

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 34
8450 161st Avenue N.E.
Redmond, Washington 98052
(425) 556-2226
FAX: (425) 556-2227
www.kcfd34.org

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Thomas Johnston, Chairman
Sherman Colson
Peter Lucarelli
Anne Carlson, Secretary

Tim Fuller, Fire Chief

**KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 34
SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**

**CITY OF REDMOND PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
1ST FLOOR LOBBY
8701 160TH AVENUE NE
REDMOND, WA**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007
11:30 A.M.**

- **THE FIRE COMMISSIONERS AND REDMOND CITY COUNCIL WILL
TOUR THE REDMOND COMMUNICATIONS CENTER***

*If a member of the public would like to participate in this tour, please show up at the time specified as these are secured facilities. Questions should be directed to Anne Carlson @ 425-556-2226.

POSTED:
Stations 11, 13, 14, 18
District's Webpage: [HTTP://WWW.KCFD34.ORG](http://www.kcfd34.org)

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 34

Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners

Location: Redmond Communications Center
Redmond Public Safety Building
8701 160th Avenue NE
Redmond, WA

AGENDA

Friday, October 12, 2007
11:30 a.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER – SPECIAL MEETING
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS
- V. TOUR OF REDMOND COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
- VI. NORCOM DISCUSSION
- VII. ADJOURNMENT

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**KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 34
SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS' MEETING**

October 12, 2007

- I. **Call to Order** – A special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of King County Fire District 34 was called to order at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 12, 2007, at the Redmond Communications Center, located in the Redmond Public Safety Building, 8701 160th Avenue NE, Redmond, Washington.

The purpose of this meeting was to tour the Redmond Communications Center and discuss emergency dispatch and NORCOM.

II. **Roll Call**

Present: Chairman Thomas Johnston
Commissioner Peter Lucarelli

Absent: Commissioner Sherman Colson

Others Attending: District Secretary Anne Carlson
Fire Chief Tim Fuller
Deputy Chief Andy Hail
Mayor Rosemarie Ives
Assistant to the Mayor Jane Christenson
Finance Director Lenda Crawford
Commander Mark Hagreen, Redmond Police
Redmond City Council Members Cole, Allen, Marchione, Myers, McCormick, and Vache
Redmond City Council Candidate Schuelke
MSO Phil Grieb
ESPC Ralph Ashmore

III. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion from Commissioner Lucarelli to approve the October 12, 2007 agenda. Motion seconded by Chairman Johnston. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Public Comments** – None

- V. **Tour of Redmond Communications** – Commander Mark Hagreen, Manager of the Redmond Communications Center, gave an overview of the dispatch facilities. Redmond's dispatch center is one-third the size of Bellevue's. There are six dispatcher positions. Two-thirds of the technology is the same as Bellevue's. There are 16 regular employees and they are augmented with temporary employees to cover leaves and absences. They answer 24,000 calls per year and also 65,000 non-emergency calls per year. Personnel are on duty 24-hours per day in the records division. During the day, they are in the office and at night, they are in the communications center. The center links to the county, state, and federal government.

Commander Hagreen stated that the major dispatch centers are police only. Redmond is set up like Seattle. Approximately 75% of 911 calls stay with police. If Redmond joined NORCOM, the District 34 calls would still be answered by King County Sheriff, located in the Renton Highlands. Fire and EMS already have a delay in dispatch as those calls are answered by Redmond Police and transferred to Bellevue. Redmond's current CAD system (Spillman) could handle basic fire/EMS calls now; however, it is not the best system for that purpose. If Fire joined Redmond, two more consoles would be added. Redmond Fire can talk with Police on portable radio channels which saves minutes because they are directly communicating. Redmond has the capability to patch with local state or federal agencies. Dispatchers in smaller agencies know their area better and can usually stay on the phone longer than those in large ones. Sno-pac, for example, has a time limit that dispatchers can spend on each call.

A tour was given of the Communications Center, the Emergency Operations Center, and the EOC policy breakout room. The EOC, which is next to the Comm Center, has three large display screens, several TVs, and many laptops and phones. The breakout room has the same display available as the EOC, and audio conferencing is available. A small emergency radio room is available for a volunteer ham radio group (ARES).

The EOC was a joint project among Fire, Police, and Finance. Phil Grieb thanked the City Council and the Mayor for their foresight in providing the excellent facility. The EOC was originally the police training room with tables, chairs, phones, and phone cords hanging from the ceiling. There are now laptops with displays that can be projected on the large screens in front. Community leaders and volunteers can also have access to some security levels based on the type of incident. The EOC can communicate with King County EOC by computer and radio. Starting the end of October, the cross-department overhead team of the city will do quarterly training.

NORCOM has not proposed handling records management for their participants, only 911 dispatch. Redmond Police would still need to process warrants, court orders, investigative reports, etc. There is concern about the level of service Bellevue could provide for police when they service 18 departments.

To handle Redmond Fire/EMS, Redmond Communications would need nine to ten total dispatch positions (5.75 people per position) and another supervisor. They would add two consoles and three to four information services positions. There are operational challenges so fire and EMS mutual aid is not interrupted, and the technology to accomplish this is very new. Bellevue's technology is not identified. Redmond would offer to be interim backup and determine how to link service with Bellevue. Transition would take approximately 18 to 24 months. Transition Process:

- Needs analysis with Redmond/District 34
- Hire Fire/EMS experienced dispatchers
- Determine the technology
- Train personnel
- Identify date for the cutover

Concerns about NORCOM: What is the technology that agencies want?

Levels of service – Mercer Island made the comment that they were given a dollar figure for NORCOM and would not ask for more. The implications are not known.

Bellevue plans to send out a RFP in November after the sign-up deadline.

The technology piece currently not used is imperative to connect NORCOM and Redmond if Redmond does not join NORCOM.

Mayor Ives asked the commissioners to send their recommendation to her.

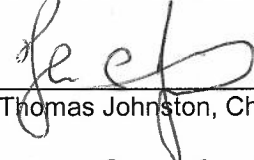
VI. NORCOM Discussion

Moved by Commissioner Lucarelli that the King County Fire Protection District 34 Board of Commissioners support the transfer of fire department dispatch services from the Eastside Communications Center and NORCOM to the City of Redmond Communications Center. Seconded by Chairman Johnston. Motion passed unanimously.

The commissioners stated their commitment to regional collaboration and cooperation but felt that NORCOM was not the best decision. The department has approached the Zone 1 deputy chiefs to look at any regional participation possible and has also looked at a Zone 1 regional approach to apparatus maintenance.

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Thomas Johnston, Chairman

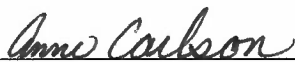


Sherman Carlson, Commissioner



Peter Lucarelli, Commissioner

ATTEST:



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