

## **Consolidation Ad Hoc Committee**

April 23, 2008

### **Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 3 PM at the Port Angeles Fire Station.

Members present: Chief Jon Bugher, Volunteer Fire Captain Mike DeRousie, Council member Dan DiGuilio, Chief Dan McKeen, Todd Ortloff, Council member Karen Rogers, Commissioner Dick Ruud, Dan Sterling, Commissioner David Whitney and Lieutenant Kelly Ziegler.

Member absent: Rhonda Curry.

Chief Dan McKeen opened the meeting by thanking those present for their commitment to the process. This is a process that is extremely important and each member of the committee was chosen because they have an area of expertise that will enable a broad perspective to be brought to the table. The entire process will be more effective because of the people involved.

Chief McKeen provided a brief overview of the history of how fire agencies have been working together in Clallam County. Fire agencies in Clallam County are all faced with the same challenges. These challenges include limited resources, geographic isolation and declining revenues. It has been clear for some time that these agencies will need to work together in order to provide the most efficient service possible. To that end, the various departments have gotten together over the years to standardize operating procedures, training and equipment in order to be able to work together more effectively.

The Port Angeles Fire Department and Clallam County Fire District #2 have taken these efforts to the next level in a number of different ways. The two departments have been training together regularly for years and have recently functionally consolidated their volunteer firefighter organizations. In addition, at the beginning of the year, Clallam County Fire District #2 moved their administrative offices into the Port Angeles Fire station. This move of administrative offices has had a number of benefits, including ease of access for the majority of District residents, as well as enabling closer working relationships within the two departments.

Meeting dates and times were discussed. Members were informed that the entire process could take up to 24 months. It was agreed that meetings should last no longer than two hours, and that they should be held on the fourth Thursday of the month from 3 to 5 PM. Meetings will be held in the Port Angeles Fire Department. An agenda will be provided prior to each meeting. It is expected that various speakers will be invited to the meetings in order to discuss different aspects of the consolidation process.

The next meeting will be held at the Port Angeles Fire Department on Thursday, May 22 at 3 PM. The topic of the meeting will be an overview of the functions and operations of the two departments.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Upcoming proposed meeting dates in 2008:

June 26

July 24

August 28

September 25

October – *No Meeting*

November 6

December 4