



STATE OF WASHINGTON

BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS

PO Box 114 • Olympia, WA 98507 • (360) 753-7318 • FAX (360) 586-1987 • Toll Free (877) 753-7318

January 18, 2013

The 234th regular meeting of the Board for Volunteer Firefighters and Reserve Officers was convened at 9:00 A.M. in Suite #207 in the James R. Larson Forum Building by Chair Jay Hughes, Board Member Mark Watenpaugh, Board Member Milland Walling, Board Member Martin Spani, Board Member Brian VanCamp, Tamara Donovan (Mason Co. FPD #13), TJ Nedrow (President, Washington State Firefighter's Association), Tamara Warnke (Lobbyist, Washington State Firefighter's Association), Assistant Attorney General Dawn Cortez, and Executive Secretary Brigette Smith present.

The Board reviewed the October 19, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried that the minutes be approved.

Secretary Smith asked that the Board to add two agenda items:

- A discussion regarding an Assistance to Firefighters Grant
- An update on the Long Beach Fire audit

FIRST HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

TJ Nedrow and Tamara Warnke asked to address the Board. They discussed the Buy-Back clean-up bill and asked that Secretary Smith email them some proposed language for legislation to close a loop-hole where the buy-back fees are less than the original cost of the fee. Ms. Warnke informed the Board that she and Mr. Nedrow had a meeting with Representative Ross Hunter regarding the administrative volunteer bill. Mr. Nedrow also told the Board that the Washington State Firefighter's Association (WSFFA) planned to post the Benefit Wish List on their website sometime next month, and were considering giving the authors of the different ideas credit. He also wanted to give the Board a head's up that their next conference would be June 6, 7, and 8 and were hoping that the Board could once again send a representative to the vendor fair the night of the 6th. Mr. Nedrow and Ms. Warnke left the meeting at 9:23 am.

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Smith updated the Board regarding the claim for James Ballif. Not much has changed with his status and Claims Analyst Foreman has been processing the claims.

Secretary Smith updated the Board regarding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. In 2011, the Board worked with Labor and Industries (LNI), Washington State Patrol (WSP), and Washington State University (WSU) to apply for a grant from the Department of Homeland Security to study how training influences injuries and how training at WSP and other firefighter training programs can be enhanced to decrease injuries. Although we did not receive a grant in that round, it was decided to try again. Back in 2011, the Board was able to sign a letter of support for the grant. Unfortunately, the timing didn't work as well this time, and Secretary Smith signed a letter of support on behalf of the Board, since she was sure that the Board had not changed its stance. Secretary Smith distributed copies of the letter to the Board.

Secretary Smith updated the Board regarding the audit into the Long Beach Fire Department's records. Ms. Smith informed the Board that the audit was nearly completed and that it appeared that several members of the department were going to lose credit, including some who were already drawing pensions. The Board asked Assistant Attorney General (AAG) Cortez to research into the legalities of recovering overpayments and advise



Secretary Smith on how to best proceed. The Board also requested that Secretary Smith explore the possibility of writing a WAC to address how the Board will handle recoveries of overpayments.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed a request to grant Mark Seguin, Town of Twisp, a Permanent Partial Disability Award (PPD) for an injury he sustained on July 26, 1999. It was moved by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried that Firefighter Seguin be awarded a PPD Award of \$1,482.47.

The Board reviewed a request from the City of Omak to accept an accident card for Anthony Walker, City of Omak. The staff to the State Board denied payment for the claim on the basis that the RCW 41.24.210 requires that a report of accident be filed, in writing, within ninety days of the injury or illness. After reviewing all the documentation in the case, and the sworn statement of Chief Kevin Bowling, it was moved by Spani, seconded by Walling, and carried that the staff's decision to deny the claim for Anthony Walker's injury on February 15, 2012 be upheld.

Secretary Smith updated the Board on the current legislative session. So far, the Governor's Proposed Budget matched the BVFF's Budget Request without any surprising cuts to administrative costs. In addition, Secretary Smith had been working with the Washington Fire Commissioners Association (WFCA) and the WSFFA to introduce legislation to increase the line of duty death benefits and create sibling parity. The legislation had been drafted, and a potential sponsor had been identified. Board Member VanCamp asked Secretary Smith if she had seen the legislation yet regarding the addition of Chaplains to the BVFF system. She stated she had not yet, but would research it right away.

The Board reviewed a Pension Participation Requirement Exemption Request for the following firefighters:

Novak Nick Dunjic, Grays Harbor Fire District #2, for the period of 9/18/12 through 11/18/12

Mark S. Robecker, Grays Harbor Fire District #2, for the period of 8/22/12 through 11/14/12

Rebecca Feigenbaum, Lewis County Fire District #2, for the period of 10/8/12 through 3/25/13

It was moved by Spani, seconded by VanCamp, and carried that the exemption request for Dunjic be approved, that the exemption for Robecker be approved through 11/13/12, and that the exemption for Feigenbaum be approved for a 12 week period, which is all that is allowed in the rules.

The Board reviewed Secretary Smith's leave and pay records.

The Board reviewed and approved (Spani moved, Walling seconded) the administrative expenditure vouchers numbered (00196 through 00248) and various travel vouchers. Voucher #225 is on hold pending receipt of a valid SWV number as required for payment. The number provided was invalid.

There was a motion by Spani, seconded by Watenpaugh, and carried that the retirement pensions and lump-sum settlements listed below be approved effective on the listed dates:

		<u>Effective</u> <u>Date</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Acheson, Jr., Robert S.	Kittitas Valley	9/3/11		73.50
Adams, Donald H.	Walla Walla #6	5/29/12	J/S	242.10
Anglin, Boyd D.	Jefferson #1	8/7/12		73.50
Auvil, Lawrence	Douglas #1	10/1/12		300.00
Babb, David	Spokane #3	10/3/12	J/S	243.60
Bennett, John R.	San Juan #2	7/22/12		6,423.94 Lump
Bontrager, Terry G.	Kitsap #7	10/7/12		300.00
Broderson, Leonard	Spokane #10	11/9/12		228.00 @ age 62
Brost, Rubin L.	Yakima #5	10/16/12	J/S	157.28 @ age 64
Brown, Howard T.	Skagit #5	10/1/12		300.00
Carter, Stanley W.	Okanogan	4/29/12		300.00

Clifton, Julie (Ward)	Cowlitz #2	7/26/12	SURV	171.09
Copenhefer, Michael J.	Yakima #7	8/16/12		3,997.38 Lump
Cooper, Steve	Jefferson #6	9/24/12	J/S	245.40
Cross, Susan	Snohomish #28	10/22/12		2,713.22 Lump
DeHaan, Frederick	Whatcom #5	6/1/12		180.00
Dence Karen Pat	Jefferson #2	11/9/12		3,032.42 Lump
Dineen, William T.	Gray Harbor #16	1/1/04		80.50
Dodd, Thomas E.	King #17	9/7/12		210.00
Doty, Larry E.	Davenport	11/10/12	J/S	250.50
Elgin, Kenneth C.	Ocean Shores	2/11/12		2,532.32 Lump
Foster, Donald J.	Mason #2	10/23/12	J/S	242.10
Fountain, Rodney E.	Chelan #9	11/1/12		157.50 @ age 63
Fuller, Michael J.	Raymond	11/30/12	J/S	243.60
Farcy, Sidney (Penny)	Vashon Island	10/21/01	SURV	42.89
Gerberg, Joseph N.	Yakima #14	10/3/12		2,611.87 Lump
Glanzer, Sam	Yakima #1	9/13/12		300.00
Haapala, Thomas	Mason #17	12/6/12	J/S	240.30
Harwood, Lyle D.	Malden	11/26/12		3,311.50 Lump
Heggerston, Alicia	Ferry #3	11/1/12		187.50
Hoffman, Clint H.	Walla Walla #4	12/30/12		300.00
Huwe, Allen	Waitsburg	12/12/12		228.00 @ age 62
Jay, Lowell (Diana)	Adams #5	3/15/11	SURV	50.24
Kratzig, Robert B.	Whatcom #3	12/23/12		187.50
Kursave, Dan	Grant #5	11/29/12		276.00 @ age 64
Lopes, Greg	Spokane #3	5/4/12		4,572.18 Lump
Lynch, Francis J.	Pend Oreille #2	11/4/12		300.00
MacDonald, Robert E.	Port Townsend	11/11/12		2,713.22 Lump
Magill, Jr., John	Stanwood	7/12/11		80.50
Main, Jerry	Snoqualmie	9/24/12	J/S	4,977.33 Lump
Marthe, Richard A.	Whitman #12	12/4/12		300.00
Masonholder, Lance	Skagit #2	5/27/12		204.00 @ age 61
McAllister, Jullan	Whatcom #4	11/26/12		55.86 @ age 62
McCollum, Robert	Skamania #1	10/29/12		300.00
Minerich, Allen L.	Kittitas #7	7/17/12		170.10 @ age 63
Moore, Randall	Ritzville	9/24/12		228.00 @ age 62
Nelson, Brad W.	Grant #10	12/4/12		2,880.47 Lump
Nelson, Glen N.	Spokane #3	8/27/12		56.00
Neyens, James	Whatcom #1	9/3/12		245.40
Oestreich, Harry	King #45	8/2/11		135.00
Rankin, Daniel R.	Pierce #3	5/16/12		142.80 @ age 61
Rasmussen, Russ	Klickitat #10	12/1/12		187.50
Reynolds, Robert	Colfax	10/10/11		2,394.01 Lump
Richardson, Terry L.	Pierce #22	10/2/12	J/S	250.50
Riewer, Robert	Thurston #6	11/9/12		2,234.41 Lump
Rubenser, Karen	Columbia #1	8/1/12		228.00 @ age 62
Rush, David P.	Yakima #5	11/1/12		300.00
Sandy, Raymond F.	Pateros	9/27/12		180.00 @ age 60
Scharnhorst, Ted	Whitman #12	8/31/12		228.00 @ age 62
Scheele, Duane W.	Spokane #2	11/27/11		3,128.33 Lump
Simpson, John D.	Lincoln #6	4/1/12	J/S	245.40
Torrence, Ronald L.	Thurston #6	11/3/12		300.00
Williams, Nancy	Whatcom #14	7/25/12		2,234.41 Lump
Willoughby, Robert	Walla Walla #6	5/21/12	J/S	123.45
Wilson, Terrance J.	Bingen	9/9/12		300.00
York, Sr., Larry K.	Woodland	10/19/12	J/S	255.60

At 10:10 a.m., the Board recessed for 10 minutes.

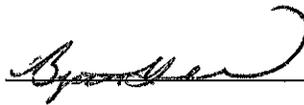
The Board went into executive session for about 15 minutes to discuss litigation at 10:20 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

SECOND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No one present wished to speak.

There was a motion by VanCamp, seconded by Walling, and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 10:50 a.m.



Brigette K. Smith, Executive Secretary