



**Thurston County Fire Protection District 8  
Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting  
September 14, 2021**

MINUTES of the regular Board meeting held September 14, 2021, as a video-conference call, at the South Bay Station 8-1. Commissioners Zvirzdys, Harper, Kilpatrick, Bivens and Long were in attendance. Chief VanCamp Assistant Chief LeMay, Battalion Chief McBride and Secretary Stumpf also participated. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

**Chief's report:** Using a handout, Chief VanCamp reviewed the August 2021 Monthly Report. Questions were asked for clarity. Topics of discussion included:

- A proposal for a technology cooperative from Lacey Fire was discussed. We will submit a survey prior to receiving a quote for technology management services to be considered for 2022.
- BLS transport and potential staffing loss Issues were discussed.
- BC McBride briefed the Board on the status of issues with the annex at North Olympia Station 8-3. He explained a power surge in July damaged approximately \$13,000 worth of equipment and damaged the electrical box. During inspection, the electrician recognized extensive issues with the electrical system. We are waiting on a bid for repairs to bring it up to code.
- BC McBride shared comments on the new Engine 8-1 that arrived and is currently being set-up for use with equipment. An open house will be scheduled once it has been fully equipped and is in service.
- Chief VanCamp requested Board approval to purchase a battery-operated, multi-function extrication tool that would replace the current gas one and would be housed on the new engine. He noted it has already been budgeted in the CR&R fund for this year. The cost is approximately \$37,000. Following a brief discussion with questions asked for clarity, Commissioner Kilpatrick moved to approve the request; Commissioner Long seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the purchase of a new extrication tool.
- As requested at a previous meeting, Assistant Chief LeMay discussed staffing concerns, and provided information on staffing issues that other Thurston County Fire Departments were having. We continue to lose volunteers. Other Districts are experiencing similar losses and struggles to keep volunteers. Some have ramped down their programs and are less reliant on volunteers. One District, FD13, had a significant increase in members due to an intentional recruitment effort. Assistant Chief LeMay went on to explain changes to our selection process that began in June to address the high loss of volunteers during training. Although we had many applicants, only a couple made it to the end of the process. It will take time to evaluate the long-term effect of the changes. A discussion ensued. Commissioner Harper expressed concern that our new process is lacking personal connections. AC LeMay agreed and is open to suggestions to improve human interaction – including promoting more tours of the station and opportunities to meet other members. Chief VanCamp added comments that we do have a good mentor program that is in place for new members once they are hired.
- Chief VanCamp briefed the Board on the issues and impacts related to the “mandatory vaccinations/exemptions and accommodations” that are being dealt with state-wide, including the possibility of a loss in membership.

**2022 Draft Budget Policy Recommendations:** Chief VanCamp sent a draft budget policy recommendation to the Board that will be reviewed and discussed at the next Board meeting. He asked the Board to review it and let him know if they had any questions prior to the meeting. Commissioner Harper added comments that he recommends that the Board focus attention on our goals and how the policy will meet them.

**Draft Policy 3-15-PO-00 Workers' Disability Compensation:** Using a handout, Chief VanCamp briefly shared the draft policy noting that he would ask for Board approval at the next Board meeting. Commissioner Harper requested that any additions to required disability payments should be limited to maintenance of net after-tax compensation.

**Secretary Report:**

Minutes of Previous Meeting – Secretary Stumpf presented the minutes of the regular meeting dated August 10 and Special meeting dated August 30 for approval. Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Harper moved to approve the minutes as presented; Commissioner Bivens seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

Approval of Warrants - Warrants as audited and certified by the auditing officer, as required by RCW 45.24.080 and those expenses reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 425.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board with the last month's meeting minutes. Specific questions regarding some purchases were asked for clarity. As of September 14, 2021, after extensive review and discussion regarding the expenses, Commissioner Kilpatrick moved to approve all warrant as presented. Commissioner Long second the motion. The Board unanimously approved payment of warrants included in that list and further described as follows:

<u>General Fund (6680)</u>	Warrants 19454-19466	Totaling \$15,397.72
	Warrants 19475-19492	Totaling \$84,188.46
	Warrants 19493-19501	Totaling \$14,014.35
	Warrants 19502-19522	Totaling \$14,123.99
<u>Payroll Fund (6680)</u>	Warrants 19467-19474 & EFT8-27a-z	Totaling \$190,893.08
<u>CR&amp;R Fund (6681)</u>	Warrants 19450-19453	Totaling \$17,954.70
	Warrant 19497	Totaling \$9,237.89

**Announcements:**

- Secretary Stumpf shared that she will be offering additional dates for the annual special budget workshop to be held in October after our regular Board meeting on the 14th.

**Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Zvirzdys provided kudos for the recent Community Newsletter.
- A recent fire call was briefly discussed.

**Outstanding Action Items:**

- 78<sup>th</sup> Street easement parcel

**Action Items:**

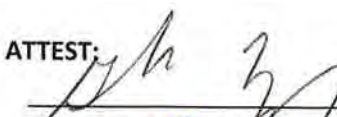
- The Board will provide input on 2022 Draft Budget Policy Recommendations and Draft Policy 3-15-PO-00.
- A report will be provided to the Board that includes the scope of work and estimated costs for repairs to the Annex at North Olympia Station 8-3.
- Ideas to improve the recruitment process with more personal touches to be shared.
- Updates on the vaccine mandate and implications to be shared.

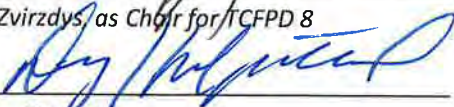
**Exempt Session:** (As per RCW 42.30.140 (OPMA)) At 6:48pm, the regular meeting adjourned to an exempt session. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss labor issues. The estimated time was ten minutes. The session concluded at 6:58 pm and the regular meeting reconvened. No actions were taken.

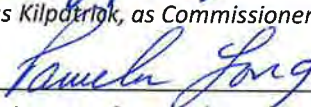
**Adjourn:**

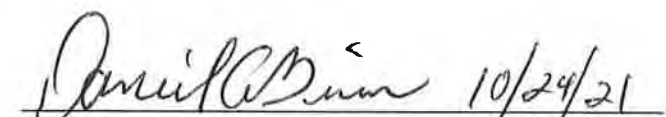
The Board announced that next regular meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2021, beginning at 5:30 pm. There being no further business, the motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion was passed, and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

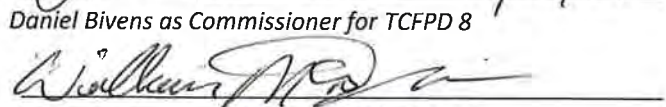
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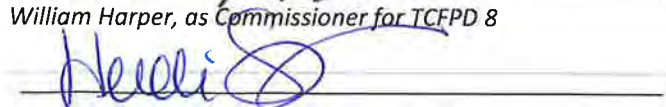
  
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 Gloria Zvirzdys, as Chair for TCFPD 8

  
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 Douglas Kilpatrick, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

  
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 Pamela Long, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

 10/29/21  
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 Daniel Bivens as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

  
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 William Harper, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

  
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 Heidi Stumpf, District Secretary for TCFPD 8