



**Kitsap 911 Board of Directors Special Meeting on  
April 2, 2024 at 1430**

**Via Virtual Meeting and Kitsap 911**

**ATTENDING:**

**Board of Directors:**

Jennifer Chamberlin - Bremerton City Council Member  
David Ellingson-Fire Commissioner (Chair)  
Becky Erickson- City of Poulsbo Mayor  
Charlotte Garrido, Kitsap County Commissioner  
Sheriff John Gese- Kitsap County  
Clarence Moriwaki – City of Bainbridge Island Commissioner  
Bob Muhleman- Fire Commissioner  
Rob Putaansuu- City of Port Orchard Mayor  
Christine Rolfes- Kitsap County Commissioner  
Katie Walters- Kitsap County Commissioner  
Greg Wheeler-City of Bremerton Mayor (Vice Chair)  
Dusty Wiley-Fire Commissioner

**Staff:**

Maria Jameson-Owens – Acting Executive Director  
Brandon Wecker, Technology Services Group  
Jamie Donley, Assistant Director of Operations  
Barrie Hillman, Executive Assistant

**Absent:**

Michael Goodnow – Bremerton City Council

**Guests:**

Ken Bagwell, Attorney to Kitsap 911

Rachelle Tate

Nicole Jameson

Bryce Odin

Tammy Navarro

Jennifer Andrews

---

**Call to Order:** Chair David Ellingson called the meeting to order at 14:31.

**Public Comment:**

No public comments.

**Excused to Executive Session**

Chair Ellingson indicated that the Board would be conducting an Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 to discuss the qualifications of a potential appointee to fill an appointed position. He indicated the Board would return to the public meeting at 15:05 PM allowing 30 minutes for the Executive Session with the potential to extend. The Board excused themselves to the Executive Session at 1433.

The Board extended the Executive Session at 1503 until 1518.

The Board extended the Executive Session at 1518 until 1529.

**Return to Special Board Meeting**

The Board returned to the Board Meeting at 1529. Chair Ellingson stated that no decisions were made in Executive Session

**Action Items****Hiring Committee on Executive Director Position**

Director Christine Rolfes indicated that our current Acting Executive Director, Maria Jameson-Owens has a lot of support from the Board and there is a lot of support for the staff of the agency.

**Director Rolfes moved to ask Ms. Jameson-Owens to formally continue as the Acting Executive Director while we open the position up to competition and we ask the current Deputy & Acting Executive Director to apply for the position. Director Clarence Moriwaki seconds the motion.**

Discussion:

Director Greg Wheeler asked if it is possible to amend the motion to provide additional options for consideration. Could he amend the current motion to directly appoint Ms. Jameson-Owens as Executive Director with the salary to be negotiated and then both options can be considered up or down?

Attorney Ken Bagwell indicated that because there has been a motion made and there is a second, there is no way to have two main motions at the same time.

Chair Ellingson added that the two motions would be conflicting with one another, and it can't be integrated into one singular motion.

Director Erickson requested that the motion be reframed, so we understand what we are voting on.

Mr. Bagwell restated the motion is to formally appoint Maria Jameson-Owens the Acting Executive Director during which there would be a search for a permanent Executive Director while she is filling that position, and that Ms. Jameson-Owens would be encouraged to apply.

Director Wheeler asked Ms. Jameson-Owens if this motion were to succeed would you consider applying for the position?

Ms. Jameson-Owens answered no and nor would she continue as the Acting Executive Director.

Director Gese asked Ms. Jameson to repeat the last part she said.

Ms. Jameson-Owens repeated, nor would she continue as the Acting Director.

Director Rolfes reiterated that if the Board moves forward with an open hiring position with the vacated Executive Director job, we will not have an Acting Executive Director in the interim.

Director Wheeler confirmed the motion does not have to be reworded.

Director Rolfes indicated that we should vote on the motion as it stands and then we can have another motion after that.

Director Wheeler asked to hear the motion again.

Director Rolfes said it is that we ask the existing Acting Executive Director to continue as the interim Director and we open the process up for a competitive process and encourage the Acting Executive Director to apply.

Director Chamberlin asked to confirm that should we pass this motion we would not have an interim Executive Director.

Chair Ellingson confirmed that is correct.

Director Chamberlin indicated that if we pass this motion to go out for an open search and no longer have an Acting Executive Director do we have a process to appoint somebody new into that role? Or do we have any candidates on the table?

Director Walters indicated that there appears to be a lot of healing that needs to happen for the organization and would like to call for the vote.

Chair Ellingson called for a roll call vote.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Vice Chair Wheeler: No  
Director Garrido: Yes  
Director Rolfes: Yes  
Director Moriwaki: Yes  
Chair Ellingson: No  
Director Wiley: No  
Director Muhleman: No  
Director Gese: No  
Director Walters: Yes  
Director Putaansuu: Yes  
Director Erickson: Yes  
Director Chamberlin: No

**The motion fails in a tie.**

**Director Wheeler moves to appoint Acting Executive Director, Maria Jameson-Owens to Executive Director of Kitsap 911, salary to be negotiated. Director Wiley seconds the motion.**

Discussion:

**Director Erickson requests to amend the motion to include that an open search will occur for the Deputy Director position.**

Chair Ellingson states that the Board is responsible for hiring the Executive Director. All other

employees at Kitsap 911 would fall under the authority of the Director.

Mr. Bagwell confirms that the charter outlines that the Board of Directors has the responsibility for the hiring of the Executive Director. The Board can recommend that there be an open search and participate in the process of searching for and hiring a Deputy Director. The Charter gives this Board a broad grant of authority to oversee the operations of Kitsap 911. It does limit the Board's ultimate hiring to one employee, but it doesn't mean they can't recommend an open search. He confirms it is okay to authorize that a search is done for the Deputy Director position.

**Director Chamberlin seconds the amendment to the motion.**

Director Rolfes shared that it might be more straightforward to have this amendment be a separate motion after this motion.

Chair Ellingson indicated that the Deputy Director position is the next agenda item.

Director Erickson indicated this was acceptable and withdrew the amendment to the motion as long as it is discussed in the next agenda item.

Director Chamberlin also withdrew the second to the amendment.

Director Rolfes asked if any committee of this board interviewed the proposed candidate prior to this meeting.

Director Wheeler answered that the Hiring Subcommittee did not but that he and Chair Ellingson interviewed Ms. Jameson-Owens with some basic questions to learn a bit more and relayed that information to the Subcommittee for consideration.

Chair Ellingson called for the roll call vote and reiterated the motion to appoint Maria Jameson-Owens as the Director of Kitsap 911.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Vice Chair Wheeler: Yes  
Director Garrido: Yes  
Director Rolfes: No  
Director Moriwaki: No  
Chair Ellingson: Yes  
Director Wiley: Yes  
Director Muhleman: Yes

Director Gese: Yes  
Director Walters: No  
Director Putaansuu: No  
Director Erickson: No  
Director Chamberlin: Yes

**The motion passes.**

Deputy Director Search Process

**Director Erickson moves that we direct the Executive Director to proceed with an open hiring process for the hiring of a new Deputy Director. Director Putaansuu seconds.**

Director Chamberlin suggests using the term “recommend” instead of direct.

Director Erickson indicates that “direct” works for the motion.

Chair Ellingson indicated that the Board is putting forth their opinion on what they believe the process should be for hiring the Deputy Director.

Director Wiley asks who makes the decision on who is hired.

Chair Ellingson indicated that the Executive Director will make that decision with the informed consent of the Board.

Director Rolfes reiterates that part of the intention is to help facilitate a smooth transition over time and open this up for the best candidate to be trained toward transition.

Chair Ellingson asked Ms. Jameson-Owens if she had a sense of the board’s expectations in the hiring of the Deputy Director.

Ms. Jameson-Owens indicated she does and reiterated that she has no problem getting input from the Board and Executive committee on the final hire. She indicated that Kitsap 911 has always contracted Dr. De Hicks to help for management positions and will do so with this search. This process has always included components of Board involvement.

Chair Ellingson calls for the roll call vote.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Vice Chair Wheeler: Yes

Director Garrido: Yes  
Director Rolfes: Yes  
Director Moriwaki: Yes  
Chair Ellingson: Yes  
Director Wiley: Yes  
Director Muhleman: Yes  
Director Gese: Yes  
Director Walters: Yes  
Director Putaansuu: Yes  
Director Erickson: Yes  
Director Chamberlin: Yes

**The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Good of the Order**

Ms. Jameson-Owens asked for clarification about with whom she was to negotiate the salary and if there would be a contract.

Chair Ellingson suggested the Hiring Subcommittee.

Director Wheeler consulted with the other committee members who agreed to conduct the negotiations.

Director Rolfes asked if they should consult with Dr. De Hicks on this as well.

Director Wheeler agreed that this could be helpful after we consult with Kitsap 911's Human Resources. He confirmed that Ms. Jameson-Owens would meet with Director Wheeler.

Director Erickson emphasized that any decisions made by the Executive Committee be in the Board packets as well as all disbursements to meet our fiduciary responsibilities.

The meeting was adjourned at 15:59.

***The next scheduled meeting of the Kitsap 911 Board of Directors is June 4, 2024, at 12:30  
Virtually or In-Person at Norm Dicks Government Chambers.***