

HAILEY BLANKENSHIP
Executive Secretary



Martin Spani
Board Chair

STATE OF WASHINGTON
BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS & RESERVE OFFICERS
PO Box 114•Olympia WA 98507•(360) 753-7318•FAX (360) 586-1987•Toll Free (877) 753-7318
Website:www.bvff.wa.gov

April 22, 2024

The 243rd regular meeting of the Board for Volunteer Firefighters and Reserve Officers was convened at 9:00 A.M. in Suite 206 of the James R. Larson Forum Building by Chair Martin Spani, with Board Member Debora Smith, Board Member Brian VanCamp, Board Member Miland Walling and Executive Secretary Hailey Blankenship, Board Member Haglin joined via Teams. Also present via Teams, Kevin Lee and Frank Serra of the Office of the State Actuary and Saurahb Maheshwari of Linea Solutions.

There were no corrections to the agenda.

The Board reviewed the January 22, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes. It was moved by Board Member VanCamp, seconded by Board Member Walling and carried to approve the previous meeting minutes with no noted corrections.

FIRST HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Blankenship provided an update on the database project. While early delays and development changes pushed the implementation back to a three phased approach beginning in May of 2024, user acceptance testing is nearing completion for the first go-live. Line of business, which completely replaces the Access Database for key business processes will go-live in May. The municipality portal will be implemented in July of 2024 followed by the Payroll piece in November of 2024. Currently, BVFF staff are continuing data clean up and are nearing completion of testing and preparation for data cutover. In addition to BVFF staff, Linea has three individuals assisting with product testing. Secretary Blankenship provided a system overview and the Project Manager of Linea Solutions, Saurahb provided a brief overview of the project status and review of the quality assurance report provided by Vivid Co.

With great excitement Secretary Blankenship shared with the Board the IRS private letter ruling was received back with a favorable outcome and the benefit increase and removal of the cap of twenty five payments went into effect on February 1, 2024. BVFF Staff are working through the manual recalculation of all monthly benefits. It is taking a bit of time as each benefit has to be manually recalculated then manually entered into the payroll system then verified and a letter sent. All benefit increases will be back dated to the February 1st effective date. The annual fees will be increased January 1, 2025 to allow for municipalities to accommodate the increase to their budgets.

Secretary Blankenship reviewed two budget items with the Board that were not requested but included in the agencies budget. The first item was for ninety-one (91) thousand proviso to be used for small agency finance services. This service was proposed and included under a recommendation from OFM, Secretary Blankenship explained that this was not a desired request or inclusion as the cost break down balance from an agency perspective. Services in Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable and Budget; Secretary Blankenship is still

trying to determine if it is a required spend. The second item was a fifty (50) thousand proviso to complete a study on presumptive disease data. This project was proposed by the Washington State Firefighters Association and Secretary Blankenship was supportive of and included in those conversations; however, the proposal as included in the budget bill was misinterpreted and should have been put in the Department of Commerce's budget rather than BVFF. Board Member VanCamp moved to not spend the funds under the proviso amount and have the WSFFA resubmit next budget cycle for the project to be proposed and budgeted correctly. Board Member Haglin seconded and it was carried unanimously. Secretary Blankenship will work with the appropriate parties to address this.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board was presented with a Permanent Partial Disability Award for Donald Taylor. Mr. Taylor had a lower back injury on August 1, 2013. For many months he managed the pain with anti-inflammatories then had an evaluation and diagnosis of an extruded disk fragment. In 2019 he decided to have surgery. He quit firefighting at the time of this surgery. While the surgery corrected the back pain the continued and unimproved foot drop are still present. Mr. Taylor does wear a device to aid in symptom reduction but it is not expected that surgery or on-going treatment would correct further. Based on the independent medical examination he was provided a WAC 296-20-280 Category 4 impairment to the right leg. This rating provides a 15% impairment and lump sum payment of \$29,166.99. Board Member Haglin moved and Board Member Walling seconded and it was carried to approve the PPD.

The Board reviewed the Secretary's leave and pay records

The Board reviewed and approved (Smith moved, VanCamp seconded) the administrative expenditure vouchers numbered #03089 through #03178 and various travel vouchers.

There was a motion by Walling seconded by Smith and carried that the retirement pensions and lump-sum settlements listed below be approved effective on the listed dates:

PARTICIPANT	DEPARTMENT	EFFECTIVE	AMOUNT
BYRON ALLEN	ADAMS 7	2/1/24	297.50 J/S
JANET ALLEN	TONASKET EMSD	11/23/23	247.50
ROBIN AMAN	SKAMANIA 1	5/8/23	2004.67 LUMP @60
PATRICIA ANDREWS	LEWIS 5	2/25/24	87.50
ROBERT ANGRISANO	SNOQUALMIE	1/1/24	300.00
STEVEN ALDERSON	WHATCOM 3	5/12/23	4334.27 LUMP
BENJAMIN ARENDSE	SKAGIT 8	1/28/24	4079.31 LUMP
CARL ARISS	SOUTH BEND	10/26/23	6431.65 LUMP @60
DAVID BAKER	WHITMAN 10	10/27/23	238.20 J/S
GARY BARNETT	GRANDVIEW POLICE	1/18/24	3341.12 LUMP @60
DAVE BILISKE	STEVENS 11	11/1/23	300.00
PERRY BLACKEN	MARYSVILLE	3/29/24	91.00
LARRY BOEHM	LEWIS 8	11/5/23	3073.16 LUMP @62
ROGER BYRN	LACONNER	3/18/23	350.00
DOUGLAS CAMPBELL	CLALLAM 5	7/13/23	99.48 J/S
JEFFREY CASALI	COLLEGE PLACE	8/21/23	350.00
DONALD CHRISTENSEN	BONNEVILLE	10/30/22	3569.40 LUMP
BEN CLARK SR.	SKAGIT 10	1/17/24	125.40 @62
TOBY COCHRAN	FRANKLIN 1	5/6/23	250.20 J/S
FREDERICK COON	ADAMS 6	12/1/23	300.00
MICHAEL CUMMINGS	CHELAN 3	6/4/22	4334.27 LUMP

THOMAS CURTIS	SOUTH BEND	12/14/23	210.00 @60
JOHN D'HONDT	STEVENS 5	6/19/2020	66.50
DAVID DRANGSTVEIT	CENTRAL PIERCE	2/15/24	350.00
DOUGLAS DRESCHER	DOUGLAS 4	12/1/23	300.00
DENNIS EDGINGTON	PORT ANGELES	11/8/23	217.50
CHARLESS GALBREATH	SNOHOMISH 16	6/24/23	225.00
GARY GIVENS	LEWIS 5	11/24/23	57.07 J/S @64
THOMAS GOOCH	WHATCOM 4	3/29/24	3824.35 LUMP
JOE GUTIERREZ	YAKIMA 4	10/21/23	195.00
TIM HAMLIN	SOUTH BEND	5/24/23	3168.53 LUMP @61
DAVID HANNA	CLALLAM 2	8/25/22	369.40 LUMP
SEAN HEATH	DOUGLAS 1	9/19/23	6849.62 LUMP @61
LINDA HEGERBERG	WHATCOM 4	10/7/23	2291.13 LUMP SURV
JUDY ANN HENNEMAN	CENTRAL KITSAP	1/1/24	300.00
BOYD HEWITT	FERRY OK 13	11/26/23	251.70 J/S
MATTHEW HIETER	CLARK COWLITZ	1/1/24	350.00
DOUGLAS HINKLE	PIERCE 20	6/2/23	3824.35 LUMP
RHONDA HOENER	SPOKANE 4	12/17/23	195.00
DAVE HORNBACH	MOSES LAKE	6/28/22	87.50
AVA HUBBARD	CARBONADO	4/2/24	295.40 J/S
MARTIN INMAN	SNOHOMISH 16	10/29/23	251.70 J/S
STEVEN JAHN	SNOHOMISH 15	10/20/23	255.00 J/S
MARY JESSOP	ADAMS 7	1/1/24	247.50
TERRY KEITHAHN	THURSTON 12	2/20/20	4079.31 LUMP
RANDOLPH KING	SKAGIT 5	1/1/23	232.50
JOE KITZMAN	DOUGLAS 15	11/20/23	300.00
MARK KNIGHT	FRANKLIN 4	9/24/23	3304.22 LUMP SURV
MARK LAMBERT	WAITSBURG	9/5/23	4079.31 LUMP
CHRIS LOVING	BURLINGTON	12/16/23	350.00
DONNA MANCHESTER	ASOTIN	1/1/24	255.00
LOUISE MARCUS	ADAMS 4	2/16/24	350.00
MARIO MARTINEZ	BRIDGEPORT	10/29/21	173.25 J/S
JOHN MASON	COL/WALLA WALLA	3/27/24	293.65 J/S
SCOTT MCGOWAN	LINCOLN 6	10/11/23	300.00
DEAN MCPHERSON	GRAND COULEE	7/4/23	350.00
SCOTT MORTIMER	GRANT 12	2/21/24	350.00
TERESA MYOTT	PALOUSE	1/8/24	187.50
KENNETH NAFF	GRANT 5	1/1/24	350.00
RICHARD NEVITT	BURLINGTON	2/25/24	87.50
CHRIS O'DELL	YAKIMA 9	1/1/24	300.00
GARRY OSGOOD	FERRY/OK 13	2/23/24	195.00
KIRK PATTERSON	SKAGIT 11	9/1/23	300.00
KENNETH RADON	EAST JEFF.	11/6/18	3824.35 LUMP
SHAWN REDMOND	THURSTON 3	11/5/23	187.50
NEIL RINGEN	SNOHOMISH 15	3/14/24	350.00
JEFFREY ROCK	DOUGLAS 1	12/12/23	180.00 @60
PHILIP RUTLEDGE	THURSTON 11	5/12/21	63.00
JOHN RYLAARSDAM	GRANT 3	3/10/24	253.20 J/S
DOUG SANDELL	PACIFIC 4	1/1/24	350.00
EDWARD SCHOLFIELD	CENTRAL KITSAP	10/30/23	300.00
CARL SCHIEFELDBEIN	SKAGIT 8	12/31/23	251.70 J/S
JEFFREY SKEIE	COWLITZ 6	10/9/23	180.00 @60
JOHN SLOAN	LINCOLN 5	1/1/24	258.00 J/S
JOHN TERRNSTRA	ENUMCLAW	3/8/24	204.68 J/S @61
SCOTT WEYRAUCH	SPOKANE 13	4/27/24	193.55 J/S @64

GOOD OF THE ORDER

The next meeting date is July 22, 2024. The Washington State Firefighters Association is scheduled for May 17th and the Chiefs Conference is the following week.

SECOND HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

None

There was a motion by VanCamp, seconded by Haglin, and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 10:18 am.



Hailey Blankenship, Executive Secretary