



**Board of Commissioners
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
April 2, 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

Assistant Chief Bob Eastman
Assistant Chief Shaughn Maxwell
Assistant Chief Jason Isotalo
Communications Director Leslie Hynes
Human Resources Director David Cullen
Deputy Chief James Curtis
Chief Financial Officer Chris Bothwell
Executive Assistant Melissa Blankenship

GUESTS

Local 1828 Vice President Justin Pickens
Attorney Richard Davis
Parliamentarian Kevin Connolly

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 7:04 p.m.

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

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

Chair Rowland requested to add a Public Statement Announcement Resolution for adoption after public comment.

Commissioner Widdis requested to add as item 12b. in New Business; Change of Board Chair and Election of New Chair.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to approve agenda as amended to include Public Statement Announcement Resolution for adoption after Public Comment and Change of Board Chair and Election of New Chair as 12b. in New Business.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

4. CONSENT AGENDA (7:05 p.m.)

Motion

Mark Laurence

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

Second:

Chris Teofilak

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

- a. Claims Voucher totaling \$1,077,429.79
- b. Payroll Summary and Authorization for March 2024

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (7:06 p.m.)

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to approve minutes as presented.

Second:

Ed Widdis

Motion passed unanimously 7-0;

- a. March 19, 2024 Regular Meeting

6. NEW FIRE CHIEF SWEARING IN (7:07 p.m.)

Commissioner Widdis performed the swearing in of New Fire Chief Bob Eastman.

Chair Rowland called a 10-minute recess at 7:10 p.m.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT - Notice: All public comment and testimony are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter 42.56. (7:12 p.m.)

Penny Coyne and Commissioner David Chan spoke to the swearing in of Fire Chief Bob Eastman.

8. Public Statement Announcement Resolution for adoption – Chair Micah Rowland

Chair Rowland shared that he received a letter from Vice Chair Fearnough stating that effective immediately he had resigned his position as Vice Chair. The letter was read aloud.

Chair Rowland read a personal statement to the Board and moved to adopt a resolution to censure Commissioners Kenny, Chan, Laurence, Widdis and Teofilak for violations of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Commissioner Rowland resigned as Chair of the Board and departed the meeting room.

Commissioner Kenny stated that in circumstances where the Board was left without a Chair and Vice Chair the Board needed to elect a presiding officer who was traditionally the senior member of the Board. Without objection, Commissioner Kenny was elected to preside over the balance of the meeting or until a new Chair was elected.

Motion

Micah Rowland

Motion to adopt a resolution to censure Commissioners Kenny, Chan, Laurence and Teofilak for violations of the Open Public Meetings Act

Second:

Motion died for lack of Second0-0;

9. FIRE CHIEF REPORT (7:21 p.m.)

Chief Eastman requested the next meeting be set to a special meeting to address a necessary resolution to adhere to timelines surrounding the Fire Benefit Charge process. There would also be an Open House next Thursday at Station 12.

10. LEGAL REPORT (7:26 p.m.)

Richard Davis extended his congratulations to Chief Eastman.

Mr. Davis shared a recent Supreme Court decision surrounding public officials and their social media accounts and that it was permissible to remove messages and block a

commentor on a personal page if the official wasn't using it to fulfill the duties of their office and didn't use their governmental authority to maintain it even if they occasionally posted government related items on their page.

Richard Davis provided a memo that he asked Ms. Blankenship to circulate to the Board with recommendations for consideration.

11. UNION REPORT (7:31 p.m.)

Local 1828 Vice President Justin Pickens extended his congratulations to Chief Eastman and shared his gratitude to retired Chief Thad Hovis for his many years of service.

VP Pickens shared that Captain Alan Rivas had just graduated from a yearlong executive leadership series through the IAFF.

Congratulations to newly promoted BC Kris Georgen and newly promoted MSO Dani DeVos.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS (7:36 p.m.)

- a. Station Alerting System Modernization for Action - Deputy Chief James Curtis

Deputy Chief James Curtis requested Board approval of a contract for the Phase 1 installation of Locution PrimeAlert hardware. The purchasing requirements were satisfied and the project was competitively bid with Sequoyah Electric, LLC providing the lowest responsive proposal.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to approve the award of the station alerting system to Sequoia Electric in the amount of \$888,246.

Second:

Mark Laurence

Motion passed 6-0;

- b. Holmatro Rescue Tools Purchase and Resolution 04022024-05 for Action - Deputy Chief James Curtis

Deputy Chief James Curtis requested that the Board approve the purchase of Homaltro Rescue Tools operations equipment in the amount of \$181,015. The purchasing requirements had been satisfied and the purchase was funded in the Adopted Budget with funds provided by Sound Transit.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to approve the purchase of Holmatro Rescue Tools in the amount of \$181,015.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed 6-0;

DC James Curtis requested adoption of Budget Amendment 04022024-05 to amend the Capital Fund budget to account for the Holmatro Tools Purchase.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Adoption of Budget Amendment
04022024-05

Second:

Chris Teofilak

Motion passed 6-0;

c. Landscape Maintenance Contract for Action - Deputy Chief James Curtis

DC Curtis requested the Board approve a contract for landscape maintenance. The purchasing requirements had been satisfied and the project was competitively bid with AtWork Commercial Enterprise, LLC providing the lowest responsive proposal.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to approve awarding the RFA's
landscape maintenance contract to AtWork
Commercial Enterprise, LLC.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed 6-0;

d. Benefit Charge Update for Discussion - Assistant Chief Robert Eastman

Fire Chief Bob Eastman shared that a six-year benefit charge was approved by the regional fire authority voters in 2020 and would expire in 2026. The Board approved a long-term revenue strategy in November of 2023 which included going to voters with a 10-year renewal of the benefit charge in the August 6, 2024, Primary Election.

Chief Eastman stated that the draft Resolution was still under legal review and would bring a final resolution to the Board to consider adoption at the April 9, 2024, special meeting.

e. Spring Board Workshop Topics for Discussion - Chair Micah Rowland

Ms. Blankenship shared that a draft list of topics was shared with the Board to consider adding to the agenda for the Spring Board Workshop.

The Emergency Training to be done by the Police Chief of Brier would be approximately an hour and would be scheduled for 11:00 a.m.

Staff requested adding a cardiac arrest demonstration to show the Board what occurred

during a cardiac event.

Chair Kenny stated that there would be more discussion on the workshop agenda items at the next meeting.

13. NEW BUSINESS (8:15 p.m.)

- a. Recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week - Resolution 04022024-04 for Action - Vice Chair Michael Fearnough

Chief Eastman shared that the proposed resolution proclaimed April 14-20, 2024 as Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and supported the important work performed by our dispatch professionals at Sno911.

Motion

Jim Kenny

Motion to adopt Resolution 04022024-04
Recognizing Public Safety
Telecommunicators Week

Second:

Ed Widdis

Motion passed 6-0;

- b. Change of Board Chair and Election of New Chair - Chair Jim Kenny

Commissioner Laurence nominated Jim Kenny as Chair of the Board.

Motion

Mark Laurence

Motion to elect Jim Kenny as Chair of the
Board.

Second:

Michael Fearnough

Motion passed 6-0;

- c. Commissioner Fearnough nominated Mark Laurence as Vice Chair of
the Board.

Motion

Michael Fearnough

Motion to elect Mark Laurence as Vice
Chair of the Board.

Second:

Chris Teofilak

Motion passed 6-0;

COMMITTEE UPDATES (8:18 p.m.)

- d. Finance and Human Resources - Commissioner David Chan

Commissioner Chan shared that there would be a meeting next week and the agenda would be released soon.

e. Intergovernmental - Commissioner Ed Widdis

Commissioner Widdis shared that he, Commissioner Chan and Chief Eastman met with Mayor Marine and the City Administrator of Mukilteo at their request.

Commissioner Widdis stated that the meeting to discuss how to move forward with the ILA process and they shared that the item would be placed on the agenda at our next meeting to solicit Board input on how to move forward.

Commissioner Widdis stated that there would be an IGC meeting on Thursday the 4th.

f. SNO911 - Commissioner Michael Fearnough

Commissioner Fearnough shared that the Sno 911 Board addressed the authorization of movement of surplus equipment and they would be meeting on April 10 for Fire TAC and again on April 18 at South County Fire HQ.

14. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS (8:23 p.m.)

None.

15. ADJOURNMENT (8:30 p.m.)

Without objection the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

16. 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.

Approved by:

Jim Kenny

Jim Kenny (Apr 11, 2024 23:35 PDT)

Jim Kenny
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 at least 48 hours prior to any South County Fire meeting if any accommodations are needed.










April 2, 2024 Regular Meeting - Corrected

Final Audit Report

2024-04-12

Created:	2024-04-11
By:	Melissa Blankenship (mblankenship@southsnofire.org)
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