

# East Sooke Fire Protection and Emergency Response Service Commission

6071 East Sooke Road, East Sooke BC, V9Z1B2

*commissioners@eastsookefirecommission.ca*

**Commissioners Present:** Vicki Graham, Ed Helm, Wendy Herring, Bruce Manning, Falk Wagenbach (Chair), Al Wickheim, Mike Yeager (remote)

**Absent:** Anita Preto

**FD Present:** Chief Pocock

**Public Present:** 3



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## COMMITTEE MEETING January 15, 1903 hours

### 1. Public Participation on Agenda Items

none

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: Vicki      CARRIED

### 3. Distribution of positions within the commission for 2024

- a. Chair - Falk Wagenbach
- b. Vice Chair - Bruce Manning
- c. Treasurer - Ed Helm
- d. Secretary - Anita Preto
- e. Community Hall Liaison - Wendy Herring
- f. Communications - Mike Yeager

All positions nominated, voted and carried

### 4. Adoption of Minutes from December 18, 2023

MOVED: AL      SECONDED: Wendy      CARRIED

### 5. Reports

- a. Chair's report  
As Per Addendum.

MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: Al      CARRIED

- b. Fire Chief's report  
As Per Addendum.

MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: Vicki      CARRIED

- c. Finance report (Report delayed - waiting for CRD)
- d. Community Hall report (Report delayed - will follow)

## 6. Old Business

*Establish a committee to come up with a plan to address the findings of our fire chief's staff report from November 2023.*

Falk proposed the commission create a committee to examine the Fire Chief's Staff Report, and that the Fire Chief chair that committee. Members of this committee, named the **Strategic Planning Committee** were identified as Chief Pocock (Chair), Anita Preto and Vicki Graham. The committee was encouraged to return to the commission with a report/recommendations within the next months.

## 7. New Business

None

## 8. Adjournment

MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: AI      CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 2050 hours.

Next meeting, Monday February 19, 2024.

## **Chair's report**

### Fire Service Governance Review

CRD has presented the results of its governance review. The CRD staff is seeking input from fire chiefs, associations and commissioners. We scheduled a meeting with Chris (CRD) and Tim (Consultant) for Jan 25, 13:00 at the Firehall. Chief: please block the station's upper floor for this meeting.

### Year-End-Report

The report will be delayed. The numbers are provided by CRD Finance and will be available this Wednesday (preliminary) and the final report will be on February 09.

Falk Wagenbach,

Chair East Sooke Fire Commission

# East Sooke Volunteer Fire Department

## Fire Chief's Report

January 2024

### Membership

#### Roll Call

Interior FFs on pagers:	11
Exterior FFs on pager:	2
FR/Support on pagers:	5
FR/Support not on pager:	1
Recruits not on pager:	3
Total =	22

I have been advised we have two interior members that will be looking to move out of the district by the end of summer. Currently we are at 11 (technically a 4 rating by FUS) 4 under the 15 needed for our current 3a/b rating. This would lower our "fully trained" to 9 if no others are trained or recruited to that level by this point making the district unprotected under FUS regulations.

#### Hours

Membership hours for calls from November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 till :

Calls: 117.5 hours

Training 2023: approximately 1824.5 hours

Training 2024: approximately 167 hours

My hours January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 till January 15th;

Total: 86.5 hours

### Training

EVO training is moving along really well. Most are through their driving section of the training and we are moving into the pump operations moving through the rest of the material for most members to start working on comfort and sign offs February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Looking to engage our members in the next levels of wildfire training in the spring.

Have 3 members going to live fire 2 on the mainland in March. We have live fire 1 and 2 dates for some members currently locked in for Otter point, but these are in April and June. We have several members with this live fire 2 as their last hurdle to completing their full service.

The recruits that were present in July when I first arrived FF. Huth, FF. Scheafer and FF Siebert have all completed their Exterior now and are well on their way to completing interior with forecasted completion date of February for this training.

We have two recruits in the Regional Program currently who have just finished their First Responder Certification and are now waiting on first responder licensing exams.

Creating a department standard is still a need.

## Callouts

Till November 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 till January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2024	
Alarm Bells	4
Duty Calls	2
Hydro	2
Medical	11
MVI	0
Rescue	2
Structure Fire	3
Wildfire	1
Car/garbage/other fire	2
Smoke investigation	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>

Calls since November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 where we have not had the staffing available for response;

Structure fires: 1

Medical calls: 1

Other: 0

## Miscellaneous Items

### Annual maintenance and tests:

Into a new year and a new set of maintenance requirements January will see us looking to flow test our SCBA and ladder testing.

We are currently looking to book ladder testing through Brogan at the end of January and we have not yet found a ladder testing company.

### Community Resiliency Plan

No time to read it yet.

### FireSmart

Is currently on hold from a CRD request to do so.

2 members have taken wildfire mitigation specialist training in the first week of January.

## SPU

No progress has been made on this at this time.

### **Apparatus:**

Still waiting on CRD to update on E2 muffler fix and Tender 2 tank leaks and tank condition.

Squad 1: Have a meeting with Rocky Mountain Phoenix January 16<sup>th</sup>. Have already been informed that even with not specking the apparatus to have a pump or water on board our budgeted 300,000 will not be enough for the replacement.

Tender 1 replacement 2027: Our current Tender one can not be used as a front line tender after 20 years of service. This is in 2027 if we want a new truck by 2027 we will need to start ordering it in the next 10 to 12 months. Currently the standard single axle tenders with a pump are going for around 750,000.

### **Records Management**

No progress made on this at this time.

### **Mobile Terminals**

FF Neilson is looking into this.

### **Projects**

#### **Grant funds 2024:**

**Status:** Coming up

The 2024 grant has come out and I have submitted it to CRD and UBCM.

#### **Benefits for members:**

Discussed with CRD staff they have recommended:

- Wait and see if the CRD can find something to form like the other regional districts in BC to create benefits for Volunteer firefighters.
- Pay members a set amount so that they can use the money to enroll in their own benefits plan.

Still have not heard any more on this.

### **SOG Review:**

**Status:** I currently have not yet had time to start SOG reviews.

### **Training Building:**

**Status:** Progress continues.

Looking to install a fire department standpipe on our hose tower to allow us to train on stand pipe evaluations both as part our required 1001 (firefighter 1&2) and our required 1002 (driver operator)

Main items to complete the training facility:

#1 Stairs from upper C-can to lower : **Completed**

#2 Wooden frame roof section with attic access provisions

- #3 Steel partition layers with wood to simulate walls which can be folded flat against inside walls to change layout of rooms.
- #4 Wired with lights inside
- #5 Finish platform for below level practice.
- #6 Setup Wood stove to give practice for chimney fires
- #7 Being able to make better smoke using a wood stove in the facility.
- #8 Create a hole with hatch on second floor to allow for through the floor training

### **Pre-incident Planning:**

**Status:** Paused

I hoped to get out and do a lot of pre-incident planning but have found it difficult to get out of the office with the amount of work taking place in the station.

### **2024 Grant:**

**Status:** Approved/in progress

The grant has been approved and we can look to start ordering the Hose we need to meet standard as of April 2024. I will try to time the order to get it in April and pay in April. This is a 23,000 dollar grant which will cover just over half of the approximate 42,000 estimated to bring our small hand lines up to standard. There is a larger communal application portion of this grant as well that will go towards a CRD department shared SCBA mask fit test machine.

### **Strategic Planning Committee:**

**Status:** Suggested

The Commission has agreed to the committee but it has not yet been formed. I have been working on some ERF budget solutions and general operating budgets that could hopefully help alleviate many of the current issues and noncompliance East Sooke currently faces.

Community Hall report