

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 21, 2020 REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT  
NO. 2**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire District No. 2 was held remotely on April 21, 2020, commencing at 5:00 p.m., pursuant to proper notice. District officials in attendance, pursuant to virtual meeting software Go To Meeting were: Commissioners Elwell, Sitterley and Peden. Also attending virtually were: Chief Mike Marrs, Assistant Chief Pettigrew, Trina Norsen, Acting District Secretary Eric Quinn and Captain Wayne Metz. Others in attendance, if any, are as shown on the Attendance Roster.

**Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Commissioner Elwell who led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. A discussion ensued as to what is “necessary or routine” under Governor Inslee’s March 24<sup>th</sup> order restricting public access to the meetings, and whether any items on the final agenda would *not* be considered “necessary or routine.” Attorney Eric Quinn discussed the Governor’s order limiting “action” and therefore discussion to those topics deemed “necessary and routine” or regarding the Covid-19 emergency.

**Agenda Approval.** It was moved, seconded and carried 3-0 to approve the agenda as submitted immediately prior to the meeting.

**Presentations/Announcements.** (1) Presentations: None  
(2) Announcements:

- June 5 & 6 – Chelan (This has now been cancelled.)
- Firefighters Appreciation Banquet postponed.

**Correspondence.** None.

**Public Comment.** None.

**Local 1461 Comment.** None.

**Administration Reports.** Chief Marrs delivered the Chief’s Report as follows:

**Facilities.** N/A.

**Equipment.** Chief Marrs updated the board on the decontamination of masks. There was some discussion of UV light boxes, that could be made by UW Engineering and sanctioned by Dr. Rea. The District has committed to two light boxes, which cost approximately \$3000 each. These light boxes can decontaminate 6-12 masks at once. Chair Elwell asked how many masks are being used per shift. Chief Marrs said that, due  
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to the Scout system discussed last meeting, mask usage has diminished. Captain Wayne Metz informed the board that the initial "burn rate" of gowns per week was about 220 and the Scout system has reduced this to about 150, while the mask usage is down from 315 to about 275.

Chief Marris discussed alternatives to Tyvek gowns. Captain Metz found disposable rainwear on Amazon that the District is purchasing. This is washable or cleanable nylon. South King Fire & Rescue and other departments have begun sewing their own gowns. The District returned about 1000 disposable gowns due to equipment issues. Commissioner Julie Hiatt is also sewing gowns. The District has Tyvek material and is assessing how many gowns that may provide. A Bellevue medic has volunteered some washable nylon gowns. 50 have been delivered and 50 more are pending delivery. The District has ordered 100 more. These reusable gowns can be washed about 11 times, which leads to a lower cost in the end. The goal is to get a six-month supply of gowns. King County EMS has not provided definitive guidance as to what kind of gown it approves. Chief Marris expressed confidence in the supply of gowns.

There are approximately 1000 masks arriving tomorrow. The cost is about \$4 per mask (up from \$2.00). The District has plenty of gloves.

Chief Marris and Chief Pettigrew are going to Shoreline Fire tomorrow to view their H2O2 atomizer for decontamination. Chair Elwell asked about the system discussed at the last meeting, that cost about \$30,000.

**Personnel.** Chief Marris said there have been 59 District EMT contacts with positive patients. There have been no confirmed positives among district personnel. Four of our EMTs have been tested and determined to be negative. Commissioner Peden asked about availability of testing for District personnel. Chief Marris said the District is not doing tests for everyone at this time. However, the District may, in association with UW Medical Center, be giving antibody tests to see if essential personnel face risks in continuing to perform their duties. He also discussed immunity of persons who have been infected with the virus. There is no concrete evidence yet as to such immunity or how long it might last.

Chief Marris updated the board on the mediation with the union on the random drug testing issue. A conference call was held yesterday, managed by the PERC mediator. It lasted about four hours. This process could be affected by Governor Inslee's orders.

**Events.** Chief Marris said there have been 130 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in Burien. There have been six related deaths. In Normandy Park, there have been only ten cases, but we are still not sure how many in the unincorporated area due to a lack of data. He said that Governor Inslee will soon be updating us on the status of re-

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opening businesses. It is difficult to estimate the number of new cases that will occur if and when the State of Washington “re-opens”.

Contingency planning continues with regard to shortages of PPE, potential spread of illness among first responders, and the duration of the pandemic. This planning includes input from the King County Department of Health and EMS, the Medic One medical directors, the State Department of Health, and the CDC, together with all fire departments in King County. Cities are affected a great deal already. Fire districts and RFAs will be affected by loss of property tax revenue eventually, due to job losses. Some budgetary planning is definitely in order, he said.

District firefighters and many others participated in the Highline Medical Center Appreciation event on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Shauna Sheppard for organizing this event to honor and thank hospital staff such as nurses and other medical personnel. Hospitals are taking financial losses right now due to elective surgeries and other work being postponed, Chief Marrs said. CHI Franciscan delivered meals and a nice note to Station 28 on April 16<sup>th</sup>. SC Johnson Company and CDC Foundation sent boxes to the district with household cleaning and sanitizing products for every employee, commissioner, and our volunteers. Stop by Station 28 and pick up your box and masks.

Chief Marrs said according to Dr. Rea, about 20% of hospital capacity is being taken up by Covid-19 patients in Washington State. Chair Elwell asked where Highline Hospital numbers were but Chief Marrs said that number has not been made available.

The District has purchased about \$20,000 in Covid-19 supplies so far. Chief Marrs said that is about the only “out of the ordinary” expense in the vouchers this month.

**Consent Agenda.** The Consent Agenda, all of which was approved 3-0, upon a motion made by Commissioner Sitterley and seconded by Commissioner Peden, consisted of the Chief's Report, the minutes of the special meeting of April 9, 2020, and the Voucher Approval for April as follows: Expense Fund: No.E20-282 through No. E20-374 in the amount of \$1,201,079.30 due for payment April 30, 2020; and the Construction Fund: No.C20-001 in the amount of \$5,174.40 due for payment April 30, 2020.

**Unfinished Business.** None.

**New Business.** None.

**Executive Session.** None.

**Good of the Order.** Commissioner Peden asked whether the District has supported the City of Tukwila with mutual aid. Chief Marrs said the District has helped there with a couple of significant calls.

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**Adjournment.** It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. At 5:49 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The Check Register with approved claims is attached.

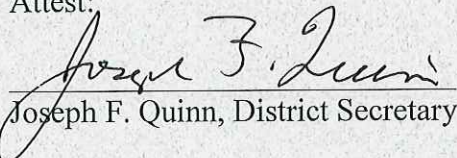
**Attachments.** Attached to these Minutes are copies of:


1. the Meeting Notice
2. the Meeting Agenda
3. the Attendance Roster
4. CHI Franciscan note
5. Covid-19 Expense Tracking List
6. Check Register with vouchers/claims

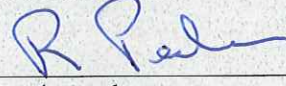
Minutes Approved: May 5, 2020.

  
Chris Elwell  
Chairman

Attest:

  
Joseph F. Quinn, District Secretary

  
Ted Sitterley  
Commissioner

  
Rudy Peden  
Commissioner

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