



STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS

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February 20, 2009

The 217th 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 Ronald Ayres, with Board Member Ken Boad, Board Member Jay Hughes, Board Member Mark Watenpaugh, Board Member Martin Spani, Chief Jake Doty (East Pierce Fire and Rescue), Chief Stan Loertscher (Mason Co. FPD #13), Battalion Chief Leonard Johnson (Grant Co. FPD #5), Assistant Attorney General Kyle Crews, Executive Secretary Brigitte Smith, and Confidential Secretary Tracy Thornburg.

The Board reviewed the December 12, 2008, regular meeting minutes and the February 19, 2009 special meeting minutes. It was moved by Boad, seconded by Hughes and carried that the minutes be approved.

The agenda was reviewed.

FIRST HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No one asked to speak.

OLD BUSINESS

The Board reviewed all of the written documentation regarding the proposed WAC to date, all of the verbal comments received by Secretary Smith via phone, and discussed the comments heard at all three of the hearings. Secretary Smith pointed out some minor corrections that she and AAG Crews found in the final draft that they recommended be corrected. AAG Crews confirmed that the corrections would be minor changes and additional hearings based on those changes would not be necessary. It was moved by Hughes, seconded by Spani, and carried that the final draft be adopted with the minor changes as noted by Secretary Smith.

It was also moved by Spani, seconded by Hughes, and carried, that the Board set an effective date of July 1, 2009 for the new WAC and that all participants be held to half of the pension participation requirements for the first year.

Secretary Smith informed the Board that she had contacted the various constituent groups regarding the formation of a committee to study the inclusion of administrative volunteers in RCW 41.24. She stated that some groups had been slow getting back to her regarding their appointments to the committee, but felt that some of that was due to the busy legislative session. She stated that the Washington Fire Chiefs had asked the Board to allow them to appoint a primary representative and an alternate representative, with only one vote, so they could ensure that someone would always be able to attend the meeting. The Board agreed that it would be a good idea and stated they would like to do the same. It was decided that Ken Boad would be the Board's primary representative and that Mark would be the alternate. Secretary Smith was directed to schedule a meeting, preferably sometime in the first part of March.

Battalion Chief Leonard Johnson, Grant Co. FPD #5, asked to address the Board regarding an injury of one of his firefighters, Anna Schafer. At its February 15, 2008, Board meeting, the Board reviewed documentation regarding the filing of Ms. Schafer's claim. At that meeting, the Board ruled that the documentation submitted was insufficient to prove that Ms. Schafer's claim had been filed within the statutorily required 90 days. After listening to BC Johnson's oral testimony, and some discussion, it was moved by Watenpaugh, seconded by Hughes, and carried, that the Board accept the evidence provided as timely filing of the claim. Secretary Smith was directed to begin processing payment(s) for any outstanding bill(s).

Secretary Smith updated the Board regarding the Database Project. The project is currently about two weeks behind, but still on budget. The developer, Brewer Consulting, is currently working on a plan to catch up to where they should be in the development. The staff has seen some more developed screens that are almost ready for testing, and they are really pleased about how everything is looking. Secretary Smith feels confident that the project will still be launched by the end of April.

At 9:55 am., the Board recessed for an executive session for approximately 15 minutes to discuss pending legislation.

The Board reconvened at 10:10 am. It was moved by Boad, seconded by Spani, and carried, that AAG Crews be authorized to negotiate with Wayerski & Zmolmek, PLLC, regarding Michael Puhans's fire service injury with Whatcom # 13.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board reviewed HB1547, increasing the Line of Duty Death Benefit, and SB5632, allowing retirees to resume service under certain conditions. It was the consensus of the Board that they would take a neutral stance on both pieces of legislation.

The Board reviewed documentary evidence from Larry Parker, Grays Harbor Co. FPD #17, attempting to prove service for the years 1981 and 1982. It was moved by Boad, seconded by Watenpaugh, and carried that the evidence submitted was sufficient to prove that Mr. Parker was a volunteer firefighter for those years. Secretary Smith was directed to bill the department for the statutorily required fees and interest.

Secretary Smith spoke to the Board regarding the age of the office computers. With the exception of one, all of the computers used by staff are five years old and older, and all of them are out of their warranty periods. She checked into the cost to replace the computers vs. the cost to lease computers from the Department of Information Services (DIS). While purchasing computers has the advantage of preventing ongoing payments, leasing the computers would provide the agency with better warranties and better support should there be a problem with a computer. Leasing would also enable to agency to better budget and ensure that no equipment is older than three years old. While Secretary Smith would recommend against the immediate leasing of new equipment given the economy, she did ask that the Board deviate from its previous practice of purchasing equipment vs. leasing the equipment should any of the current equipment fall and need immediate replacement. The Board reviewed the cost comparisons provided by DIS and authorized Secretary Smith to replace any major IT equipment through leases rather than purchasing the equipment.

The Board reviewed a letter received regarding the City of Goldendale. After a review of the file, Secretary Smith was directed to work with Chair Ayres to draft a response.

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

The Board reviewed and approved (Boad moved, Spani seconded) the administrative expenditure vouchers numbered (1868-1912, with number 1903 being voided and numbers 1872 and 1908 being on hold) and various travel vouchers.

There was a motion by Boad, seconded by Hughes, 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, Lonnie E.	Redmond	10/29/08	56.00
Aumick, John W.	Okanogan #2	10/23/08 J/S	257.10
Beedle, James R.	Ferry/Okanogan #13	11/3/08	4,061.31 Lump
Brandhorst, Nancy	Cowlitz #3	7/13/08	3,080.55 Lump

Bunn, Steven	Stevens #1	4/27/08	5,584.30 Lump
Cain, Sr., Frank J.	Whatcom #14	1/01/09	300.00
Coffman, Harvey L.	Wilbur	12/10/08 J/S	211.00 @ age 63
Cooper, Karen	Franklin #1	1/26/06 SURV	120.52
Criss, Richard	Snohomish #19	4/12/08	70.00
Crumpacker, Charles H.	Washougal	1/01/09	300.00
Cummings, Dean	Pend Oreille #4	8/14/08	70.00
Cummings, Michael S.	King #39	1/13/09	276.00 @ age 64
Davidson, Melvin C.	King #27	12/15/08	180.00 @ age 60
DeKoning, Elvin	Kittitas Valley	7/26/08	3,520.62 Lump
Duval, Dwight J.	Grant #10	2/11/08	3,080.55 Lump
Engberg, Roger H.	Kittitas #8	1/01/04	2,858.29 Lump
Gillespie, Timothy A.	Clallam #2	1/11/08	5,589.02 Lump
Graham, Robert D.	Mason #6	3/01/09	117.00 @ age 60
Heaton, Russel	Yakima #4	12/1/08 J/S	253.20
Holderman, John G.	Cowlitz #5	7/12/06	3,016.30 Lump
Johnson, Carol	Kittitas #1	1/01/09	3,444.90 Lump
Johnson, Edward C.	Yakima #5	1/21/09	3,807.47 Lump
Kailin, Harvey	Clallam #3	1/24/09	3,016.30 Lump
Kraft, Brian L.	Pierce #18	2/05/09	3,548.58 Lump
Lyon, Robert	Bonney Lake	3/04/08	2,175.70 Lump
Mauhl, Dick W.	King #27	8/20/08	3,520.62 Lump
Merrill, Theodore T.	North Whidbey	3/14/08	5,939.46 Lump
Munson, Fred W.	Chelan Sheriff's	1/01/09	3,193.72 Lump
Olson, Ken L.	Asotin	10/5/08 J/S	125.28 @ age 60
Owen, Charles	Buckley	1/01/09	180.00 @ age 60
Renbeck, Paul V.	No. Kitsap	12/15/08	135.00
Rinehart, Sr., Ross A.	Medical Lake	1/24/08	2,860.51 Lump
Richmyer, Wilfred G.	Skagit #10	7/11/08	4,180.74 Lump
Roskelley, John	Spokane #9	1/01/09	5,838.13 Lump
Schnelder, Howard	Douglas #1	8/10/08	3,080.55 Lump
Shattuck, Joe	Klickitat #9	7/25/08	1,540.27 Lump
Sly, Robert C.	Bothell	9/25/08	228.00 @ age 62
Symons, Joe	San Juan #2	12/15/08	151.20 @ age 63
Swofford, Donald	Franklin #4	1/21/09	5,156.37 Lump
Thomas, William W.	Jefferson #2	5/21/07	2,610.84 Lump
Tingley, Wayne	Skagit #9	4/26/08	3,016.30 Lump
Ullenberg, Dirk	Skamania #6	12/25/08	2,860.51 Lump
Vandervorste, Dwight(Shirley)	Grant #10	7/26/07 SURV	174.90
Vandervorste, Dwight	Grant #10	12/1/08	252.00 @ age 63
Vanderwal, Kenneth	Shelton	8/25/08	2,200.39 Lump
White, Glen	Douglas #2	12/6/08	3,520.62 Lump
Wilson, Donald H.	Milton	3/29/08	3,080.55 Lump
Wilson, Wiley L.	Whitman #11	1/01/09	210.00
Wood, William R.	Skagit #8	11/19/08	228.00 @ age 62

SECOND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No one asked to speak.

There was a motion by Watenpaugh, seconded by Spani, and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 11:06 a.m.


 Brigette K. Smith, Executive Secretary