

"FINAL"

King County Fire Protection District 40

Special Commissioners' Meeting

January 18, 2008

4:30 p.m.

<u>Commissioner</u> CRAIG VIOLANTE	<u>Commissioner</u> CHARLOTTE RYAN	<u>Commissioner</u> GLEN CONAWAY
<u>Commissioner</u> RUSS PRICE		<u>Commissioner</u> RONNIE BEHNKE
<u>Deputy Chief</u> TIM BOCK		<u>Board Secretary</u> RENA HARDY

CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Violante called the special meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners for King County Fire Protection District 40 to order at 4:30 p.m. Commissioners present for the Call to Order: Violante, Ryan, Conaway, Price and Behnke (Commissioner Behnke was present by phone). Also attending were DC Bock, Secretary Hardy, PE Garvich, Admin. Asst. Gratzner, Marty Wine of Renton, Linda Sartnurak, Bill Taylor, Sharon Kosai, Russ Radke, Mindi Mattson and Dave McCammon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

City of Renton Contract for Service:

1. Public Information Meeting:

Board Chair Commissioner Violante said that at the last meeting there was some discussion regarding calling a Public Information Meeting prior to finalizing the decision on contract negotiations with the City of Renton. If an agreement is reached, the City would provide services to the remaining portion of District 40 after March 1, 2008 when the Benson Hill Area Annexation is effective.

Commissioner Violante called for comments from the Board expressing their opinions as to whether a public meeting should or should not be held.

Commissioner Ryan said that some concern was expressed at the last meeting and that she thinks it would be a good idea to have people hear both sides and be informed as to the terms of the contract.

Commissioner Price said that in his opinion, the timing is not the best for holding a meeting when time is short between today and January 31, 2008 when Board action will determine the outcome of the contract.

Commissioner Conaway agreed that it would be too hard to put together an informative program some time between now and the next meeting on January 31. If the

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contract were to be delayed, it may have an adverse effect on District 40 employees who are trying for jobs with Renton.

Commissioner Behnke agreed with Commissioners Price and Conaway that there is not time to plan a presentation on such short notice.

Commissioner Violante asked Marty Wine of Renton to comment on the hiring process in Renton.

Marty Wine said that the City will be hiring a great deal of people and a delay of the contract could have an impact on District 40 employee's opportunity for employment with the city.

Commissioner Violante said that the consensus of the Board is that an information meeting should be held just so that citizens are informed. Board Chair asked Consultant Paul Witt if he would be able to put together an information presentation for the next Board Meeting on January 31, 2008. Paul said that he will prepare the presentation.

Commissioner Conaway said that the Board to this point has made the decision to pursue talks toward a contract but has not actually made a decision to contract.

Commissioner Violante asked each Board Member to comment and all agreed that a contract will be in the best interest of the citizens of the remaining portion of the District.

Additional discussion included getting a notice of the meeting to the public and what the process for that would be.

2. Commissioner Violante said that he has been working with PE Garvich to draft an information message to the citizens of the District regarding the decision to pursue contract talks with Renton. Commissioner Violante read the statement which will be posted on the Districts web-site. A copy of the notice will be placed on file with these minutes.

3. Study Session Between Board and Renton Team:

At the last meeting a Study Session between the Board and Renton's team was discussed. Commissioners Violante asked Marty Wine if a meeting could be arranged. Marty said that the team at Renton included the Finance Manager, Human Resources, the City's Attorney, Chief Daniels and Marty Wine. She said that she has been in touch with them and any or all of the key people are willing to make themselves available at any time.

Attorney Kinnon Williams said that if three or more Board Members attended such a meeting, it would be required to be a Special Board Meeting and Notice posted.

Board determined that it would not be necessary to have all Board Members present. Marty Wine will coordinate with Attorney Williams for a meeting place in Renton and Renton Representatives to attend. A tentative date and time of January 29, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. was set.

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4. Discussion and Angst:

Commissioner Violante asked Marty Wine to fill the Board in on the ultimate possibility of getting non-represented staff members on board at Renton.

Ms. Wine repeated that the City will be hiring 90 positions including 31 FF, and 9 within the Fire Department.

Human Resources is trying to put together recruit and hire possibilities where there is a match between the position and the staff here. Hiring is not guaranteed. Human Resources and the Renton's public employee's union is doing some impact bargaining. The Union President is working to make positions available.

Board Chair Commissioner Violante invited comments or questions from the audience.

Russ Radke asked when the Board began working with Renton on the Contract concept and if it was started prior to the November annexation election.

Marty Wine said that representatives from Renton and District 40 first talked in mid-summer 2007 and began formal talks in the fall. Commissioner Price added that all talks prior to the election hinged on the Benson Hill Annexation outcome.

Attorney Williams said that the concept was discussed and that a MOU was reached before the election but exact details of the contract were included in talks after the election.

Commissioner Violante said that pre-vote discussion were mainly concerning cost and financing.

Mindi Mattson commented that the jobs that Marty Wine mentioned have not been posted and asked when that would happen.

Marty Wine replied that the positions will have a staggered hire date and not all posting will happen by March 1. Mike Webbe is coordinating with Human Resources and Department Managers. The managers must put in a "Request to Fill" before each position is posted. The information will be communicated as soon as possible.

Dave McCammon commented that with direct mailing from the City of Renton and King County, when the annexation group was announcing public meetings, the attendance was low at about 50 people.

Linda Satrnurak stated that she has been attending meetings on a regular basis. She thanked the Board for allowing input from citizens. She said that she is not questioning the Board's judgment but does not think that blind acceptance that you know what you are doing should not be expected. Board should share some information on why you are choosing the Contract with Renton route.

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Commissioner Violante the driving force is sustaining District 40 and being able to financially provide quality service. There are two annexation issues currently in the process along with the City of Fairwood Incorporation. These factors could reduce the District's ability to provide services to remaining areas.

The Board is in favor of contracting with Renton because the remaining area after March 1, 2008 is within Renton's PAA (Potential Annexation Area) and as the area is annexed in increments other options become less practical. The Board must consider the Big Picture

Board Chair Commissioner Violante announced that the Board will be holding a fifteen minute Executive Session under guidelines of RCW 42.30.110(i) and RCW 42.30.110(f). There may be Board action following the closed session and there it is possible that there will be a second Executive Session.

There was a short recess to allow Board Members to interact with those present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 5:10 p.m. the Board went into a fifteen minute Executive Session under guidelines of RCW 42.30.110(i) and RCW 42.30.110(g). At 5:25 p.m. the Executive Session was extended and additional fifteen minutes. At 5:40 p.m. the Session was extended ten minutes. The Executive Session ended at 5:45 p.m.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING CONTINUED:

Upon returning to open session, Board Chair Commissioner Violante asked Attorney Kinnon Williams to explain a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between District 40 and the City of Renton.

Attorney Williams explained that under the Board's direction, he has worked with the City of Renton toward reaching a MOU for the purpose of effectuating the transition process more smoothly. Under the MOU, Renton would provide an executive manager effective February 1, 2008. The proposal has been discussed with Jay Covington, Chief Executive Administrative Officer of Renton. The arrangement will be time-limited loaned executive model to manage the District until both parties have adopted an interlocal agreement for Renton to provide fire and emergency medical services to the entirety of the District.

A **MOTION** was made by Commissioner Conaway and **SECONDED** by Commissioner Price to adopt the MOU as presented.

Commissioner Ryan agreed that the agreement would help for a smooth transition.

Commissioner Price also commented that since the City will take over a portion of the District effective with the March 1, 2008 annexation movement, this will help with the transition.

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The **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The MOU was signed by the Attorney, Board Chair and District Secretary. A copy will be placed on file with these minutes. An executed MOU will be returned for the District's files by Renton once the signatures are completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Board Chair Commissioner Violante announced that the Board is going into a five minute Executive Session under guidelines of RCW 42.30.110(g). There will be no further Board action and the meeting will adjourn following this second closed session.

Board went into a five-minute Executive Session under guidelines of RCW 42.30.110(g) at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners will be held on ***Thursday January 31, 2008 at 4:30 P.M.***

Craig Violante, Board Chair

Charlotte Ryan, Commissioner

Glen Conaway, Commissioner

Russ Price, Commissioner

Ronnie Behnke, Vice Chair

Rena Hardy, District Secretary

Attachment Meeting Agenda
Information Statement from web-site
Draft MOU with Renton

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