

JOINT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
FERRY COUNTY 3/STEVENS COUNTY 8

**MINUTES**

**March 8, 2012**

The regular meeting of the Joint Fire Protection District Ferry County District 3/Stevens County District 8 was called to order at 6:30p.m, on March 8, 2012, at the District Office by Chairman Helen Sowards. Present: Commissioners Helen Sowards, Susan Dechant, Steve Benell, Chief Herb Hippler, Medical Officer Rich Robinson, Secretary Peter Holter-Mehren, and Purchasing Agent Mark Stevens. Celia Oswald was also present.

**Minutes**

Minutes of February 9, 2012 were discussed.

**Motion, Dechant, to pass minutes of February 9, 2012. seconded by Wooten m/s/p**

**Communications to the Board**

None

**Correspondence**

Orient Water Dept letter reference water samples in November 2011, no action necessary.

**Budget**

Commissioner Dechant presented a current budget report. She reports that all accounts look good. Various written reports were given to the Commissioners using the BIAS system.

**Vouchers**

Vouchers were discussed. **Motion Dechant, to approve vouchers, seconded by Wooten. m/s/p.**

VOUCHERS AUDITED AND CERTIFIED BY THE AUDITING OFFICER AS REQUIRED BY RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the board.

As of this date March 8, 2012 the board by a unanimous vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and further described as follows: (funds) voucher numbers 2012057 through 2012078 in the total amount of \$4,767.79.

**Committee Reports**

**Buildings:** The map of the Barney's Junction site for the Tribal Trails Plaza, sent from Womer and Associates was discussed and all seemed to feel that it is a good improvement on previous plans shown. Herb is now in contact with the DOT and he and Captain Cole will layout the lines for the district's ingress and egress from our fire station to the highway.

The discussion of the Training Center Use by the Public was put on hold due to Commissioner Lee's absence.

**Communications:** The easement for Rucker property has been signed and recorded with the Stevens County Auditor's Office. We can now schedule a move of the repeater and tower for sometime in the near future when the weather permits.

**Recruitment** – Commissioner Sowards. Commissioner Benell and Secretary Holter-Mehren have been in contact with the Kettle Falls School District and are working on plans to give a talk to the High School Junior Class

**Fire Safety** – No report

**Insurance-** Commissioner Benell. Inventory of small portable items has been done at the Barstow Station and will continue with the other stations very soon.

We are still working with Enduris to get the hovercraft at Barstow Station repaired and have been assured by Enduris that shipping and repair work will commence soon. This will most likely involve shipping the craft to Indiana for an estimate by the manufacturer before any repairs are done.

### **Chief's Report February to March 2012**

Fire Calls: Zero

Structure Training should be completed this month for the new recruits; I have scheduled some hands on training and a final quiz / evaluation to them. This will added 7 more trained fire fighters to the district.

The snow plow on 3819 just reached its status of "paid for its self" here in the last few weeks with the arrival of the new snow.

We are in the process of completing the SOP's for hover craft pilots and have scheduled a test flight date for the interested pilots. We are trying to figure out the best option for training in swift water rescue, as the Tech 1 Swift Water Rescue class may be too intensive for our application of using the hover craft. As for the repairs on the other craft, we are still working out the details with our insurance group.

More surplus items have been allocated and removed for the district, the FEPP tanks, Mini van and crew cab truck be sold and removed for the exception of the crew cab; it will be removed second weekend in April.

Tender at Colmac Industries, I have made arrangements with the plant manager to help complete the project. They have agreed to let our volunteers help out this Sunday March 11 8-1pm.

DNR Grants, spoke with Bob Bannon 360-902-1300 about the Colmac tender; since it was not completed in time, we have lost a portion of this grant totaling \$1200. As for the 2011-16 grant involving the 2000 freight liner, we have until the end of the month to purchase all needed parts to complete this tender. Once this vehicle is in service they will award the 2012 dry hydrant grant. So I will be spending about 8-10K for a 1000 gpm rated pump along with primer pump and fittings.

The covered play ground area at the Orient school is going to be removed and replaced with a steel structure. I have asked the construction company if they would be willing to donate it to the fire department, they said "Yes" but it will have to be removed in one weekend's time frame. The structure is 24 feet wide and about 60 feet long. This is the same type of construction as the Sand Creek Station.

### **Medical Officer's Report, March 2012**

The EMT Class in Colville has been going well and will be wrapping up soon, practical exams are this Saturday, March 10. Our two students state that they are doing well and are prepared, though we haven't seen them on any calls within the District yet. Susan Keto states that she has enough credit (OTEP) to re-certify, but is having trouble logging onto the DOH website to complete the process.

Calls for the month include:

53 YOF – Seizure	53 YOF – Weak, dizzy
86 YOM – Back pain	57 YOF – Diabetic Emergency
73 YOF - Fractured Hip	44 YOF – Seizure
55 YOM – Fall	

### **Open Issues:**

- FEMA Grants. The Chief reports that these are now few and far between, a source of funding that is drying up
- BIAS Conference. The Secretary reported that he and Commissioner Dechant did not attend due to an injury and logistics.

- Swift Water Rescue Class, Wenatchee. The Chief will decide soon who, if anyone, should attend. Also notes we have a CD coming from Snohomish on their SOP's and training procedures.
- Fuel Reduction Meeting. Commissioner Wooten and Ken Kerr attended this meeting in Republic along with representatives of DNR and other members of Ferry County Fire Districts. As to be expected, they were informed that budgets are shrinking and there are only about half as much funds available compared to prior periods. The Deadman Creek project scheduled this year is funded however, and should begin shortly. Two areas in our district previously identified as Priority 1 in our fire plan, Laurier and Barstow, were nominated for funding grant proposals. Hopefully they will be funded this year. Rudy and Ken both felt this was a very productive meeting with funding for our district looking promising.

**New Issues**

- Station Inspections by the Commissioners have been scheduled. April 19, Barney's Station and all other facilities to the South. April 20, Barstow Station and all other facilities to the North.
- The EMS Levy in Ferry County runs out at the end of the year. Much discussion ensued.

**Motion, Wooten, to run a levy in the Primary Election in August, at the same rate as we are currently taxing. A second levy, to run in the General Election in November for the same rate, if the first levy should fail, seconded by Benell. m/s/p**

**Executive Session.** The Board went into Executive Session at 7:46pm for the purpose of evaluations/performance reviews of the Chief and Purchasing Agent. The Board returned to Public Session at 7:53pm.

**Adjournment: 7:56 pm on Motion by Wooten, seconded by Benell. m/s/p**

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Peter Holter-Mehren, Secretary

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Helen Sowards, Chairperson