



**Thurston County Fire Protection District 8
SPECIAL Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting
August 30, 2021**

MINUTES of the SPECIAL Board meeting held August 3, 2021, as a video-conference call, at the South Bay Station 8-1. Commissioners Zvirzdys, Harper, Bivens and Long were in attendance. Chief VanCamp Assistant Chief LeMay, and Secretary Stumpf also participated. Commissioner Kilpatrick was unable to attend. The meeting was called to order at 9:36 am.

Chief VanCamp summarized the purpose of the meeting: to review the status of our current Strategic Staffing Plan based on impacts from Covid-19 and to discuss whether it is still a valid plan or do changes need to be made?

Using a Power Point presentation, Commissioner Harper shared his concerns and recommendations. The slides included:

- A model for how things work – service; funding and how we operate must be in balance.
- The challenge of our time – fixed funding, downward trend in volunteer staffing and tenure accelerated by COVID-19, resulting in increased costs and unachievable policy goals.
- Staffing and deployment – are there less costly options?
- Cash flow analysis – revenue and expense projections; funding; and political considerations
- Alternatives for bringing the model into balance: adjusting service expectations, costs, and funding
- Benchmarking and reducing costs in the short term
- Communication with the public about the current situation and alternatives for the future
- His suggested timeline and next steps

Following the presentation, questions were asked for clarity and concerns were discussed. Commissioner Harper recommended the Board provide individual input to the Chief at a policy level regarding ideas for balanced service, operations, and funding changes to be followed with a workshop to prioritize for more detailed assessment.

Chief VanCamp would like a Board agreement on Levels of Service prior to setting funding priorities. Commissioner Harper reemphasized that service level, operations design, and funding all need to be considered together and be in balance. The Chief shared that we are mailing a newsletter to constituents as soon as possible to communicate our staffing issues with them. Secretary Stumpf was directed to schedule a follow-up meeting.

Exempt Session: (As per RCW 42.30.140 (OPMA)) At 10:30 am, the regular meeting adjourned to an exempt session. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss labor issues. The estimated time was thirty minutes. The session concluded at 11:00 am and the regular meeting reconvened. No actions were taken.

Adjourn:

The Board announced that next regular meeting is scheduled for September 14, 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 11:01 am.

ATTEST:

Gloria Zvirzdys, as Chair for TCFPD 8

Daniel Bivens as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

Douglas Kilpatrick, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

William Harper, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

Pamela Long, as Commissioner for TCFPD 8

Heidi Stumpf, District Secretary for TCFPD 8