



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS
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April 15, 2016

The 245th regular meeting of the Board for Volunteer Firefighters and Reserve Officers was convened at 9:00 A.M. in Suite #112 in the James R. Larson Forum Building by Chair Jay Hughes, with Board Member Mark Watenpaugh, Board Member Martin Spani, Board Member Brian VanCamp, Board Member Miland Walling, Executive Secretary Brigitte Smith, Senior Actuarial Assistant Michael Harbour (Office of the State Actuary), Actuarial Assistant Frank Serra (Office of the State Actuary), Confidential Secretary Julie Foreman, Claims Analyst Kaylene Wright, and Assistant Attorney General Kathryn Wyatt present.

The Board reviewed the January 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried that the minutes be approved.

FIRST HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No public wished to speak.

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Smith requested that the Board hold over the discussion regarding a policy for volunteers and illegal activities until the next meeting due to the turn over and the need to have additional time to bring AAG Wyatt up to speed on the issue and give her time for research. It was agreed to hold the item over until the next meeting.

Secretary Smith talked to the Board about the legislation this past session regarding part-time and stipend volunteers and private ambulance volunteers and the current status.

- **SB 6026 An act relating to volunteer emergency workers volunteering with a nonprofit ambulance service provider.** This bill would have allowed nonprofit ambulance workers to participate in the BVFF & RO. This bill was introduced, received a hearing in Government Operations & Security, and passed out of it to Ways & Means. However, it did not receive a hearing in Ways & Means and is dead for this session.
- **SB 6439 Addressing retirement benefits for volunteer firefighters and reserve officers assisting with state emergencies.** This bill would have given firefighters and reserve officers the option of having their PERS eligible time count towards PERS. This bill received a hearing in Ways & Means and passed out to Appropriations. It did not receive a hearing in Appropriations. However, it was reintroduced as an amendment to a larger wildfire bill, but the amendment was subsequently removed. It is dead for this session.

NEW BUSINESS

Senior Actuarial Assistant Michael Harbour and Actuarial Assistant Frank Serra presented the Board with the Office of the State Actuary's recommended Actuarial Tables. Because of the new adopted mortality tables, it is necessary to adopt new actuarial tables to reflect the changes. The studies have proven that people are living an average of one or two years longer. As a result, members will draw larger retirement amounts in their lifetimes. In other words, the retirements are worth more now than they were previously. So, things like the lump-sums need to increase because they are, in effect, "cashing" members out. If the retirements are worth more because people are living longer, then the lump-sum amounts should increase. After answering questions, Mr. Harbour and Mr. Serra both left the meeting.



It was moved by Spani, seconded by VanCamp, and carried that Secretary Smith begin the process to adopt the WAC tables once finalized by the Actuary. She was directed to send out possible hearing dates and times to the members to set a final hearing date, preferably in October.

The Board reviewed a request for additional service time for George Thomas, Yakima Co. FPD #14. After reviewing the evidence submitted, a motion was made by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried, that Secretary Smith contact the department for clarification regarding what specific years Mr. Thomas is seeking credit for, and if there is any additional evidence that can be provided.

The Board took a brief recess from 10:00am until 10:10am.

AAG Kathryn Wyatt talked to the Board about the Hearings WAC. She said that the majority of the WAC is fine, but now that we have some hearings pending, a couple of issues have come up. In one section of the WAC, it states that new evidence cannot be presented to the Board that was not in the staff's record at the time of the decisions. Later, however, it addresses how to introduce evidence. She suggested that the Board consider removing the portion of the WAC that doesn't allow for new evidence. She also suggested adding a clause that requires that hearing be held to a one day limit, except by a motion of the Board. It was her belief that there were several different approaches that the Board could take. After discussing many options, the Board asked her to draft some changes that would give them the most flexibility, but ensure that some authority for negotiations could be delegated to the staff, while still allowing the Board the ability to hear cases before going to court. VanCamp made a motion that AAG Wyatt work on a draft to bring before the Board at the July meeting with the goal of setting a hearing in conjunction with the tables hearing. Spani seconded the motion, and the motion was carried.

The Board reviewed Josh Hall's (Clallam Co. FPD #2) Pension Participation Requirement Exemption request. It was moved by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried that Firefighter Hall be granted up to a 12 week exemption.

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

The Board reviewed and approved (Spani moved, Watenpaugh seconded) the administrative expenditure vouchers numbered #00927 through #00992 and various travel vouchers.

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 Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Adams, Lynn R	Benton #1	2/11/2016	276.00 @age 64
Almon, William F	Yakima	1/1/2015	300.00
Andrus, Jeffrey E	Lacrosse	1/15/2016 J/S	250.50
Baker, Charles R	Yakima #4	6/1/2012	73.50
Berg, Eric A	Cowlitz #3	3/17/2014 J/S	155.44
Blair, III, John B	Enumclaw	4/10/2016 J/S	246.90
Boehm, Richard C	Clark #10	12/20/2015 J/S	248.70
Brost, Dana M	Yakima #4	12/19/2014	77.00
Brown, Richard	Whitman #10	1/1/2016	70.00
Caille, Grover E	Mansfield	11/15/2015	84.00
Clark, Robert M	Skagit #15	11/18/2015 J/S	254.10
Cole, Darwin	Pend Oreille #8	3/1/2016	300.00
Cronin, Michael	Jefferson #6	12/3/2015 J/S	63.83
Curtis, James A	Snohomish #8	4/6/2016 J/S	159.17
Daulton, Alan	Pacific #2	1/1/2016 J/S	237.30

Donnelly, David P	Kitsap #18	4/26/16	225.00
Eldridge, Larry	S Pend Oreille F&R	12/1/2015	2332.76 Lump
Farley, Janice	Adams #5	1/31/2016	3368.97 Lump
Gelsleichter, David F	Kitsap #6	4/13/2016	120.00
Goodrich, Harry R	Jefferson #2	2/1/2016	300.00
Gray, Darrel C	Snohomish #14	10/22/2015	2842.27 Lump
Green, Gary I	Lincoln #7	1/22/2016	3368.97 Lump
Harbaugh, Mark	Fircrest	1/4/2014	4812.82 Lump
Hinger, Michael D	Okanogan #3	4/19/2016	228.00 @age 62
Hoffman, Arletta	Lincoln #1	3/1/2016	300.00
Holmgren, Joellen K	Skagit #9	10/14/2015	3128.33 Lump
Hutchins, Drake	King #10	12/7/2015	3790.09 Lump
Jefferson, Timothy G	Yakima #4	3/23/2016	300.00
Jirikowic, Reece	Port Angeles	12/22/2015	3116.71 Lump
Johnson, Byron M	Lewis #1	11/27/2015	228.00 @age 62
Kee, Douglas	Oroville EMSD	1/16/2016	4220.50 Lump
Kernan, Richard B	Mabton	1/1/2016	142.50 @age 62
Kingery, Orlen C	Grays Harbor #5	3/11/2016	4090.89 Lump
Kittle, Marsha	King #47	3/19/2016	80.50
Knopes, Randy L	Asotin #1	2/18/2016	2713.22 Lump
Kortlever, Melvin W	Lewis #8	7/15/2015J/S	234.03
Lamie, Kermit C	Snohomish #25	1/26/2016	300.00
Larsen, Marney	Snohomish #26	3/1/2016 J/S	248.70
Larson, David L	Cashmere	12/21/2015	300.00
Lefeber, David	Skagit #2	4/6/2015	170.00 @age 63
Madlung, Michael L	Skagit #2	10/26/2015	300.00
Maiuri, Donald R	Walla Walla #4	4/28/2016J/S	242.10
Meek, John A	Thurston #6	11/23/2015J/S	208.91
Miller, Michael D	Camano Island F&R	1/28/2016	142.50 @age 62
Mings, Glen J	Almira	2/5/2016	228.00 @age 62
Monroe, Darrell J	Yakima #1	11/1/2015	300.00
Niebel, Karl D	Cowlitz 2 F&R	2/24/2015	4090.89 Lump
North, Alexander	NO Whatcom F&R	8/15/2015 J/S	132.31 @age 62
Nunn, John G	Thurston #13	1/1/2016	70.00
Ostheller, James W	Spokane #2	4/23/2015	70.00
Pangrazi, Frank L	Kittitas Valley F&R	7/7/2014	66.50
Peterson, Gary S	Almira	2/15/2016	300.00
Peterson, Paul	Lewis #3	1/1/2016	300.00
Peterson, Ralph G	Whatcom #17	1/1/2016	210.00
Peterson, Sharon L	Whatcom #17	1/1/2016	202.50
Petitt, Steve	Elma	11/24/2015	4009.47 Lump
Pierce, Ralph L	Northport	1/1/2016	210.00
Pira, Cheryl E	Yakima #5	11/6/2015 J/S	215.54
Pleasants, Gary	Cowlitz-Skamanian #7	2/6/2016	4467.66 Lump
Plimmer, Eric B	White Salmon	4/16/2016	157.50 @age 63
Proffitt, John R	Yakima #5	11/29/2012	6144.64 Lump
Ramey, Bruce R	Central Kitsap F&R	1/7/2016	55.86 @age 63
Reichenberger, Mike	Pierce #25	11/8/2015	290.00
Reser, Frank J	Waitsburg	3/10/2016	300.00
Ridlington, John C	Kettle Falls	1/1/2015J/S	248.70
Rietman, Cheryl A	Cowlitz-Skamanian #7	1/17/2016	3609.61 Lump
Riffe, Charles E	Lewis #1	2/1/2016	3368.97 Lump
Risser, Susan E	San Juan #3	3/1/2016	300.00
Rosenoff, Rex R	Adams #1	10/12/2015J/S	248.70
Sadow, Marvin	Stevens #5	3/3/2016J/S	246.90
Sandstrom, Steven L	Grays Harbor #17	8/7/2013	2754.23 Lump

Scott, Lonnie D	Okanogan #7	9/22/2015	3128.33 Lump
Simmons, Richard T	Yakima #5	3/1/2016	70.00
Sizemore, James	Klickitat #5	3/1/2016	300.00
Smith, Christopher	Pend Oreille #6	2/14/2016J/S	50.84
Smith, Tommy L	White Salmon	3/15/2016J/S	194.26
Spaulding, Joseph C	Mason #12	1/8/2016	117.00 @age 60
Sponcler, John P	Selah	2/16/2014	80.50
Sponcler, Mary E	Selah	11/14/2015	4331.53 Lump
Stevens, Karol R	Poulsbo	8/26/2015	63.00
Taylor, Dan P	LaConner	2/2/2016J/S	225.00
Taylor, Lela (William)	Adams #5	9/6/2014SURV	78.37
Tessen, Mark W	King #47	11/15/2015	300.00
Thomas, Louise J	Grant #7	3/2/2016	300.00
Torbet, Donald E	Ruston	3/23/2016	300.00
Vermeire, Dean	White Salmon	7/12/2015	228.00@ age 62
Vincent, Carl E	North Mason RFA	11/15/2015	80.50
Walker, Leslie	Almira	3/1/2016	2337.53 Lump
Whitehall, L Kevin	Douglas #1	10/14/2015J/S	246.90
Wilkins, Jerry F	Adams #5	12/28/2015	63.84@ age 62
Williams, Richard C	Bingen	10/16/2014	6423.94 Lump
Wright, Keith E	Chelan #1	4/1/2016	300.00
Youngquist, Brian	Skagit #2	2/8/2015	4812.82 Lump

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Secretary Smith informed the Board that Office Assistant John McHugh resigned from his position, so she will begin the search to hire another employee soon.

AAG Wyatt notified the Board that AAG Tsering Cornell recently left the Attorney General's Office to accept a position at the Secretary of State's Office. As a result, AAG Dawn Cortez will help to facilitate a transition phase for the new Board attorney, AAG Nam Nguyen.

The Board discussed a scheduling conflict with the usual meeting room for the July meeting. Secretary Smith told the Board that the hearing could be held in the main office, but staff would still have to answer phones and conduct business, so it could cause distractions during the hearing. She suggested that an alternative venue be found and asked Member VanCamp if he would be willing to host the July meeting and hearing at his headquarters station in South Bay. The Board thought that would be a great alternative and Member VanCamp said he'd be very willing to host. Secretary Smith was directed to coordinate with his staff to schedule the meeting spaces.

SECOND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No public was present.

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

Brigette K. Smith, Executive Secretary