

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2021

The June 16, 2021 Board of Fire Commissioners meeting was conducted “virtually” due to the restrictions put on public meetings by Governor Inslee. The restrictions were put in place due to the ongoing health concerns presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. Commissioners participated in the meeting remotely and the public was provided the opportunity to listen to the proceedings.

Chair Scott Isenman called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present (remotely) were Commissioners Tim Carey, YongSuk Cho and Fritz von Ibsch; Fire Chief Hank Teran; Deputy Fire Chief Jared Moravec; Volunteer Program Coordinator Jay Rosenberg; and Finance Manager Ed Kaufman.

AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS

None

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- COVID-19 Vaccine update: DC Moravec provided an update to the vaccination effort on the Island. 77% of Island residents over the age of 11 have initiated the vaccination process. The June 5th vaccination clinic administered 937 doses. A total of 27,300 doses have been administered at the mass vaccination clinic since December 2020 and an additional 9,000 doses have been administered on Bainbridge by Member Plus Family Health. FM Kaufman reported that the Department has received payment of \$129,900 from FEMA for COVID-19 related expenses incurred up to August 31, 2020.
- WSRB update: DC Moravec briefed the Board on information from WSRB as a follow up to a previous inquiry from Commissioner Isenman. WSRB publishes all fire protection rates each year and highlights any changes in fire protection rate for use by the insurance industry. BIFD will initiate an ongoing public information campaign to inform island residents of its fire protection rating.
- Core Values discussion: Chief Teran noted that he is engaging all members of the Department in a discussion of the Department's core values, adopted by the Board in early 2020. Members are given “Challenge Coins” with the Department's mission statement and core values printed on them to reinforce the importance of each on a daily basis.
- Volunteer Liaison: Chief Teran noted his desire to maintain a volunteer liaison with the Department's command structure after potential retirements within the volunteer officer ranks.
- P&P 288: Driving Violations: FM Kaufman briefed the Board on an update to P&P 288: Driving Violations. This policy has been reviewed by the department's risk management advisors and will be published for the membership.

Emerging Issues:

- July 4th preparations: Although the traditional July 4th activities on Bainbridge Island are cancelled this year due to the pandemic, BIFD will upstaff in anticipation of increased activity on the Island over the holiday weekend.
- PSE update: Chief Teran briefed the Board on ongoing discussions with Puget Sound Energy regarding the plans by PSE to add another high voltage power line on the Island.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Carey noted his summer vacation schedule will result in his BOC meeting absence during August. Commissioner Isenman also noted his absence for the August 18th meeting.

Commissioner Isenman noted the following: greetings from former Commissioner Bruce Alward; thanked CRRC Janine Courtemanche for her assistance during the recent fire extinguisher event; information from his participation in the Pre-hospital Technical Advisory Committee; and that he will not be able to attend the promotion ceremony on June 28.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Island resident David Dunn expressed his displeasure with the recent Commissioner vacancy appointment process. He does not believe that the Board should have appointed someone who is a candidate for election in the upcoming November election. He commended Commissioner Cho for removing himself from the process. Dunn also expressed concerns over the Department's reliance on the WSRB for fire protection ratings. Dunn also questioned the use of the "Challenge Coins" that included the word "Trust" as a core value. He said he has lost trust in the Board of Commissioners and in the Department for some recent actions the Department has taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

(Vouchers totaling \$87,170.26, Meeting Minutes 6/2/21) Commissioner Cho moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner von Ibsch seconded the motion and the motion passed.

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. Board Vacancy

Commissioner Isenman noted that Andrea Chymiy, declined to accept the appointment to the vacant Commissioner Position #3 seat. Commissioner Isenman moved to rescind the appointment of Ms. Chymiy and appoint David Coatsworth to Commissioner Position #3. Commissioner Cho restated his position that he believes that the Commissioner seat appointment process should be open to the public. Commissioner von Ibsch seconded the motion on the table and the motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Cho abstained. Commissioner Isenman then moved to make the appointment of Coatsworth to the Board effective July 1, 2021. Commissioner von Ibsch seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0. Commissioner Cho abstained.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:25 PM Commissioner Isenman called for an Executive Session to last for 15 minutes. The Executive Session was called per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for collective bargaining planning.

The regular open public meeting resumed at 7:40

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'HT', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Henry A. Teran, Board Secretary

Approved

July 7, 2021