

**A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS OF
EAST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE**

January 20, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of East Pierce Fire & Rescue was held on January 20, 2026, in-person at Headquarters (8601 Main St E, Bonney Lake) and via conference/video call through Zoom. Notice and link to join meeting was posted for public access. Chair Napier called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present by roll call were Commissioners Ed Egan, Kevin Garling, Pat McElligott, Randy Kroum, Justin Evans, and Pete Connell, Chief Jon Parkinson, Deputy Chief Kevin Stabenfeldt, Deputy Chief Matt Gilbert, and District Secretary Corina Byerley.

Commissioners Excused: None

Commissioners Unexcused: None

AUDIENCE: Project Manager Phil Herrera, Taylor Hobi, Chris Leier, Lewis Pugh, Debbie Pugh, Matt Arnold, Taylor Phillips (virtual), Chelsea (virtual)

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS:

Commissioners Napier and McElligott were recognized for ten years of service to East Pierce Fire & Rescue and presented with service coins.

Deputy Chief Stabenfeldt was recognized for twenty years of service to East Pierce Fire & Rescue and presented with a service coin.

OATH OF OFFICE:

District Secretary gave Commissioner Garling, Commissioner Evans, and Commissioner Connell their oaths of office.

ELECTIONS:

Board Chair for 2026-2027:

Commissioner Egan moved to nominate Jon Napier as Board Chair for 2026-2027. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McElligott. No other nominations were received for Board Chair, motion carried.

Vice Chair for 2026-2027:

Commissioner McElligott nominated Ed Egan as Vice Chair for 2026-2027. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garling. No other nominations were received for Vice Chair, motion carried.

Board Committee Assignments for 2026-2027:

Finance: Jon Napier, Chair, Kevin Garling, Pat McElligott

Human Resources: Pat McElligott, Chair, Randy Kroum, Pete Connell

Planning: Randy Kroum, Chair, Justin Evans, Ed Egan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

District Secretary Corina Byerley requested to amend the agenda as follows:
Agenda Item 4 (Consent Agenda) add Payroll vouchers 26013001 - 26013014 in the amount of \$973,045.22 and electronic payroll in the amount of \$3,676,723.89. Commissioner McElligott moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Egan and carried.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Commissioner McElligott moved to approve the consent agenda (minutes from the December 16th Regular meeting; treasurer's report; current expense vouchers 260101001 - 250101095 in the amount of \$888,713.74; payroll vouchers 26013001 - 26013014 in the amount of \$973,045.22 and electronic payroll in the amount of \$3,676,723.89; Capital expense vouchers 260102001 - 250102012 in the amount of \$1,351,716.12; and post-meeting payroll adjustment in the amount of \$7,807.47). Motion seconded by Commissioner Egan and carried.

GUEST SPEAKER PRESENTATION: None

VISITOR COMMENTS:

Chris Leier (Snag Island Resident): Homeowner on Snag Island and President of the Snag Island HOA. The community is having an issue with the fire service and insurance carriers accepting the metrics for their protection class. Issues include that many older homes built before fire sprinkler requirements, no main water line down street/homes on wells and no fire hydrants. Group of residents met with Chief Parkinson to discuss issues and possible solutions. It was recommended that the group bring their concerns to the Board. Mr. Leier also commented that the fire boat should be rated by WSRB as a response vessel within 5 miles of the Snag Island community.

Lewis Pugh (Snag Island Resident): Not sure how aware the Board is of the issues on Snag Island. Went from a good insurance rating to a 9A. His home became nearly uninsurable, and Matt's house is uninsurable after Station 115 was decommissioned and the insurance problem exists because Station 115 was decommissioned. The community is 5.7 miles from headquarters and 6.2 miles from Station 114 and it has become a serious problem. Two houses have burned completely to the ground out there. The response times with Station 115 open were long. The WSRB may go down with the new tender credit to a 9. This is not just about insurance but also a concern for response times. Mr. Pugh proposed reopening Station 115, which is only 3.2 miles away, as a solution.

Debbie Pugh (Snag Island Resident): Inquired as to whether there are other neighborhoods as large as Snag Island in the district that are experiencing the same issues. Mrs. Pugh also inquired as to whether the Board was aware of the issues on Snag Island.

Matt Arnold (Snag Island Resident): Shared that his insurance has gone up from \$8,000 to \$28,000 per year due to the distance from his home to the nearest fire station and no fire hydrants within 1,000 feet of his home. His insurance will no longer insure his home unless he puts in a 10,000-gallon cistern. About 75% of insurance carriers will not insure homes valued at \$3,000,000 which limits options for coverage.

Local 3520: President Hobi gave a brief overview of some union events/involvement including approximately 100 people attended the Pancake Feed in December; five members of the Local political action committee will be attending a conference next week; and the Easter Egg Hunts will be held April 4th. President Hobi addressed the previous visitor comments noting that the Local hears their concerns and is willing to collaborate with the district on how to staff to make sure the area has safe responses.

BOND-2018:

Project Manager: Project Manager Phil Herrera gave an update on the Capital Facilities Plan.

Station 111: Fuel island permit submittal underway.

Station 112: Exterior CMU installation complete. Window glazing underway. HVAC, electrical and plumbing continue. Insulation complete. Sheetrock taping underway. Apparatus bay doors installed. Finish grading for parking and curbs is underway. Curbing and asphalt expected next month. 120th frontage work is underway.

Station 114: Still working on some warranty items. Final closeout document process nearly complete.

Station 117: The fuel island is nearly complete. Electronic sign installation complete and electrical connections forthcoming. Punch list and warranty items continue. Final closeout document process still ongoing.

Station 118: The fuel island permit with modifications is pending.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Monthly Chiefs Report: Reviewed the Chief's monthly report with the Board. Included in agenda packet. Chief Parkinson's report included: 13 new firefighter recruits started in January and are attending academy; 3 employees will graduate from Tacoma Fire Department medic school in February; 2 employees will begin Tacoma Fire Department medic school in February; Audit- financial audit is complete and accountability audit is still in progress; New Station 124 conditional use permit has been submitted; and Commissioners Evans and McElligott and DC Gilbert will be attending Legislative Day next Thursday.

Monthly Deputy Chiefs Reports: Included in agenda packet. Deputy Chief Stabenfeldt reported: Logistics-completing in-house vehicle repairs in about half the time of sending out for service; Health and Safety – emergency management progress with partner agencies; Communications - Sam will give a presentation to the Board next month. Deputy Chief Gilbert reported that two of the three shifts have completed an 8-hour Company Officer training to develop leadership for succession planning; 13 new recruits have started the Red Knights academy at West Pierce Fire & Rescue.

Q3 Strategic Plan Update: Update provided in agenda packet.

Q3 Standard of Cover Update: Update provided in agenda packet. Chief Parkinson noted that EPFR will begin the update process of the Standard of Cover in 2027.

Q3 Financial Assessment Update: Update provided in agenda packet.

Monthly Injury Report: Update provided in agenda packet.

COMMISSIONER CONFERENCE/COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

RESOLUTIONS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Station 124 Property Deed: Chief Parkinson presented to the Board a request to surplus a sliver of property in Milton that was previously agreed to be deeded to the City of Milton in 1920 and was not recorded or legally transferred to the City. Commissioner Kroum moved to approve Resolution 1107, the surplus of real property of approximately 210 square feet of Pierce County Parcel number 5985002900 located in Milton, WA and authorize the Fire Chief to sign sale documents on behalf of the District to sell said surplus property to the City of Milton in the amount of \$1.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Egan and carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

COMMISSIONER TRAINING/EVENT REQUESTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

COMMISSIONER ACTION/DISCUSSION:

Blood Draws for PD: Commissioner Evans inquired about EPFR medics providing blood draws for Bonney Lake Police Department if the police department were to provide a kit and retain chain of custody. Chief Parkinson will follow up with Police Chief Berry to discuss.

Thank you: Commissioner Kroum thanked Dina Sutherland for coordinating several recent events and education in the Tehaleh community.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



District Secretary Corina Byerley



Chairman Jon Napier/Vice-Chair Ed Egan