



**Board of Commissioners  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
March 5, 2024**

**PRESENT**

Chair Micah Rowland  
Vice Chair Michael Fearnough  
Commissioner Jim Kenny  
Commissioner David Chan  
Commissioner Mark Laurence  
Commissioner Chris Teofilak  
Commissioner Ed Widdis  
Brier Liaison Paula Swisher  
Mountlake Terrace Liaison Jesse Hoffman

**STAFF**

Fire Chief Thad Hovis  
Assistant Chief Bob Eastman  
Assistant Chief Shaughn Maxwell  
Assistant Chief Jason Isotalo  
Deputy Chief Todd Anderson

Executive Assistant Melissa Blankenship

**GUESTS**

Local 1828 President Pat Moore  
Attorney Richard Davis

7:00 PM

In person at Headquarters and Zoom Virtual Meeting ID 861 5293 4763

**MEETING WAS AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDED**

**1. CALL TO ORDER (7:00 p.m.)**

Chair Rowland called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (7:01 p.m.)**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (7:02 p.m.)**

### **Motion**

Micah Rowland

Motion to approve agenda as presented.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed 7-0;

### **4. CONSENT AGENDA (7:04 p.m.)**

### **Motion**

Micah Rowland

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

Second:

Ed Widdis

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

- a. Claims Voucher totaling \$1,406,265.41
- b. Payroll Summary and Authorization for February 2024

### **5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (7:05 p.m.)**

### **Motion**

Mark Laurence

Motion to approve minutes as presented.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

- a. February 20, 2024 Regular Meeting
- b. February 27, 2024 Special Meeting

### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT Notice: All public comment are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter 42.56. (7:07 p.m.)**

None.

### **7. FIRE CHIEF REPORT (7:16 p.m.)**

Fire Chief Thad Hovis updated the Board on the following:

- Jeff Klingelhoffer retirement after 26 years of service.
- John Dorsey Promoted to Captain as of March 15.
- Fire Station Open House March 14 530 - 700 p.m.
- Volunteer Fire Fighter Support Program had been increased to 21 individuals.

AC Isotalo shared that he met with the Brier police chief to discuss ways in which to make the Board room safer for public, staff and Commissioners during meetings. They

discussed layout, training, emergency plans and AC Isotalo shared that he met with IT and Ms. Blankenship for input.

Staff requested that a temporary ad hoc committee be formed to work with AC Isotalo on the emergency room plan so staff could bring back options to the Board. Commissioners Teofilak, Laurence and Liaison Swisher volunteered to serve on the committee.

### **Motion**

Ed Widdis

Motion to create an ad hoc committee to work with staff on a security strategy for the Commissioner Board room.

Second:

Mark Laurence

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

### **8. LEGAL REPORT (7:21 p.m.)**

Attorney Richard Davis provided an update on the Tax Increment Financing Legislation recently passed.

### **9. UNION REPORT (7:26 p.m.)**

Local 1828 President Pat Moore reported on the following:

- Members were in Washington DC attending Legislative events and meeting with State Representatives.
- Local 1828 voted to notify the Board of their disapproval of Commissioners serving in a dual role as Volunteer Firefighters.
- Local 1828 filed an Unfair Labor Practice to the State Public Employment Relations Commission.

Commissioner Kenny asked President Moore if there was a deadline the Union had in response to the disapproval letter to which President Moore stated no later than a month from now would be appreciated.

### **10. COMMITTEE UPDATES (7:31 p.m.)**

- a. Capital Facilities

No Report.

- b. Finance and Human Resources - David Chan

Commissioner Chan shared that the committee would be meeting next week.

- c. Intergovernmental - Ed Widdis

Commissioner Widdis shared that the committee met regarding the Mukilteo Annexation and the Fire Marshal duties.

## **Motion**

Micah Rowland

Motion to notify the City of Mukilteo that South County Fire would be a part of the annexation discussions.

Second:

Ed Widdis

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

d. SNO911 - Michael Fearnough

Commissioner Fearnough shared that SNO 911 would be meeting on the 14th.

## **11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (7:36 p.m.)**

a. Fire Marshal and Prevention Duties for Discussion - Assistant Chief Bob Eastman/Deputy Chief Todd Anderson (PAGES 41 - 54)

Assistant Chief Bob Eastman provided a continuation of the Fire Marshal and Prevention duties discussion.

Deputy Chief Todd Anderson presented, for review, a draft ILA for prevention services for the City of Mountlake Terrace. Assistant Chief Eastman shared that staff would bring back further information to the Board in April.

## **12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (8:00 p.m.)**

Commissioner Chan shared that he was assisting a group from Taiwan who was visiting Harborview to learn more about US medical services.

## **13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (8:05 p.m.)**

Chair Rowland called an executive session at 7:46 p.m. for Collective Bargaining Pursuant to RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a)(b) and Review the Performance of a Public Employee Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) of for 30 minutes with potential action to be taken at the conclusion.

The executive session was extended for 30 minutes.

The executive session was extended for 30 minutes.

The executive session was extended for 10 minutes

The regular meeting was called back to order at 9:26 p.m.

## **Motion**

Jim Kenny

Motion to deny the DeVos grievance appeal and affirm the decision of the Fire Chief.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

- a. Collective Bargaining Pursuant to RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a)(b)
- b. Review the Performance of a Public Employee Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)

**14. ADJOURNMENT (10:00 p.m.)**

**15. AGENDA DISCLAIMER - Members of the public are advised that times listed on the agenda are approximate and that items on the agenda may be addressed sooner or later than the time specified.**

Without objection the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Approved by:



[Micah Rowland \(Mar 25, 2024 17:07 PDT\)](#)

Micah Rowland  
Board Chair

Presented by:

*Melissa Blankenship*

Melissa Blankenship  
Executive Assistant to the Board of  
Commissioners

South County Fire strives to provide accessible opportunities for all members of the public. Please notify the Board Executive Assistant at 425-551-1251 or [mblankenship@southsnofire.org](mailto:mblankenship@southsnofire.org) at least 48 hours prior to any South County Fire meeting if any accommodations are needed.