

# East Sooke Fire Protection and Emergency Response Service Commission

6071 East Sooke Road, East Sooke BC, V9Z1B2

*commissioners@eastsookefirecommission.ca*

**Commissioners Present:** Falk Wagenbach (Chair), Ed Helm (Treasurer), Wendy Herring (Community Hall), Bruce Manning, Mike Yeager (remote), Anita Preto (recorder),



**Absent:** Vicki Graham, Al Wickheim  
**FD Present:** Captain David Bigelow  
**Public Present:** 2

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## COMMITTEE MEETING March 04, 2024: 1903 hours

### 1. Public Participation on Agenda Items

none

### 2. Adoption of Agenda

MOVED: Ed                      SECONDED: Bruce                      CARRIED

### 3. Adoption of Minutes from January 15 and 16, 2024, meetings

MOVED: Wendy                      SECONDED: Ed                      CARRIED

### 4. Adoption of Minutes from January 26, 2024, in Camera meeting

MOVED: Bruce                      SECONDED: Anita                      CARRIED

### 4. Reports

#### a. Chair's report

As Per Addendum

MOVED: Bruce                      SECONDED: Ed                      CARRIED

#### b. Fire Chief's report (presented by Captain David Bigelow)

As Per Addendum.

MOVED: Bruce                      SECONDED: Wendy                      CARRIED

- c. Finance report  
(Report not final - waiting for CRD 2024 budget approval)  
MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: Mike      CARRIED
- d. Community Hall report  
As per Addendum  
Accepted.

**5. Old Business**

There was no old business.

**6. New Business**

**a. Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be on April 15th, 2024.

**b. Firefighter Appreciation 2024 Dinner**

The appreciation dinner for 2024 will be organized by Wendy and Bruce, with Fire Department coordination by Anita.

**7. Adjournment**

MOVED: Bruce      SECONDED: Ed      CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 20:15 hours.

Next meeting, Monday April 15th, 2024.

## **Chair's report**

### **Chair's Report East Sooke Fire Commission March 04, 2024**

#### **Fire Service Governance Review**

Meeting with Chris (CRD) on Jan 25, 13:00 at the Firehall. Chris presented the plan that he would like to recommend his management and finally the Board of Directors. He asked for and we provided additional input.

#### **Chiefs compensation**

For his first 6 months, our chief provided East Sooke Fire with an unsustainable amount of volunteer hours beside his paid hours. This was mainly because he spends a lot of time training/organizing his Fire Fighters, a job that is usually done by a training officer/instructor. We lost our training officer last year (he works now for Langford Fire). In order to compensate for this the commission decided to (from February on) to pay an additional 6 hours a week. Furthermore, with the chief's December invoice, we will pay out an additional \$10,000.

Taking into account the year-end payment and the additional paid hours, our chief now averages 10.7 **paid** hours per day with 3 days per week in East Sooke.

#### **Squad 1**

The commission deferred the decision to purchase a replacement for Squad 1 until after the Strategic Plan report is complete

#### **Strategic Plan report**

A task force headed by Chief Pocock is working on a 10-year strategic plan.

Falk Wagenbach,  
Chair East Sooke Fire Commission

## Fire Chief's Report

# East Sooke Volunteer Fire Department

## Fire Chief's Report

February 2024

### Membership

#### Roll Call

Interior FFs on pagers:	12
Exterior FFs on pager:	2
FR/Support on pagers:	5
FR/Support not on pager:	1
Recruits not on pager:	2
Total =	22

#### Hours

Membership hours for calls from November 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 till February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024:  
Calls: 172 hours

Training 2024 from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 till February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024: approximately 790 hours

Chief's hours January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 till February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024;  
Total: 315.5 hours

Anita's hours January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 till February 28<sup>th</sup> 2024;  
Total: 148 hours

### Training

EVO training, 5 members have completed all their skills sign offs for driving and pumping and are now collecting their hours to be fully signed off

2 members have completed their Interior examinations and are waiting on Live fire courses which have been booked

1 member has completed Interior service level.

2 Members have completed their Full service awaiting on the paper work to come through officially from JIBC

5 Members have completed BC Wild fires' Engine boss course

2 more FR licenses and one renewal

Creating a department standard is still in progress.

### Callouts

Till November 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023 till February 28th 2024	
Alarm Bells	6
Duty Calls	4
Hydro	4
Medical	16
MVI	0
Rescue	3
Structure Fire	4
Wildfire	1
Car/garbage/other fire	4
Smoke investigation	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>

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

Structure fires: 2

Medical calls: 1

Other: 0

### Miscellaneous Items

#### Annual maintenance and tests:

Into a new year and a new set of maintenance requirements;

- Ladder testing has been completed all passed
- In Service SCBA has been flow tested and passed.
- March we will be looking to arrange the annual back flow testing, fire alarm testing, and Bay doors.

### **Maintenance**

The generator continues to have frequent starter issues and affecting even our refueling pump constantly needing jumping with a fire truck in order to get it started. This means the generator is not reliable to start automatically in a power outage. One the many functions of the generator is to be able to power the overhead doors when crews arrive to quickly be able to respond to an emergency. Currently we are looking in to trying to find fixes to this ongoing issue.

### **Community Resiliency Plan**

Paused

### **FireSmart**

Is back up and running and grant funding has been guaranteed till June 2024. Currently our team is organizing an additional 4 chipper days.

### **SPU**

FF Rebelo has started to inventory the trailer.

I would ask the commission once we have an inventory that this inventory and the trailer be given to BC auctions as per CRD policy for selling assets and we recoup what costs we can for the equipment.

### **Apparatus:**

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

E2 Muffler has been replaced February 28<sup>th</sup>

Squad 1; has been put on hold. I have been advised by the end of March the prices on all trucks from manufactures will go up from 5 to 10 percent. This is the numbers they are getting from their various suppliers which will drive up the cost of the apparatus.

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 axil tenders with a

pump are going for around 750,000. We need to start looking at purchasing this soon.

CRD fleet on February 28 and 29 have completed our annual required commercial vehicle inspections

Looking into E1 muffler diversion to not have the muffler directly exhausting into the pump operator at incidents causing prolonged exposures.

### **Records Management**

FF Neilson is currently working to build in some of the program pieces starting with Equipment checks.

### **Mobile Terminals**

FF Neilson has come back with the following recommendations, and I agree an we will move forward with his choice and recommendation. See below:

“There are 2 tablet options that I suggest:

- Samsung Tab A9+ - \$470
- standard 11" tablet
- no pen
- needs a rugged case to be added

- Samsung Active 4 - \$1170
- rugged 10" tablet
- includes pen

The only benefit of the Active 4 is the pen (the A9+ would be put into a rugged case for an extra \$60). I don't believe that the pen is worth it (plus it will almost certainly get lost).

		Bell	Rogers	Telus	Koodo	Freedom
Samsung A9+	5G tablet (per month)	17.25	16.67	18.75	18.75	16.67
	Plan (per month)	15.00	15.00	20.00 5G	15.00*	15.00*
	Rugged Case + Vehicle Mount	146				

Samsung Active 4	Rugged 5G tablet w/ pen (per month)	33.34	33.34			
	Plan (per month)	15.00	50.00			
	Vehicle Mount	84				

So I propose we go with a Bell business plan with the Samsung A9+.

The suggested mount is the ArmorX. It comes in a variety of mount types. I suggest that the bolt down one be purchased if possible, but we will need to look at each vehicle to determine the best mount option.

We have options on how to initially deploy:

- 1) 1 tablet, kept in radio room, taken by first responding vehicle, tablet mount in all vehicles: \$981 + \$433/yr
- 2) 2 tablets (C1 + radio room), mounts in all vehicles: \$891 + \$866/yr
- 3) 3 tablets (C1, E1, S1), mounts in 3 vehicles: \$491 + \$1300/yr
- 4) 6 vehicles: \$981 + \$2167/yr

I propose option 2 until we get more experience with the tablets and how useful they are.

This does not include installation cost. "

## Projects

### Benefits for members:

**Status:** Paused

It was brought forward to the brigade as discussed in previous meetings with the commission to allow them to have additional funding from the department in order to purchase health benefits for the members. The brigade voted to get the newly elected executive to discuss with the fire chief on what this will look like and explore options.

### Hydrants:



**Status:** In progress

Currently working with CRD water department on discussion the water system replacement and hydrants being installed on a section of East Sooke Rd between Coppermine and Raglan along with Seagirt rd. Further discussion is underway about identifying and densifying the hydrant spacing on already existing water mains in East Sooke, where we see current gaps.

**SOG Review:**

**Status:** Paused

CRD is currently looking to hire in a consultant to review and work with CRD fire departments in the creation of a standard set of operating guide lines for the departments; no ETA yet on this project.

**CDR Emergency Hazmat Team Review:**

**Status:** review is completed and distributed.

Not had the full report read yet. So far 4 recommendations have been suggested and an advisory committee made up of stakeholders will be getting put together to decide which of the 4 options best suits the needs.

**Training Building:**

**Status:** Progress continues.

Looking to install a fire department standpipe on our hose tower to allow us to train on standpipe 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 : **started**
- #3 Steel partitions 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 wood stove in facility.
- #8 Create a hole with hatch on second floor to allow for through the floor training

**Pre-incident Planning:**

**Status:** Paused

**2024 Grant:**

**Status:** approved/in progress

Hose is ordered we got 56 lengths Current ETA is the end of august.

We are looking to find ways to now purchase the rest of the required hose and nozzles (approximately 21,000 dollars) within our operating budget.

**Strategic Planning Committee:**

**Status:** started

Has been formed and had several meetings to date and been working on some documents for presentation. The committee is hoping to have a plan to present early April to the Commission.

## **Community Hall report**

East Sooke Community Hall Group Minutes

January 19 2024

Call to order at 7.p.m.

Present. Bruce Manning, Leslie Leus, Wendy Lane, Wendy Herring, Armin Sielopp.

Minutes of December 15 2023. Moved by Bruce to adopt, seconded by Wendy L. Carried.

Treasurer's report. Leslie presented a draft report as the C.R.D. monthly report had not been sent.

Moved by Wendy L. that the draft report be adopted. Seconded by Wendy H. Carried.

Hall Bookings. Wendy H. No new bookings to note. Regular program users continuing.

Old Business:

Washroom emergency lights are to be installed mid February. New washroom sinks/taps to be installed in the women's washroom and upstairs in the SAR washroom.

Bruce reported that first aid training through St. John Ambulance too costly to proceed at this time. Bruce will look into other training options.

New business:

Wendy Lane provided thermostat instruction labels and applied them to the walls by the thermostats.

Armin to obtain three quotes for a heat pump system to replace the hall baseboard heaters.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37pm.

Respectfully submitted. Armin Sielop