

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

A special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on August 17, 2021. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the meeting was held remotely with Online Video and Audio Conferencing.

Chairman Hollis called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Eric Hollis
Commissioner Lilly Hansen
Commissioner Daniel Meredith
Chief Brian Culp
Secretary Melinda Wall

In Attendance:

Captain Patrick LeDoux	FF Kris Belfield
Lt. Steve Bandy	FF Aaron Hansen
Lt. Scott Fleming	FF Jon McKinnon
FF Parker McKinnon	FF Greg Lussier
FF Kyle Patterson	FF Joe Navarro

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period:

FF Belfield read a statement that he had prepared opposing the Covid 19 Vaccination Requirement in the Governor's Proclamation 21-14.

FF Dumas thanked the Board for their time and he thanked FF Belfield for his statement. FF Dumas discussed integrity, "doing the right thing", an attribute often discussed in the fire service. He stated that in speaking to many different members throughout the department, he had not met one person who thinks that this vaccine mandate is the right thing. He conveyed that he felt responsible to do his part and not quietly go along but to push back. He asked the Commissioners to voice their support in letting the State and community know that this is not what the Firefighters want.

Chief Culp discussed his concerns with the vaccine mandate and stated that he has had many conversations with the membership about this. He stated that he commends the members, career, and volunteer, for whatever reason, they chose not to get vaccinated. He believes that the vaccine does save lives but respects the members and their decisions. He further stated as Fire Chief, the implications of this proclamation to terminate members who are not vaccinated would be absolutely the hardest decisions that he would be tasked with. When you terminate someone its usually when they have done something wrong. He further stated that unless the Governor changes his position to allow an alternative such as POC testing, or PCR testing, for unvaccinated members, or a lawsuit and injunction by the courts, we stand to lose some of our membership both career and volunteer.

Chairman Hollis stated that the Board appreciates the comments that were provided tonight. He conveyed his concern regarding the implications of the vaccine mandate, and that the Board would be discussing this issue further and reviewing the guidance that Attorney Snure has provided.

FF Belfield asked if the guidance from the Attorney could be made available. Chief Culp replied that he would send it to him.

Commissioner Meredith suggested setting up a special meeting with Attorney Snure to obtain some legal advice directly from him. The Board concurred.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Operational Changes - Deputy Chief Position
Secretary Wall's Annual Performance Review

Executive Session:

The Board convened into an Executive Session for 60 minutes with Chief Culp at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the Deputy Chief agreement, Secretary Wall's performance review, and the Covid vaccination requirement, as it pertains to collective bargaining, in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g); To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee; and RCW 42.30.140(4)(a); Collective bargaining sessions with employee organizations, including contract

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negotiations, grievance meetings, and discussions relating to the interpretation or application of a labor agreement; and

(b) that portion of a meeting during which the governing body is planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress.

At 8:30 p.m. the Board convened back into the special meeting.

Chairman Hollis stated that the Board was ready to take action on the Deputy Chief Agreement.

On the Motion of Commissioner Meredith and a second by Commissioner Hansen the Board approved the Deputy Chief Employment Agreement between the District and Patrick LeDoux.

MOTION CARRIED.

Deputy Chief LeDoux thanked the Board for the opportunity. Chairman Hollis thanked him and stated that he appreciated all his hard work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Governor's Proclamation 21-14 - Covid 19 Vaccination Requirement

Chairman Hollis stated that in regard to the Governor's Proclamation, the District is required to follow the law, but the Board will send a letter to the Governor addressing the concerns and consequences that the mandate may have on the District.

Chairman Hollis stated that Commissioner Meredith will draft the letter and another special meeting will be scheduled next week, tentatively on August 24th or 25th.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Hollis at 8:38 p.m.


Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

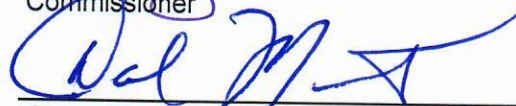
Melinda Wall



Chairman



Commissioner



Commissioner