

**Excelsior Fire District Board
EFD Governing Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 29, 2019**

**24100 Smithtown Road
Shorewood, Minnesota
6:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jennings called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Present: Excelsior Fire District (EFD) Boardmembers: Chair Jennings; Vice Chair Labadie; Boardmembers Erickson, Fletcher, and Miller.

Also, present: Excelsior Fire District (EFD) Interim Chief Prillaman; Excelsior Fire District (EFD) Chief Curt Mackey; Deephaven Administrator/EFD Fiscal Agent Young; Excelsior City Manager Luger; Shorewood City Administrator Lerud; Tonka Bay City Administrator Tingley; and, EFD Firefighter McCarthy.

Absent: None

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Labadie moved, Erickson seconded, approving the EFD Governing Board meeting agenda as presented. Motion passed 5/0.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- A. April 24, 2019, EFD Board Work Session Meeting Minutes**
- B. May 15, 2019, EFD Board Work Session Meeting Minutes**
- C. May 15, 2019, EFD Board Special Meeting Minutes**

Fletcher moved, Miller seconded, approving the EFD Board Work Session Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2019; the EFD Board Work Session Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2019; and, the EFD Board Special Meeting Minutes of May 15, 2019, as presented. Motion passed 5/0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Interim Chief Prillaman requested the removal of Item 4B, Report of the Operating Committee for March and April of 2019 as the reports were not available tonight.

- A. Monthly Fire District Administrative Reports – April 2019**
 - i. Call Reports**
 - ii. Firefighter Activity**
 - iii. Firefighter Percentages**
 - iv. Inspection Reports**
- ~~B. Report of the Operating Committee – March 2019 and April 2019~~**

C. Treasurer's Report

Erickson moved, Labadie seconded, approving the motions contained on the consent agenda, as revised. Motion passed 5/0.

5. PRESENTATION OF COMBINATION FIRE DEPARTMENTS & OVERNIGHT DUTY CREWS

Interim Chief Prillaman explained the purpose of this item is to define and discuss combination fire departments and differences between other staffing models. He also reviewed the overnight duty crew implementation.

Interim Chief Prillaman presented the four different types of fire departments across the United States. He explained each of the four different types: Career, Combination, Paid-On-Call, and Volunteer Departments.

Interim Chief Prillaman defined a duty crew and its purpose in the Fire Department. He reviewed the hours of operation with the Board, effective July 1, 2019. He stated there are two firefighters at each station and evening hours are optional with overnight being required. Firefighters will be paid an hourly wage for evenings and overnight there will be a flat rate stipend plus hourly if responding to calls starting in July.

Interim Chief Prillaman updated the Board with the Fire Station Remodel.

Boardmember Fletcher asked if the duty officer will be part of the duty crew at night. Interim Chief Prillaman stated a duty officer would not and is still an additional resource. The duty officer will have a dedicated vehicle at their home ready to respond.

Boardmember Fletcher verified a duty officer would never work a duty crew while on duty as a duty officer. Interim Chief Prillaman indicated that was correct. The Fireman might work a duty crew shift but in essence the overnight crew will always have five, four duty crew members, plus a duty officer.

Chair Jennings asked how this impacted the point system. Interim Chief Prillaman stated he will probably have to have Assistant Chief McCarthy help him with that because he did not know all of the rules off the top of his head.

Firefighter McCarthy stated currently the duty crew is 'X' amount of points per shift because some are three hours, and some are 3.5 or four hours. With the overnight, there was talk about it being a set amount. The member would need to be at the station from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. in order to get the full duty crew shift points. If a call comes in during that time, there would be additional points for being on the truck and for the call.

Chair Jennings stated his understanding of the current system is paid on call, everyone would show up to the Station whether the member got on a truck or not and everyone would still have points with different activities, and things to do to earn additional points. But it seems like the number of individuals coming to the station, if successful, should actually be lower. He wondered if it was going to make it harder for people to earn the points.

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 3 of 12

Firefighter McCarthy indicated the points are kept separate. A call does not earn additional points by coming in and cleaning up if the person is late and misses the truck. To make it fair and consistent, the Fire Department wants to make it even for everyone on the overnight duty crew.

Chair Jennings stated it sounded like the Fire Department will not need to worry about the firefighters hitting their goals.

Boardmember Erickson stated the object of the points and them being a separate event from the actual activities, is to adjust the point basis. If it is found that the overnight duty crews are not replacing enough points to make their goals, the point value can be raised for an overnight duty crew in order to meet the goals.

Firefighter McCarthy agreed.

Interim Chief Prillaman thought it seemed intuitive that if there would be a duty crew on tonight and took a call instead of paging the Fire Department, and having twenty-five fire fighters respond in order to get points, the Fire Department would send two or four and those would be the only ones to get the points. He did not think this will be an issue because the twenty-five fire fighters will get to participate in as many evenings as they want, and it is voluntary with many open shifts. With four people on a shift, there are a lot of things to be had and even with overnight and expanding it to seven nights a week, there will be a lot of opportunity for shifts and for people to make up the points.

Chair Jennings stated he understood and did not think it would be a concern. He thought this was the direction they wanted to head.

Boardmember Fletcher asked what the downside was of allowing the duty officer to work and not working the duty crew.

Interim Chief Prillaman stated it takes the supervisor out of the picture entirely and reduces staff by twenty percent by not having that fifth person that is going to respond to calls between evening and overnight. Most of the duty officer shifts are twenty-four house shifts. The duty officer is also an officer or someone who has shown some inclination that they might be potential officers down the road, which puts a management person in their own vehicle on the street immediately. The idea would be to have a dedicated management person that can establish command, begin thinking about additional resources, and not have them so involved in the task level at any of these calls.

Informational; no action required.

6. PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSED EXCELSIOR FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET

A. Updated 2020 Proposal

Interim Chief Prillaman noted that following the Board discussion on April 24, additional refinements to the 2020 proposed operating budget have been incorporated. He reviewed the progress to date, observations and assumptions used for the 2020 proposed budget along with key financial notes.

Boardmember Fletcher thought it appeared health insurance costs were going down in the budget. Interim Chief Prillaman stated right now that might be an anomaly because there were three people covered under the Fire Chief. He might have made an assumption of only including the new Fire Chief

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 4 of 12

because he did not have data if his family would be included. He noted that number is not correct but will be corrected once more information is received.

Interim Chief Prillaman continued with his presentation, reviewing 2020 assumptions and key financial notes. He asked for Board discussion around the 2020 budget so he can get some direction in terms of next steps and whether or not the Board wants to review this again in another month or is it ready to be brought to the cities.

Interim Chief Prillaman distributed a handout showing the impact to each City. He stated Tonka Bay actually gets a reduction in their Fire District contribution because despite the fact the Tonka Bay's tax capacity increased, it did not increase as fast as the rest of the District. All cities increased in their tax capacity but because Tonka Bay increased at a slower rate, they ended up with a smaller percentage of the total tax capacity than the other cities in the room.

Chair Jennings stated he was not aware of this.

Interim Chief Prillaman stated he was interested in getting direction from the Board on next steps.

Chief Jennings stated he has seen some of the numbers before this meeting. He noted at the last meeting, Boardmember Miller was talking a little about the impact of reserves and it would be okay to use them as long as it was a one-time expense. He wanted to make sure that was still true.

Boardmember Miller stated he heard the discussion that reserves might be higher but there always ends up to be trouble if operating expenses are continually paid out of reserve funds. He wanted to make sure the Board is not putting themselves in that position going forward. If so, that means at some point in the future, the Board will have to have a bigger increase to counter that.

Interim Chief Prillaman noted that is not what is happening. He showed the Board the first five-year plan the Board had a chance to look at. He noted 2020 and 2021 are the only years that money will be taken out of reserves and is a strategic move to get them under the thirty but in the rest of the out years, the balance of that six-year plan, reserves get added. He noted it is not a recurring theme except strategically trying to use it in two years to try to address some of the operational issues. He pointed out that in the overview memo, this does include taking the evening duty crew to six nights and the overnight to seven, which is already in the numbers.

Chief Jennings stated he wanted the Board to be aware that the Chief was cognizant of that and there is actually a point in time where the reserves start to swing back up and the overall annual rate drops at the same time the debt service on the building falls off.

Informational; no action required.

B. 2021 – 2025 Forecast

Interim Chief Prillaman reviewed the assumptions and changes, spreadsheet changes, and personnel detail schedule with the Board.

Chair Jennings thanked Interim Chief Prillaman for putting the information together, noting it is exactly the vision he was looking for. He knew there were a lot of assumptions that could go into an operational budget and what he really liked about this, is that the decisions the Board is making for this upcoming budget year about any changes to reserves, are not being made in a vacuum. There is a sense

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 5 of 12

of what it could look like in the future years and in particular, what he really likes about this, is that it continues to build out the duty crew vision and growth of it.

Boardmember Erickson concurred and appreciated the work done on this, noting it will give the Board a vision five years out that the Board has not been able to do. He has also voiced very strongly that the 2023 bonds belong to the cities and that the Fire District come back and ask for what it needs but not assume to receive all of the bond money. He stated that will change the model a little bit. He noted Deephaven has never denied the Fire District what it needs to operate.

Chair Jennings stated he understood where Boardmember Erickson was coming from and was thinking the exact same thing. From Tonka Bay's perspective, that is certainly how the majority would see it. He thought two things make it significantly more palatable. There is a lot of discussion as a Board about the needs of the Fire Department and what the Board needs to do to in order to provide a good service level and he gets the sense that this captures that intention. It continues to move forward with the vision of the duty crew and what is needed to be successful. What really sold him on this is that in 2024, the debt service drops off and the growth rate drops down to 1.95, which is below inflation.

Boardmember Erickson thought the real key is, and Deephaven's position has been, that the City is highly supportive of the duty crew model and wants to build that out as much as reasonably possible. Deephaven is also supportive of additional full-time staff when the model indicates when that is needed. The prior discussions have always been to add more staff in 2023 when the bond payments are done. He stated Deephaven's position has always been when full-time staff is needed, it will be added but not tie it directly to the 2023 model.

Chair Jennings stated another thing he took away from the Fire Chief's discussion was that it sounds like the Department is actually in the position where it needs additional full-time staff sooner than 2023 and if anything, they are trying to be more prudent in this approach by waiting.

Boardmember Erickson stated what he really appreciated with the presentation is the realization that more administrative services are needed now, more inspection services are needed now as well, and the Chief is literally creating bills to bill the Police Department. He had no idea that the Chief was taking on those type of activities nor did he think the Chief should take on those activities. He thought the real indicator was that there is a need to add administrative supportive help in this 2020 budget and he did not have an argument with that process. This is a huge resource and he agreed completely to model forward with the new Chief how, when, and why the resources are needed. As a Board going back to their cities, there really is a need to be able to sell it.

Chair Jennings thought this model was great because it was flexible and puts them in a position where in the future if things needed to be changed, they can be and will flow through.

Boardmember Miller thanked Interim Chief Prillaman for all of his work on this and the work by staff. He stated the assumptions made can change drastically and he was curious about the inflation rate of two percent because that is below the current urban CPI rate. He wondered how two percent was arrived at.

Interim Chief Prillaman stated he has used that percentage in the past for the multi-year proformas and some will go up more and some less. He noted the one advantage was in organizations like this and the ones the Board members represent, that seventy or seventy-five percent of the costs are personnel. He stated some of this is policy controlled, which makes it easier to forecast.

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 6 of 12

Boardmember Miller stated he appreciated building in more full-time work and efficient handling of administrative duties, which makes sense. The other variable that might affect this is if more full-time staff is needed faster because of market demands on this model. He thought this was a good starting point.

Boardmember Miller stated he was concerned with the cost to replace the building because in the Capital Plan, there is only money put aside for equipment and not for two buildings. He thought this was a good tool to work from.

Boardmember Labadie agreed and thought she would have some questions after reviewing this further. She asked about spending an hour and a half a day on administrative tasks on the learning curve and how much will still be there after the learning curve is caught up.

Interim Chief Prillaman thought there is still a significant number of individual tasks that, at a minimum, are being paid too much for. He stated invoicing and managing the money are a big part of it and if it could be passed onto administrative staff, it would free up three to four hours a day that could be given back to the new Fire Chief.

Boardmember Labadie thought immediate attention needed to be given to that issue and she agreed with Boardmember Erickson on the bonds.

Boardmember Fletcher stated he would suggest taking the \$133,000 out because this building was paid for with bond money and he did not know why a fund needed to be made for a future building. He understood why the amount was in the budget. He indicated his concern is if there are enough firefighters to staff the duty crew on a seven-day basis overnight.

Interim Chief Prillaman stated that was a legitimate concern and he was not sure that forty-one firefighters will, for a long-extended period of time, staff a duty crew like that for four or more years. It was on the list that Fire Chief Mackey will need to deal with. He thought as this organization gains some experience with filling shifts, expanding to seven days overnight and tracking participation will help to answer some questions.

Chair Jennings thought the organization can grow into it.

Curt Mackey discussed his experience as an employee with the Board. He thought building a duty crew in this format makes sense to him.

Chair Jennings thought this item needed to be reviewed further before bringing it forward to the cities.

Interim Chief Prillaman asked if there was anything in the 2020 budget the Board would like to see changed before the June presentation.

Chair Jennings thought if \$133,000 were pulled out and assumed the full bond went back to the cities, it would be helpful to see what it does to the reserves.

Boardmember Erickson stated his city has indicated at meetings that they will want the entire bond back so he was not, at this time, willing to try to change that.

Interim Chief Prillaman stated after 2023 the mortgage will be gone. It would be easy to show, in the two out years, backing the \$133,333 out of both years and target the twenty-eight percent reserve and

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 7 of 12

solve for the city's contribution. That basically gives back the money, eliminates the thirty-year plan to replace the building, strategically sets the reserve target at twenty-eight percent, and solve for the missing piece, which is the city's contribution in order to get there.

Boardmember Erickson indicated his agreement. He thought that accomplishes everything the Board was anticipating.

Boardmember Miller stated for the 2020 budget, he was fine with the 2.95 and he liked the efficiency movements being made to free up more valuable asset to focus on things. He indicated for 2025, there has to be discussion at the Board some point on how to deal with replacing a structure that is depreciating in value. Whether the District starts to build a reserve for that, or cities need to start planning for that, is something the Board needs to make sure people are aware of.

Chair Jennings indicated he was fine with the 2020 budget.

Boardmember Fletcher stated he was okay with it but wondered if there was enough in the budget for a seven-day overnight duty crew.

Boardmember Erickson thought July to December would be the trial period for the duty crew and then it could be adjusted accordingly. He stated Deephaven fully supports the duty crew model. If it is not fully implemented, then that would be a discussion to have at that time.

Boardmember Labadie thought part of the trial period needs to include an assessment presented by the new Chief at the end of the trial period. She stated the Board needs an overview of whether this is working.

The Board liked the 2020 budget with moving the duty officer pay to \$90, which was the original budget amount but would like to review it further before making a final decision.

The Board recessed at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:31 p.m.

7. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Firefighter McCarthy, 17-year firefighter, stated he wanted to talk to the Board about his frustration with the Operating Committee. He stated on April 29th he met with Interim Chief Prillaman and requested a sit down with the Operating Committee. Interim Chief Prillaman reached out to Boardmember Lerud and he did not hear anything for sixteen days. He stated on May 15th he got really frustrated because he had not heard anything and was still frustrated. He stated after sixteen days, he sent an email asking if they could meet and was pushed off. He asked if that was what the organization wanted to put out there to the current members. He stated he eventually got an email back indicating a meeting could be scheduled for June 19th. He stated that is almost 51 days without anyone talking to him. He stated if a fire were to happen in one of the cities, the Chief was gone and had to go through him, and he told them he would get back to them in sixteen days, he wondered how well that would go over.

Chair Jennings stated this is dealing with an employment matter and not a fire, so it is two separate things. He stated typically when receiving Matters From The Floor, the Board generally takes the information in to digest. His understanding is that the Operating Committee meets on a regular basis and it is not necessarily that this deals with him being an applicant or an ongoing employment process, so it was not appropriate for them to engage with him until that process was over. He noted that May

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 8 of 12

15th was the final interview day and he did not think it would have made sense to engage with him prior to that point, which was his understanding. The very next Operating Committee date that is available is the date when Firefighter McCarthy was invited to attend. He understands that there are people in this organization who are concerned and do want to have a conversation with him but he would ask whether it makes sense to have a conversation until the June date.

Firefighter McCarthy thought it was preposterous to have to wait fifty-one days to get a response. He would have liked to have gotten a response sooner.

Chair Jennings stated he was not familiar with employment law so was not in the position to answer the questions.

Firefighter McCarthy stated that was the reason he stepped down as Assistant Chief and was not sure if he wanted to continue being a Firefighter in this organization.

Boardmember Miller stated he did not know the circumstances but wondered if he wanted to talk about the Chief position with the Operating Committee.

Firefighter McCarthy stated that was correct.

Boardmember Miller stated in general, the Organization really tries hard to keep the firefighter in mind for everything in the personnel issues. He stated at the Operating Committee and Board really try hard to think about the firefighters and the effect on them. He appreciated Firefighter McCarthy coming forward and expressing his frustration and stated the Board will have to talk about a way to avoid something like this from happening again as clearly something was missed and caused frustration.

Firefighter McCarthy stated he respected that but there has been no response from the Operating Committee. He encouraged Boardmembers who know nothing about this to ask questions.

Chair Jennings stated this is such a unique circumstance, does not happen very often, and what else makes this unique is that Firefighter McCarthy was an internal candidate. He thought what was important was that perhaps a 'ball' got dropped. He understood Firefighter McCarthy's frustration but he did not think that spoke thematically to how this Board or the leadership approaches the firefighters in general, which is very important to understand. He stated it sounds like Firefighter McCarthy will have an opportunity to address the Operating Committee, but no answers will be derived this evening.

Firefighter McCarthy again expressed his frustration with the delayed response. Boardmember Fletcher stated he was not part of the process but there will be a meeting on June 19th and tonight it is impossible to turn back the clock.

Firefighter McCarthy asked how the Board would respond if he didn't respond for fifty-one days. Boardmember Fletcher stated he would not like it but he was not part of the process and a meeting has been scheduled to sit down and talk about it.

Boardmember Labadie stated she would feel internally frustrated but there are many times she feels, as a Councilmember, she could accomplish things the old-fashioned way over a cup of coffee. However, that is not allowed anymore and there is a reason, the Open Meeting Law. That law allows keeping the public in the know and preventing under table dealings. She stated this is an analogy.

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 9 of 12

Firefighter McCarthy stated this is how the firefighters feel and just saying the Board is looking out for their best interest is not cutting it.

Excelsior City Manager Luger stated maybe a member of the Operating Committee could have sent an email to Firefighter McCarthy. She stated the Committee got the request from the Chief, indicated it was inappropriate to meet with Firefighter McCarthy in the month of April while the hiring process was going on (as he was an internal candidate), and it was presumed that would be communicated to Firefighter McCarthy. Ms. Luger stated she is sorry it was not. She stated the Operating Committee reviewed the request again at their next meeting in May and agreed to meet with Firefighter McCarthy at the next meeting in June. She explained part of the issue was that the request was to meet with the Operating Committee as a whole. That meant the Operating Committee had to hold a meeting to discuss the request. That is why the timeline has taken so long.

Ms. Luger stated if called individually by Firefighter McCarthy, the members would probably have been willing to talk with him individually. The issue was that the request was for feedback from the Operating Committee as a whole. She stated during the process several firefighters called her personally and asked questions about the hiring process, how to go about this or that, and she was more than happy to give them her time. Ms. Luger stated she also talked with Firefighter McCarthy about it early in the process. She stated that is where the issue was, she is sorry that Firefighter McCarthy feels frustrated, and she can understand why he feels frustrated. But, she hopes Firefighter McCarthy understands part of it was that they were trying to meet as an Operating Committee, they only meet once a month and especially during this intense and time-consuming hiring process, and they are meeting with Firefighter McCarthy as early as they possibly can. Ms. Luger again apologized that Firefighter McCarthy felt frustrated and assured him it was not the intent of the Operating Committee to cause that to happen.

Firefighter McCarthy asked them to look into why there was no response. Ms. Luger stated they can discuss that issue.

Tonka Bay City Administrator Tingley stated he would echo Ms. Luger's comments.

8. REPORT AGENDA

A. Fire Chief / Fire District Report

Interim Chief Prillaman noted there was nothing to report.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Updated Emergency Response Times Chart

Interim Chief Prillaman noted that during the March meeting, former Chief Gerber had reviewed the annual report and a chart that illustrated response times that seemed to indicate a significant negative change in response times. The Board had asked that the information be presented in a manner that more accurately reflects the actual performance of the organization. Interim Chief Prillaman stated the 2018 average response time has been broken out onto two charts. What had skewed that number was it included mutual aid given to other jurisdictions. Both 2017 and 2018 were broken out with the mutual aid given and now shows for both years the average on-scene time broken out by duty crew/duty officer, Station One and Station Two, and that the year-over-year change from 2017 to 2018 is not material across any of those.

Informational; no action required.

B. Fire Chief Replacement Update

Interim Chief Prillaman stated the new Fire Chief has satisfied all of the conditions outlined in the conditional offer of employment that included criminal background, psychological, character background, as well as a medical examination. June 24th will be the start date for Curt Mackey. A recommendation has been made to the Operating Committee that Interim Chief Prillaman stay for the entire nine days for transition purposes to help Fire Chief Mackey.

Boardmember Fletcher stated Chief Gerber was really adamant with the difficulty of being the new Chief when he got started with July 4th.

Interim Chief Prillaman reviewed the difficulty of large events and the framework that the Government came out with.

The Board favored whatever the Operating Committee decided relating to the transition process.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. Operating Committee Composition Question

Boardmember Lerud referenced the letter dated May 25, 2019 from Greenwood Mayor Kind and e-mail thread regarding Greenwood's appointment of Boardmember Fletcher to the Operating Committee. The Operating Committee thought it was incompatible for any Councilmember to serve on the Operating Committee and certainly incompatible for a Boardmember to serve on the Operating committee but will rely on the judgement of this Board and if the Board says that Councilmember Fletcher could serve then it probably should be done as a clarification of JPA and amended to reflect that.

Greenwood Mayor Kind was at the meeting to speak to the topic on whether or not it was appropriate for a Boardmember to serve on the Operating Committee. She thought the JPA was quite clear in Section 2.2C where alternate members are allowed to participate on the Operating Committee/ex-officio member and the alternate member is an elected official. In the JPA itself, it states an elected official can serve as an alternate on that Committee. Greenwood Mayor Kind stated if the Board is not comfortable with Councilmember Fletcher, then she would be willing to serve. She noted that both she and Boardmember Fletcher serve on the Administrative Committee and are officially the Chief Administrative Officers of the City of Greenwood. She thought it made sense to have a separate person doing that role.

Chair Jennings understood Greenwood wanting their own representation and having a voice on the Committee. The one question he had, was why Greenwood wants a representative now.

Mayor Kind thought that was beside the point, noting Greenwood deserves to have a seat on the Operating Committee. She stated because a new Fire Chief is being hired, it dawned on the City of Greenwood that there was no representation on the Committee.

Boardmember Fletcher indicated he was very involved with the hiring process.

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 11 of 12

Boardmember Miller stated he thought Deephaven Administrator/EFD Fiscal Agent Dana Young had represented both cities very well. He indicated he did not have any problems with what has happened on the Operating Committee and felt it was Greenwood's right to have a separate person on the Committee. He noticed there were two interpretations of the JPA and thought there needed to be a legal point of view of what the correct interpretation is. He stated the interpretation needs to get resolved and once that is resolved, then a decision can be made.

Mayor Kind stated another item she wanted to bring up is that Operating Committee meetings need to be open to the public and published.

Boardmember Lerud noted the Operating Committee does talk about private things but the meeting is open to the public.

Mayor Kind stated the meetings are not published, are not posted, but need to be.

Excelsior City Manager Luger stated another thing that needed to be addressed as a part of the JPA is that having the meetings open to the public might be problematic. She stated the JPA would need to be changed to make the meetings open to the public and deal with the Greenwood representation issue.

Mayor Kind indicated she would love to find out how a committee of a public body could meet and not be open to the public.

Ms. Luger stated the committee would need to become non-ex-officio members of the Board and would not be approving the bills anymore, similar to a Council staff. The key is that the Operating Committee is defined as ex-officio members. She stated her personal preference is that those meetings remain private and the minutes are published. She would want to preserve the ability to provide emotional support to the Fire Chief private.

Boardmember Miller thought this should be discussed at a work session to come to some conclusion on this.

Interim Chief Prillaman thought if the meetings were to be open, it would significantly handcuff the Fire Chief because some things discussed are not ready for public consumption. If it is moved to require the Operating Committee to have public meetings, then long-term, it will leave the Fire Chief where there is not a relationship with the Operating Committee like he would have now. He stated the Fire Chief needs to have a place where he can discuss some issues in private.

Interim Chief Prillaman indicated he would confer with legal counsel on this.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING

A. Budget Work Session Board Meeting – June 26, 2019, 6:00 P.M., Station 1

Chair Jennings noted the next EFD Governing Board Work Session Meeting is scheduled for 6:00 P.M. on June 26, 2019, at Station I.

EFD GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 29, 2019

Page 12 of 12

13. ADJOURNMENT

Erickson moved, Labadie seconded, Adjourning the EFD Governing Board Meeting of May 29, 2019, at 9:15 P.M. Motion passed 5/0.