



Business Meeting Minutes, January 12, 2022

BVFF Committee: Molly, Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, Chief Eric Andrews and Karen McPeters (recorder) were present. Carsen Smith was not in attendance. There were no charges.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm, with a link posted for public Zoom access. Present were Commissioner Chair Bill Tubbs, Vice Chair Pat Sample, Commissioners Molly Olson, Doug Rupp and Leigh Christianson. Also present were Chief Eric Andrews, Assistant Chief Ernie Walters, Deputy Chief Joe Simmons, Captain Brandon Vargas, Captain Rob Thurston, Captain Scott Coulson, and Secretary Karen McPeters (recorder).

Public Commentary: No public

EXECUTIVE

BUDGET – You will see the final revenue for 2021 with a carryover amount of \$567,097.31. As stated earlier, I had a goal of increasing the reserved carry over from \$400,000 to \$450,000 this year and adding another \$50,000 to that in the carry over in 2022. With \$450,000 in reserved carry over this leaves us \$117,097.31 in additional carry over. I have asked Ernie to refund some of the cuts he made in operations with this amount. So officially the budget was \$167,097.31 in the black after revenues and expenditures.

STAFF RETREAT- Was held in Everett with eight people in attendance and two attended by video conference. Most of the time was spent discussing our changing work force and strategies to improve staffing levels. We recognize that the work force is changing rapidly and primarily due to escalated hiring we are losing many of our people quicker than we can recruit new members. The reality is this is likely to last into 2023, as we know of many Snohomish County departments hiring large numbers. South County alone is expected to hire 60 new firefighters and Snohomish Regional at least 20. Staffing is a problem almost every agency is experiencing currently. We discussed incentives that include cash recruitment bonus, achievement bonus, or improved health care options. Presentations at school events, explorer programs, nurse to EMT cross over training and few others. We also believe that we need to contact those that have very little participation and see how we can encourage them.

OPERATIONS

Station 53 repairs: Work on the remodeling project has been at a standstill for most of this month due to weather and awaiting approval of the mechanical and plumbing permit from the city. The permit should be approved this month and work will recommence.

Station 54 repairs: The AEMT class is complete and I plan to meet with the repairs committee to continue with the plans for the kitchen and dayroom at station 54.

Volunteers/Residents: We are still currently accepting applications for residents and volunteers. We have had a few hits on the National Testing Network website that we have subscribed to. We will be contacting those individuals and setting up a time to interview them.

AFG Grant: I submitted a grant thru the Assistance to Firefighter Grant program in the amount of \$206,270.76 for a Vehicle Exhaust Evacuation System, and Ultra Sonic Cleaner. We will be responsible for 5% of the total cost of the grant which would be \$ 10,313.54.

New Radios: The mobile radio installations are going well, with half of the vehicles completed. We have received the installation money from SNOCOM and I am keeping track of the expenditures to make sure we stay within budget for the installations.

EMS

Continuous Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance (CQI/QA)

All ESO electronic health reports (EHR's) have been assigned to the QA team.

EMS division is working with Snohomish County to update the County EMS CQI/QA procedure. This project is still ongoing.

Code Stat is caught up and all Cardiac Arrest and Advanced Airways have been annotated.

EMT Training - AEMT course is complete, graduated 11 students.

Applied for NREMT test grant through WA State DOH and received 10 test vouchers for our providers to take the NREMT.

Continuing EMS Education - Completed all SCEMS required OTEP training for 2021 including makeups.

Conducted Fourth Quarter ALS run review with Dr. Brown.

CPR Training- 2 BLS, 2 First Aid and CPR, 1 CPR Instructor course conducted.

EMS apparatus replacement committee- Chair position has been taken over by Chief Walters.

EMS unit inventory project- No update

Personnel- New medics Grady Persons, Jerry Aamold, Matt Martin, and Joe Virnig were all able to pick shifts for Q1 2022. Recruitment continues.

December ALS coverage 69% (233 hours not covered). Continue to see openings in the schedule and we are actively seeking a solution.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Security Cameras -Still working on Station 53 and Station 55 outdoor cameras.

Training Property - Next meeting with county on permitting is scheduled for January 13th.

"Volunteering to Make a Difference"



Public comment period is in progress with conditional use hearing scheduled.

Secretary's Report

The Systems Design report and run totals are available for review. Vail medic program is going well, with reimbursement coming quickly. Reimbursement for the use of the ICP trailer at last year's vaccine clinics appears to have been approved, and FEMA paperwork is being submitted to the DOH.

Budget

Currently at 8%.

Minutes: Molly moved to approve the December minutes. With a second from Leigh, the motion passed unanimously.

Vouchers: Bill moved to approve vouchers 1 through 53 for \$140,705.57, and voucher 1 from the Construction Fund for \$1238.81. With a second from Pat, the motion passed unanimously.

Payroll: Bill moved to approve payroll in the amount of \$107,326.59. With a second from Molly, the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion Items

Leigh reported that the Sno-Isle commissioners cancelled the planned Jan meeting at the casino. The next regular meeting will be in Feb.

The HoHo Run went well, with 45 homes visited by volunteer Santas.

Chief Walters met with DNR, and was encouraged to apply for a Phase 2 grant for wildland equipment or programs. Commissioners discussed applying for a wood chipper, or a bigger generator for Station 55 that would start automatically when the power goes out.

The Sky Valley Awards Banquet is in February. The volunteers will be asked to select a fire department member of the year.

Action Items

Elections of Board positions were as follows: By unanimous consent, Commissioner Tubbs will continue as Commissioner Chair, Commissioner Sample will continue as Vice Chair, and Karen McPeters will continue as Secretary to the Board.

Commissioner Sample also agreed to represent the board on the Safety Committee.

Next regular meeting February 9, in person with public access on Zoom available.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42.

"Volunteering to Make a Difference"

