

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 34

Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Location: Station 11 Conference Room
Redmond Fire Department Headquarters
8450 161st Avenue N.E.
Redmond, WA

AGENDA

Wednesday, August 23, 2006
9:00 a.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER – SPECIAL MEETING
- II. FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING PRESENTATION BY IAFF 2829
- III. SPECIAL ELECTION FOR A LEVY LID LIFT
- IV. REAL ESTATE ACQUISITION
- V. EMERGENCY ACCESS CORRIDORS
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

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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
SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

August 23, 2006

- I. **Call to Order** – A special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of King County Fire District 34 was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 23, 2006, at Station 11, located at 8450 161st Avenue N.E., Redmond, Washington. Chairman Thomas Johnston, Commissioner Peter Lucarelli, Commissioner Sherman Colson, Attorney Kinnon Williams, Fire Chief Tim Fuller, Deputy Chief Andy Hail, Deputy Chief Bob Oliver, and District Secretary Anne Carlson were present.

The purpose of this meeting was to view a staffing presentation by the Labor Group and to discuss the possibility of a special election for a levy lid lift.

- II. **Staffing Presentation** – IAFF Local 2829 members Ed Carolan, Ken Weisenbach, and Loren Charlston gave the commissioners a PowerPoint presentation that had been previously given to the Redmond City Council showing what is taking place when emergency units and fire stations are closed and its effect on providing service.

- There has been no net increase in firefighters since 1996 except three firefighters hired to fill one full-time position at Station 14 in 2003.
- There has been a 1% increase in the number of calls.
- There is a need to increase Station 12 staffing from three personnel to five.
- There were 790 missed calls in Station 12's area resulting in dependence on other units available and a longer response.
- Station 16 is being closed regularly, keeping the aerial ladder unavailable.
- The immediate response of the ladder, "jaws of life," high-angle, confined space, and technical rescue is lost when Station 16 is closed.
- Station 16 closed 44% of the time since June 1, 2006
- Reduced staffing at Station 11 60% of the time
- Station 11 reduced staffing has increased to 85% since August 8, 2006
- The department is running with pre-1990 staffing levels at a time when other departments are up-staffing.
- The group showed how subsequent alarms and a closed Station 16 can completely use all Redmond units with unacceptable increased response times.
- Showed examples of serious calls in Station 11's and Station 16's areas with long response times and areas of Redmond that were left unprotected for many hours.
- Asked the City Council why Redmond Fire Department is expected to serve 2006 Redmond with 1996 staffing levels.
- The City has historically hired only three people per FTE, not 4.5, which is necessary. This does not allow firefighters to take necessary time off and deal with disabilities without using overtime. The City has not funded overtime, instead using other departments' budget savings to cover it. Currently, Finance is acknowledging that funding for overtime/staffing is not appropriate.

In response, Commissioner Johnston stated that the District has paid its share to staff district stations at 4.5 people per FTE. Station 15 was closed with the idea that Station 16 would cover the area, which is not happening when Station 16 is closed. The department is relying on assistance from surrounding jurisdictions.

The Labor Group expressed their hope that the district commissioners would communicate to the City that hiring levels/overtime funding need to be increased to provide a necessary level of service.

III. Levy Lid Lift Special Election

There is a short time frame to meet the deadline for the November 7, 2006 election, and the cost is three times that of an election in an odd-numbered year. Committee appointments of three people are due September 22, for/against statements are due September 26, and the rebuttal is due September 28.

The 2006 election cost to the District would be approximately \$35,469 because only 12 jurisdictions are participating. The 2007 election cost to the District would be approximately \$12,000 because 135 jurisdictions are participating.

Problems: The I-747 decision by the Supreme Court
Public preference survey results not completed
Time Limit
Extra Cost
City of Redmond 2007-2008 budget unknown

Possibly \$1.50/\$1,000 levy may not be enough to support four stations even if the voters approve a levy lid lift. A benefit charge could be added but can only be used for improvements to real property. A benefit charge is more costly to those with large homes and small property. It works better when there is a large commercial development. Kinnon Williams suggested a company that determines benefit charges could be asked to provide an estimate of the costs.

The commissioners agreed that there is not enough information to proceed with an election at this time.

IV. Executive Session – At 10:10 a.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to discuss property acquisition and contractual obligations.

Regular Session – At 10:30 a.m., the Board adjourned from Executive Session and resumed the special meeting.

Motion from Commissioner Lucarelli that one or more of the commissioners may attend the Deccan International conference in San Diego on August 30, 31, and September 1. Motion seconded by Chairman Johnston. Motion passed unanimously.

The board continued discussions on contractual obligations with the City of Redmond and the effect of labor negotiations on district funding. Chairman Johnston will ask to meet with Mayor Ives regarding the commissioners' concerns.

V. Corridor Access – The cost of Phase 1 of the scope of work is \$24,000. Corridors have been identified, and they will be ranked. Staff will need to provide specification information for this. Kinnon Williams will speak with Andy Hail, Ron Seng, and a right-of-way agent to assist in required work.

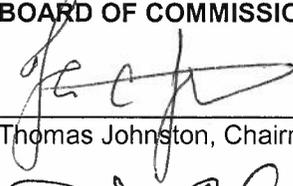
The agenda was amended to include real estate acquisition and corridor access.

VI. Other

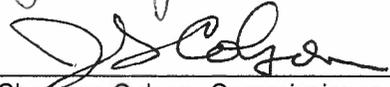
A roll call will be added to future agendas

VII. Adjournment – Commissioner Johnston adjourned the special meeting at 11:10 a.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Thomas Johnston, Chairman



Sherman Colson, Commissioner



Peter Lucarelli, Commissioner

ATTEST:



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