



**VALLEY REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
GOVERNANCE BOARD
1101 D Street NE
Auburn, Washington
May 11, 2021**

GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair David Hill called the Valley Regional Fire Authority (VRFA) Board of Governance Regular Meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

A. Flag Salute

Chair Hill led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

Chair David Hill, Vice-Chair Nancy Backus, Member Leanne Guier, Member Claude DaCorsi, Member Kerry Garberding, Member Troy Linnell, Member Lynda Osborn, Member David Storaasli, and Member Larry Brown (excused).

Staff members present included Fire Chief Brent Swearingen, Deputy Chief Dave Larberg, Deputy Chief Brad Thompson, Human Resources Manager Sarah Borden, Legal Counsel Eric Quinn, and Clerk of the Board Stefanie Harper.

C. Announcements, Proclamations, and Presentations

There were no announcements, proclamations or presentations.

D. Appointments

There were no appointments.

E. Agenda Modifications

There were no agenda modifications.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS, CITIZEN INPUT, AND CORRESPONDENCE

A. Public Hearings

Pursuant to Proclamation 20-28 Open Public Meetings Act, there was no public hearing.

B. Audience Participation

Pursuant to Proclamation 20-28 Open Public Meetings Act, there was no audience participation. All correspondence was submitted prior to the meeting and provided to the Board

There was no correspondence submitted to the Board.

C. Update from IAFF Local #1352

Vice President Jordan Gustafson of IAFF Local # 1352 spoke to the Board about recent and upcoming retirements. President Gustafson commented on the deep pool of talent in this organization and the opportunity for those to promote in the upcoming months.

D. Correspondence

There was no correspondence for the Board's consideration.

III. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Finance Committee

Chair Osborn stated that the Finance Committee met this evening and recommends Claims and Payroll and the Addendum of the GIS Interlocal Agreement for approval by the Board.

IV. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Board Member reports.

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. Administration

Chief Swearingen provided an update to the Board and stated call volume is starting to return to numbers we saw prior to COVID.

Chief Swearingen stated all members are home from deployment in Yakima.

VRFA Has received a few 'thank you' letters from Chiefs in neighboring districts for our work on brush fires and testing processes.

Chief Swearingen provided an update on joint recruitment and updated Civil Service rules.

An update on the accreditation process was provide.

Chief Swearingen stated the 2020 Annual Report is ready for publication and will be out soon.

An update on the COVID testing and vaccination site was provided.

Chief Swearingen updated the Board on the retirement of Neil Pedersen after 35 years of service.

VI. CONSENT ITMES

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the Governance Board to be routine and may be approved by one motion.

A. Minutes

1. Minutes of the April 13, 2021 Regular Meeting were reviewed.

B. Vouchers

1. Claims

Check numbers 209458 through 209521 in the amount of \$213,762.95, and electronic payments in the amount of \$12,107.01, totaling \$225,869.96, dated May 12, 2021.

2. Payroll

Payroll check numbers 201148 and 99652 through 99655 in the amount of \$16,071.66, and electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$2,070,490.98 for a grand total of \$2,086,562.64 for the period covering April 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021.

There being no further discussion or questions Vice Chair Backus moved and Member Guier seconded the approval of the Minutes, Claims and Payroll as presented above.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VII. RESOLUTIONS & MOTIONS

A. Addendum to GIS Interlocal Agreement

Chief Larberg stated the addendum was to the GIS Interlocal agreement with the City of Auburn. Due to the service no longer needed or uses, the City of Auburn adjusted the cost of services to reflect current services. Deputy Chief Larberg stated the new agreement will save VRFA an estimated \$15,000 in annual costs.

There being no further discussion or questions Vice Chair Backus moved and Member Guier seconded the approval of the Addendum to GIS Interlocal Agreement.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0

VI. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

HR Manager Borden conducted the Fire Chief Recruitment interview process. There was one interviewee, Deputy Chief Brad Thompson.

VII. EXECUTIVE OR CLOSED SESSION

Member Backus requested an executive session with members of the Board, HR Manager Borden, and Chief Swearingen to review the performance of a public employee as authorized by RCW 42.30.110. Anticipated that the executive session will last twenty minutes and there may be action at the conclusion.

Chair Hill convened the executive session at 6:07 pm with Board members, HR Manager Borden, and Chief Swearingen. The executive session concluded at 6:28 pm and the Board returned to their regular meeting.

There being no further discussion or questions Vice Chair Backus moved and Member Guier seconded the appointment of Fire Chief to Brad Thompson; and to begin contract negotiations.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8-0

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Dated this 8th day of June, 2021



David E. Hill
Chair



Stefanie Harper
Clerk of the Board