



P.O. BOX 213, Vashon WA 98070
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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 14, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Vashon Presbyterian Church, 17708 Vashon Hwy SW, via ZOOM: <https://zoom.us/j/82699377083>

Present: Tom Langland, Position 5, President
Don Wolczko, Position 1, Secretary
Eric Pryne, Position 2
Alan Aman, Position 3
Wendy Noble, Position 4
Tim Johnson, Superintendent

Call To Order - Commissioner Langland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Approve Meeting Agenda** - Commissioner Pryne moved to approve the agenda, which was seconded by Commissioner Aman, and approved unanimously (5-0).

2. **2024 District Budget Hearing – Public Testimony** - Commissioner Langland introduced the proposed budget and summarized the process, followed by a more detailed presentation of the budget and its development process by Superintendent Johnson. After a review of the budgeted revenues, expenses, program & reserve funding, he opened the floor for questions and comments for attendees in person and via Zoom:
 - One attendee asked for an explanation on the medicaid incentive and ‘why AWPHD recommended we do not participate. Superintendent Johnson explained that the VHCD does participate in the program but the AWPHD recommends that the district NOT budget a specific amount of revenues.
 - In response to a question about the ‘investment interest’ Commissioner Wolczko explained that the balance of funds is subject to the rate earned from King County and is not in the control of the District.
 - An attendee asked about the likelihood of ‘Commissioner Compensation’ being an expense in 2024 and Superintendent Johnson explained that it was not known for all commissioners, particularly the two newly elected commissioners.
 - In response to a question about the type of ‘Professional Consulting Services’ expected, Superintendent Johnson explained the purpose of that line item and the plans and potential expenses for the upcoming year, including some unknowns.
 - When asked how the public can and does provide input to the District and Commissioners, Superintendent Johnson and Commissioner Pryne described some of the outreach activities conducted in 2023, plans going forward, and also ways that the public can provide their inputs on the website and email.
 - Participants expressed a desire for more visibility for the meetings and suggested signage at the Church so people know how to find the meetings.
 - Multiple participants requested further information about plans for programs in the coming year. Superintendent Johnson provided some background on the strategic planning process and the top three priorities for the upcoming year, namely: 1) a primary care reserve in the event that the primary care provider departs, 2) urgent care, and 3) behavioral health support, specifically

for youth. The details of these programs are still being determined, but the District plans to be supporting these three priorities in 2024, with an emphasis on establishing urgent care services by the end of the calendar year 2024.

- Another attendee asked about the activities of the District over the past year and how the money has been used. Commissioner Langland explained some of the history and how the tax revenues had 1) paid off the debt from previous years, 2) paid off the real property purchase, and 3) the remainder are on hand to be used for administrative/operational expenses, program funding, or to be held in reserve. Commissioners Pryne further explained that funds in prior years were used for subsidizing NeighborCare and Sea Mar as primary care providers and that those subsidies had resulted in debt. Commissioner Noble further explained the strategic planning and prioritization process and the steps taken to plan urgent care services, for which the funds will begin being used in the coming year and Superintendent Johnson shared that the goal by the end of 2024 was to have urgent care services available at some level, 7 days a week, 12 hours per day.
 - One attendee asked about the land purchase and it was confirmed that the parcel purchased is the empty area next to 'Kathy's. It is about 2.2 or 2.3 acres and can be used for a variety of purposes, possibly an urgent care facility.
 - A suggestion was made to help subsidize services for those who cannot afford them. Commissioner Pryne stated that this issue is being carefully considered as the District plans for urgent care services, so that they are accessible for everyone, including the uninsured. He further explained that primary care services at Sea Mar are currently available to all.
 - One attendee who reiterated the need to increase communication with the public, recommended that the issue is 'messaging' and that the public is now aware of what the District is doing so that it is the role of the Commissioners to communicate to the community directly. Regular updates are needed through all communication channels, including in person.
 - The same attendee recommended that the District look into privately contracted ambulance services.
 - In response to a question about the District's relationship with the Fire District, Superintendent Johnson, explained his regular communications with the Fire Chief and their coordination in regards to their upcoming plans, including the Fire District's Mobile Integrated Health (MIH) program.
 - Another attendee asked about relationships with VYFS and other stakeholders and Superintendent Johnson and Commissioner Noble explained their participation with the groups on the island, particularly the Social Service Network (SSN) and how the relationships and coordination have been strengthened. Commissioners generally agreed with the suggestion that the District can play a lead role in coordinating and supporting efforts of other groups and help minimize overlap. VYFS specifically is expected to play a role in behavioral health programming but cannot address the need alone.
3. **2024 District Levy Hearing – Public Testimony** - Commissioner Langland introduced the action to be taken regarding the levy. Superintendent Johnson provided further detail, explaining that the District does not set the levy *rate* but does decide the levy *amount*. In response to a question about the upcoming year, Superintendent Johnson reiterated that the District is *not* increasing the levy amount in this 2024 budget. There were no further comments or questions.
4. **Adjournment** - Following a motion by Commissioner Wolczko, and second by Commissioner Pryne, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous approval (5-0).

Next Meeting: November 15, 2023 Regular Budget Meeting

Meeting Minutes are posted on the VHCD website after Board approval.