## **South Beach Regional Fire Authority**

## **Governance Board Special Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, October 5, 2017-5:00 PM, 506 N Montesano St., Westport, WA 98595

- 1. Call Meeting to order:
  - Alfred R. Schroeder called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
- 2. Alfred R. Schroeder led the group with the flag salute.
- 3. Roll Call:

Alfred R. Schroeder, Commissioner, GHFD #14
Robert Parnell, City Councilperson, City of Westport
David McLellan, Commissioner, GHFD #11
Sam Schlegel, Commissioner, PCFD #5
Tom Bearden, Commissioner, GHFD #3

## 4. Personnel Issues:

Robert Parnell summarized that the first official meeting of the newly formed Regional Fire Authority was held on October 2, 2017. At that meeting an acting fire chief was appointed, Art Cole to be exact. Basically, the question came up as to who would be the assistant chief, which led us to have this special meeting.

Discussion then took place with several points of interest:

- >A letter had been received from Local 3689 stated that none of the members would be available for an assistant chief position.
- >It was noted that Art had suggested either Dennis Benn or Steven Curry for the position of assistant chief.
- >Whoever holds the position should have knowledge of equipment and the people.
- >Suggested was that the prospective candidates should be talked to ahead of time.
- >What authority does the chief have over an assistant chief?
- >Issues of concern were what happens if someone from the union goes to assistant chief position and it doesn't work out? Would they be able to go back to the union and have a job. Also, what happens to the new employee that would be hired if his position was given back to the original employee?
- >There is an approach by selecting a Battalion Chief; other departments use this method in our area.
- >Art currently is not considered a full-time employee now.
- >Questioned was whether or not the planning committee has done research into job descriptions for both fire chief and assistant fire chief?

Discussion took place in all the above areas with no conclusive decision made other than that the governance board should draft a letter to the union. The letter should ask Local 3689 for their thoughts and consideration of a battalion chief position.

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Fred will meet with Diane tomorrow and forward a letter to Local 3689.

A motion was then made by David McLellan to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 PM. Motion seconded by Tom Bearden. Motion carried.

For the board,

Diane McNett, Secretary