

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 34

Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Location: Station 11 – 8450 161st Avenue N.E., Redmond, Washington

AGENDA

Tuesday, November 21, 2006

5:00 p.m.

Station 11 Conference Room

- I. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS (4 minutes per person)
- V. EXECUTIVE SESSION – POTENTIAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION
- VI. ATTORNEY'S REPORT
 - A. Discuss Excess Levies and GO Bonds
 - B. 2007 Election Information
 - C. Set 2007 Levy
 - D. Approve Resolution 223/06
 - E. 2007 Professional Services Agreement
- VII. CHIEFS' REPORTS
- VIII. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS
 - A. Status of Emergency Access Corridors
 - B. Deccan Software Upgrades
 - C. Review Six-Month Trial Period of Station 15 Closure
 - D. Tracking Sheet
- IX. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - A. Regular Meeting of October 17, 2006
 - B. Special Meeting of November 7, 2006
 - C. Special Meeting of November 15, 2006
- X. DISTRICT SECRETARY'S REPORT
 - A. Approve 2007 Medical Insurance Program
 - B. Monthly Budget Report – October 2006
 - C. Approval of Monthly Vouchers 8266 through 8280
 - D. Investment Report – October 2006
 - E. Legal Usage – October 2006
- XI. OTHER
- XII. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting: December 19, 2006

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 34
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BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Thomas Johnston, Chairman
Sherman Colson
Peter Lucarelli
Anne Carlson, Secretary

Tim Fuller, Fire Chief

KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 34
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
November 21, 2006

I. **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held at Station 11, located at 8450 161st Avenue N.E., Redmond, Washington on November 21, 2006. The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. by Chairman Tom Johnston.

II. Roll Call:

Tom Johnston, Chairman	Tim Fuller, Fire Chief
Sherman Colson, Commissioner	Peter Lucarelli, Commissioner
Andy Hail, Deputy Chief	Anne Carlson, Secretary
Kinnon Williams, Attorney	

III. **Approval of Agenda:**

An Executive Session to discuss potential property acquisition will be added after Item IV, Public Comments.

Motion from Commissioner Colson to approve the agenda of the regular meeting of November 21, 2006. Commissioner Lucarelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Public Comments** – An email dated November 2, 2006 was received from Ken Jauch.

V. **Executive Session from 5:04 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. to discuss potential property acquisition.**

VI. **Attorney's Report**

A. **Excess Levies and GO Bonds** – Discussion was held regarding funding options. It was determined that a levy lid lift was the only feasible option at this time.

B. **2007 Election information** – The most cost-effective election would be in February, approximately \$66,000. Fall 2007 would be the least costly, but it would be too late for contingency plans. The district's allowable 2007 levy is \$5.1 million or a 22.87% increase. It is anticipated that there would be a shortfall of \$100,000 to \$200,000 each year. The deadline for filing for the election is December 15, 2006. The committees that will write the for and against statements need to be formed.

Motion from Chairman Johnston that a special meeting be held on December 11, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. regarding a levy lid lift, the voter pamphlet, and approval of the 2007 budget. Commissioner Lucarelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

C. **Set 2007 Levy** – Chairman Johnston stated that the 2007 levy could be set at \$5,288,068, with \$5,108,068 into the Expense Fund and \$180,000 into the GO Bond Fund.

D. Approve Resolution 223/06

Motion from Commissioner Lucarelli to approve Resolution 223/06, setting the 2007 levy at the maximum amount of \$1.21091 per \$1,000 A.V., with \$5,108,068 into the Expense Fund and \$180,000 into the GO Bond Fund. Commissioner Colson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

E. 2007 Professional Services Agreement – The legal services agreement will increase 10% and include the same amount of hours as 2006. The district will be invoiced monthly.

Motion from Chairman Johnston to approve the Professional Services Agreement from Kinnon Williams for legal services in 2007. Commissioner Lucarelli seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. Chief's Reports

Fuller – Chief Fuller stated that eight firefighters will probably be funded in the 2007 Redmond budget. Additional personnel will be hired in Prevention. A recruit academy will be created in-house. He would like to use Station 15 as a training facility for the recruit academy. The academy will be 11 weeks, hopefully beginning in mid-January.

The previously named Officers Meeting is now being called the Leadership Forum. There have been two forums, which have included training sessions by Chief Fuller and the deputy chiefs.

Promotional process preparation will be started with a curriculum to prepare personnel for positions of leadership and for the exams.

The overtime issue is being worked on in management, labor and management, and individual counseling. Health and wellness will also be a priority and the chiefs will look for funds to promote this.

Hail – There are water leaks at Station 14. The Redmond 2007 budget should fund the CIP as proposed, including funds for Station 14. The district will bear a portion of these expenses. A weatherization specialist will be consulted. There are similar issues at Station 16 but to a lesser extent.

The company using the Station 14 monopole wants to expand, and other companies want to add their equipment. The city's real estate person is ready to take this to King County for approval. The station captain has discovered a report from the International Association of Firefighters stating a possibility of long-term health complications due to long-term exposure. Commissioner Lucarelli stated the commissioners should just support the decision of Chief Fuller and staff in this matter. Deputy Chief Hail will ask former commissioner Mark Nelson to give his professional opinion of the report.

Firefighter Paul Richards has graduated from the North Bend Fire Academy. Three other recruits will be graduating soon from the Northlake Fire Academy.

A boat fire occurred in the east Ames Lake area with no response problems.

VIII. Commissioners' Reports

A. Emergency Access Corridors – Kinnon Williams will speak with Consultant Ron Seng.

B. Deccan Software Upgrades – Costs were returned from Deccan.

C. Station 15 Closure – The six-month trial period ended on November 1, 2006.

After revisiting the commission's action of closing Station 15 and reviewing emergency response statistics, Commissioner Lucarelli moved to finalize the transfer of equipment and personnel from Station 15 to Station 18 until further directed by the Board. Commissioner Johnston seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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IX. Approval of Minutes

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On future meeting agendas, the Minutes agenda item will be moved to after Approval of Agenda.

- A. **Motion from Commissioner Lucarelli to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2006 regular meeting. Motion seconded by Chairman Johnston. Motion passed unanimously.**
- B. **Motion from Chairman Johnston to approve the minutes of the November 7, 2006 special meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Colson. Motion passed unanimously.**
- C. **Motion from Chairman Johnston to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2006 special meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lucarelli. Motion passed unanimously.**

X. District Secretary's Report

- A. 2007 Medical Insurance Program – The commissioners chose the Pro Plus medical insurance plan for the district's Administrative Assistant.
- B. Monthly Budget Report – The October 2006 report was reviewed.
- C. Vouchers - Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a listing that has been made available to the Board. As of November 21, 2006, the Board by a unanimous vote does approve for payment those vouchers included in the aforementioned list or lists and further described as follows:

Expense Fund Vouchers: No. 8266 through No. 8280 for a total amount of \$
- D. Investment Report – The October 2006 net earnings rate was 5.06%.
- E. Legal Usage – There were 17.4 hours of legal usage in October 2006.

XI. Other – None

XI. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Thomas Johnston, Chairman

Sherman Colson, Commissioner

Peter Lucarelli, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Anne Carlson, District Secretary
Board of Commissioners
King County Fire Protection District 34

From: KEN JAUCH [kenjauch@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2006 19:20
To: John Sherman Colson; Peter R Lucarelli; Thomas C Johnston
Cc: David Bruell; Anne Carlson; Andy Hail; Arlene Bryant; Autumn Koepp; Barbara Morgan; Barry Rochford; Bob Oliver; Bonnie Clubb; Brian Sonntag; Christofer Cortines, CPA; Deb Ayrs; John Stockman; Ken Weisenbach; Hebert Research; Kenneth Klima; MayorCouncil; Scott Barry; Tim Fuller; Washington Fire Marshal; Ronald.Bowen@wsp.wa.gov; Pat Jenkins; mark.arras@wsp.wa.gov
Subject: Hebert Research's Fire Protection District 34 Public Opinion Survey, August 2006
Ms. Anne Carlson, please incorporate into minutes of next Commissioners meeting:

To whom it may concern:

The bases of the subject Hebert survey are flawed causing it to be worthless, not worth the paper it's written on and therefore Hebert should refund its price, said to be about \$50,000, back to Fire District 34. Had the Citizens' Advisory Committee been consulted, as promised, before the Hebert survey was conducted, the Report would have some merit and value. Unfortunately, the Commissioners forfeited and neglected the opportunity to take advantage of the Committee's expertise; instead turning over the creation and implementation of the survey to Commissioner Lucarelli because of his "previous dealings" with Hebert.

The objectivity of any such survey is questionable when on its index page it attributes "Special Thanks to . . . Peter Lucarelli for his support and cooperation . . .". So, in addition to the obvious, obsequious cronyism, it proves once again, the old axioms, that:

1. two (or more) heads are better than one;
2. when you put garbage in, you get garbage out.

Hopefully the District won't be stuck paying for this feel-good-propaganda-blight and public-relations-stunt; other wise it's a big waste of taxpayers' money. Some other reasons the Hebert survey is worthless include the following:

Appearing on page 56, in the statement(s) read to respondents when they were called by Hebert:

Regarding the statement that, "Fire Station 15, on the southern border of the district, which is an ineffective location for servicing the district as a whole", that statement would prejudice the respondents to start with, even before they could form rational and subjective opinions. Though not accredited, as such bizarre opinions should be, this is seemingly the opinion of one man, Commissioner Peter Lucarelli, who has been heard to espouse it many times; but that does not necessarily make it true. The opposite of this would be to have one huge fire station located on the epicenter of the district which is equally absurd.

The statement, also read to respondents when they were called, that ". . . a group of residents living near Fire Station 15, who formed an *independent* committee to study the effects of closing Fire Station 15.", is blatantly false. It prejudices the survey because it is antagonistic and pits one neighborhood against another. Had Mr. Lucarelli not been absent from the public commissioners meeting of December 19, 2005, he might have learned that the Citizens' Advisory Committee was the bright idea of Chairman Commissioner Johnston who formed it there and then, at that meeting, and the committee was therefore officially sanctioned; at least that's what the committee's members were led to believe. [Perhaps this lack of understanding of the Committee's official nature explains the utter later lack of appreciation, respect and credence on the part of the several officials involved, and their lawyer, toward the committee and toward the committee's recommendations.]

Whoever included the following sentence in the Hebert Report is guilty of picking and choosing selectively and thereby prejudicing the survey: "Among their (the committee's) recommendations was a district-wide vote to determine if the public would support a levy to increase taxes to keep Station 15 open along with the three other stations." This is not a complete lie, but not very accurate either; because the committee's main recommendation was ignored and not read to respondents. The committee's main recommendation was to close Fire Station 13 because it is old and decrepit compared to the District's other stations, its calls could/should be handled by new Station 18 and other Redmond and District 34 stations, and because it incurs a financial burden upon our district in that while 2/3 of its emergency response calls are to Redmond, the City of Redmond unfairly reimburses only about

1/3 of its costs. Please refer to Mr. Mike Roy's report and recommendations, if you don't believe me. [Although it is difficult to determine who deserves the blame, it seems as if the Committee was precluded from making this PowerPoint presentation and report directly to the Redmond Mayor and City Council.]

Despite the repeated claims by the Commissioners at the meeting earlier tonight, September 21, 2006, that they consider each and all ideas, it is obvious they never talk about, and do not want to talk about, closing Station 13 or even admit that the committee's main recommendation was to close Station 13. Preposterous as it seems, it almost seems as if our KCFPD 34 Commissioners are in cahoots with unfairly subsidizing the City of Redmond. Of course, these District 34 Commissioners don't mention that subject either. Therefore, Redmond's Mayor and its City Council continually procrastinate year after year in building their new Fire Station 17, to be located on NE 116th St. near Avondale Road NE; and thereby the City of Redmond continues to unfairly leach off of our District 34's taxpayers year after year!

[Whenever I think about the thousands upon thousands of dollars in sales taxes our family has spent in the City of Redmond, that go to the City of Redmond, over the past forty (40) years we have lived in nearby, adjacent KCFPD 34; and the thousands of other KCFPD 34 families and businesses that have also enriched the Redmond city coffers with their taxes; and then Redmond goes and micturates away \$40,000,000 on an opulent, if not majestic, new city hall instead of a measly and much-needed Fire Station 17; I always end up hoping that some smart lawyer will help us KCFPD 34 taxpayers by commencing a class-action lawsuit against Redmond to either get our tax money back or obtain remedial action by the Redmond Mayor and City Council to force some common sense into their greedy, inconsiderate, obstructionistic and perniciously thick heads.]

Regarding the paragraph on the top of page 57 of the Hebert Report:

This paragraph certainly does not belong in a report such as this because a report is supposed to report facts. This paragraph is a bunch of sycophantic, bureaucratic mumbo-jumbo in that it talks about the BELIEFS of the Fire Commissioners, the Redmond Fire Department senior staff and the concerned citizens experiencing quality services. What a bunch of baloney. It is overdue, and it is high time that these Commissioners, the Fire Chief and his staff, stop pandering in beliefs and make sure they provide emergency services to adequately satisfy or exceed the standards suggested and specified in Washington State Law, particularly RCW 52.33; before the critical events of brain death or flash-over. It's about duty, accountability and responsibility.

We find it repulsively sickening when the Commission Chairman goads and dares a lady in the audience, a member of our Citizens' Committee, to find in state law where the minimum emergency response times are specified in units of time such as minutes! What a loophole-dweller. Well, here it is Mr. Johnston:

Subsection (7) of Section RCW 52.33.020, "Definitions", defines flash-over.

Subsection (3) of Section RCW 52.33.020 reads: "'Brain death" as defined by the American Heart Association means the irreversible death of brain cells that begins four (4) to six (6) minutes after cardiac arrest".

Section RCW 52.33.030 is a Policy statement regarding Service delivery objectives and also specifies the written statements and policies required of fire protection districts which shall include specific response time objectives. We respectfully hereby request that all these documents be made easily and readily available to the Committee and to the public at the District's earliest possible convenience.

[Seemingly, another mistake in the decision to close Fire Station 15, was failure to consult beforehand with the Washington Surveying & Rating Bureau, a technically competent and authorized property insurance underwriting authority, responsible to, of, by and for the insurance industry, as to the adverse effects on insurance rates that such a station closing would/could cause. To have done so would be much more professional and responsible than asking one's Allstate sales agent for his questionable opinion.

And seemingly, it depends who you ask at WS&RB as to what factors comprise the basis for fire insurance rates. A lower level staff member, influenced by cronyism, so much so that he broke the customary confidence expected with citizen inquiries, gives a simplistic answer that it depends on how far one's house is from the nearest fire hydrant. While an upper level staff member elaborates much more thoroughly and thoughtfully and includes the distance from the closest fire station. The WS&RB website can be a wealth of detailed information that goes on and on, page after page, and includes standards for ratings for fire department effectiveness.

Our District (34) should be able to proudly publish and make available its ratings-standings-achievements with the WS&RB.

It should be customary and typical for our District to strive for openness and maintain informational transparency.]

Therefore, KCFPD 34 should make public, and publish, and make easily and readily available, all of the written statements of policies and objectives and the Annual evaluations and reports that are also suggested and required by Chapter RCW 52.33, specifically Section RCW 52.33.040; not just the annual financial report submitted to the Washington State Auditors Office!

Last, but not least, it is unconscionable when our Fire Chief, Tim Fuller, is quoted on page 11 of the September 13, 2006, issue of the Redmond Reporter as saying, "Average response is seven minutes. Some may be three minutes, others 11 or 12 minutes". This is certainly intolerable and out of compliance. I'm sure he, and all of the District's employees, would like to be able to do better and so would we.

Ken Jauch