seaver followed up on a question from Board Member Abercrombie from a previous meeting regarding the DUI distracted driving drill: Renton RFA reached out to Lindbergh High School, who would like to host a program prior to homecoming this September.

Board Member Pérez commented on the unfair criticism the City of Renton PD and Renton RFA received for the response to the May 21st shooting/street racing incident, noting the misunderstandings that had spread on social media.

Board Member Abercrombie commented on the 3 shooting events listed in the May report and asked if Renton RFA has active shooter procedures in place, requesting more details about them. DC Seaver confirmed that Renton RFA does have active shooter protocols in place and training has been conducted. Fire Chief Heitman shared he was involved with an active shooter project with a federal grant that involved every agency in the Snohomish, Pierce, and King counties. There is a specific process that every law enforcement and fire agency in all 3 counties signed off on. DC Seaver acknowledged Renton PD's involvement and collaboration on active shooter training with Renton RFA.

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Board Member Pérez added for public awareness that the street racing is happening in Kent, near the border of Renton. In the past years, the City of Renton has taken proactive action to prevent racing. Unfortunately, racing continues to be an issue in Kent, which does affect Renton where the two cities meet.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Heitman shared a thank you message that the RFA received for Battalion Chief Vollandt and the E315 crew.

Board Chair O'Halloran noted she joined the delegation at their International Leadership Summit at the Polish House in Seattle. She was honored to participate and represent the City of Renton.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price.

Executive Session was called at 10:32 p.m. for 18 minutes. This was extended an additional 4 minutes. The regular meeting reconvened at 10:54 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Logistics Warehouse

Due to Tukwila Fire merging with Puget Sound RFA, Renton RFA will no longer be sharing the PSRFA logistics warehouse after 2023. After an extensive search, a suitable property has been located. This would be a temporary move with the end goal of using the current Station 16 as the logistics facility when the new Station 16 is occupied.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Pérez and **SECONDED** by Board Member Alberson to approve Chief Heitman to sign a three-year lease on a logistics warehouse space once the lease is reviewed by legal and finalized. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Approval of Resolution 2023-04

In order to complete the purchase of property for the relocation of Fire Station 16 through threat of eminent domain, the RFA Governance Board must declare the necessity for acquiring the property and authorize acquisition. The resolution has been prepared by legal counsel to meet this requirement.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Alberson and **SECONDED** by Board Member Pérez to adopt Resolution 2023-04 and the procedures therein as presented by staff. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

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GOOD OF THE ORDER

Board Member Schneider shared news out of Fire District #40: Two Commissioners are up for re-election. Steve Parsons is running unopposed, and Linda Sartnurak has a challenger. This will be on the upcoming ballot.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Monday, June 26, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Budget/Finance Committee Meeting, Video Conference
- Monday, June 26, 2023, 10:30 a.m., Operations/Capital Committee Meeting, Video Conference
- Monday, July 10, 2023, 10:00 a.m., Governance Board Regular Meeting, Fire Station #13 (18002 108th Ave SE, Renton) / Video Conference

ADJOURNMENT

Board Chair O'Halloran adjourned the meeting at 10:58 a.m.



Valerie O'Halloran, Board Chair



Samantha Vergara, Board Secretary