

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**December 18, 2008**

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The North Highline Fire District commissioners' meeting for December was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Chairman Ron Malaspino with Commissioners Barbara Peters and Wayne Alishokis present. Also in attendance were:

Roger Anderson  
Jerry Blaylock  
Larry Briggs  
Ken DeMan

Paul Fray  
Scott LaVielle  
Matt Lemanu  
Jeff Miller

Charlotte Ryan  
Brian Snure  
Kevin Sykes  
Mark Ufkes

After reviewing the meeting's agenda, Barbara Peters moved to approve the meeting's agenda as presented. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

The Secretary said that she added the words "and left the room" on page six of the November 19, 2008 draft minutes. Barbara Peters moved that the November 19, 2008 regular meeting minutes be approved as amended. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

After reviewing vouchers No. 12001 — 12047 in the amount of \$35,646.47 (accounts payable), Barbara Peters moved to approve them as paid on December 15, 2008. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

After reviewing vouchers No. 12048 — 12069 in the amount of \$74,751.39 (accounts payable), Barbara Peters moved to approve them to be paid on December 29, 2008. Ron Malaspino seconded. (Commissioner Alishokis recused himself from the vote). Motion carried.

After reviewing vouchers No. 12070 — 12116 in the amount of \$292,879.17 (December payroll including electronic transfers), Barbara Peters moved to approve them to be paid on December 29, 2008. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

### Correspondence

- **“Extinguishing the Flames of Liability” Seminar**

The workshop was held Monday, December 8 at the Shoreline Fire Department

### Public Comment

Mark Ufkes (a local citizen) gave each board member a jar of “White Center” honey, and said that the bees fly to both Burien and Seattle.

### Commissioner’s Report

Commissioner Peters thanked Battalion Chief Anderson for braving the snow and ice to bring her to today’s meeting.

Commissioner Alishokis reported that the mediation session between the Cities of Seattle, Burien, King County, Fire District 2 and North Highline are complete, and this topic will be discussed later in the meeting.

### Local #1810 Report

Larry Briggs (Treasurer) said they are looking forward to settling the two MOU’s.

### Local #3780 Report

None

### Chief’s Report

- **2009 Legislative Bulletin**

Chief LaVielle handed out a list of the Washington State Fire Chiefs’ Association’s top 10 legislative goals for the new session. Commissioner Alishokis asked if the LEOFF 2 non-payment issue would be a priority in the new session. The Chief replied that he didn’t know, but he would look into it.

- **2008 Finance Reports**

The Chief handed out copies of the North Highline Fire District fund balance reports through November 30, 2008.

- **Assistance to Firefighters Grant**

We ordered three MSA Thermal Imaging Cameras from SeaWestern after receiving input from the crews. BC Anderson explained that we ordered the cameras off of the state bid, and they should arrive sometime in January.

- **December Training Calendar**

The Chief handed out copies of this month's classes, drills, and tours to finish the year.

- **Additional Training**

- Incident Command Training is complete for all shifts.
- We participated in the Zone 3 confined space rescue drills (an annual requirement) in Kent earlier this month.

- **Local 3780 Negotiations**

Chief LaVielle reported that the Battalion Chief's 2009 contract has been wrapped up and is ready to be signed.

- **Department Personnel**

- A lieutenant who injured himself off duty has been cleared by his physician to return to work December 24.
- A firefighter had surgery and will not be back until late January 2009.
- A lieutenant who injured himself off duty has had surgery, and he may be off as long as six months.
- The Seattle PI will be publishing a story (possibly on December 25) on our successful CPR call of September 29, 2008 (C shift responded).
- Firefighter Mair resigned from the volunteer program effective December 10.
- One of our newest recruits did not finish the Volunteer Recruit Academy and has resigned.

- **Events Attended**

November 29	Andy McDonald 1st Annual Scholarship Soccer Game
December 1	Glen Acres Condo's Town Meeting
December 2	Bernie & Boys' Steve Cox Remembrance
December 4	NHUAC Meeting
December 6	Renton Fire & Emergency Services "Fire Ball"
December 10	Mitigation Meeting
December 14	Volunteer Recruit Academy graduation

- **Upcoming Events**

December 18	5:30 PM	Mt. View Elementary Winter Festival
December 19	5:00 PM	Boys & Girls' Club Winter Celebration & Spaghetti Dinner
December 20	5:30 PM	NHFD Annual Children's Party
December 23	8:00 AM	Christmas Outreach deliveries (in conjunction with KCFD 2)
December 25		Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays!
January 5	6:30 PM	Randy Terlicker Memorial Dinner (at Holy Family)
January 6	6:30 PM	City of Burien's Annexation Open House: Shorewood Elementary School
January 21	6:00 PM	Northwest Burn Foundation volunteer recognition
January 31	6:00 PM	Exchange Club Annual Dinner & Auction
February 12	6:30 PM	City of Burien's Annexation Open House: Boulevard Park Library
February 21	6:00 PM	Northwest Burn Foundation Awards Dinner @ Salty's (we're receiving an award)
March 8	9:00 AM	Columbia Center Firefighter Stair Climb
March 22	11:00 AM	Columbia Center Civilian Stair Climb

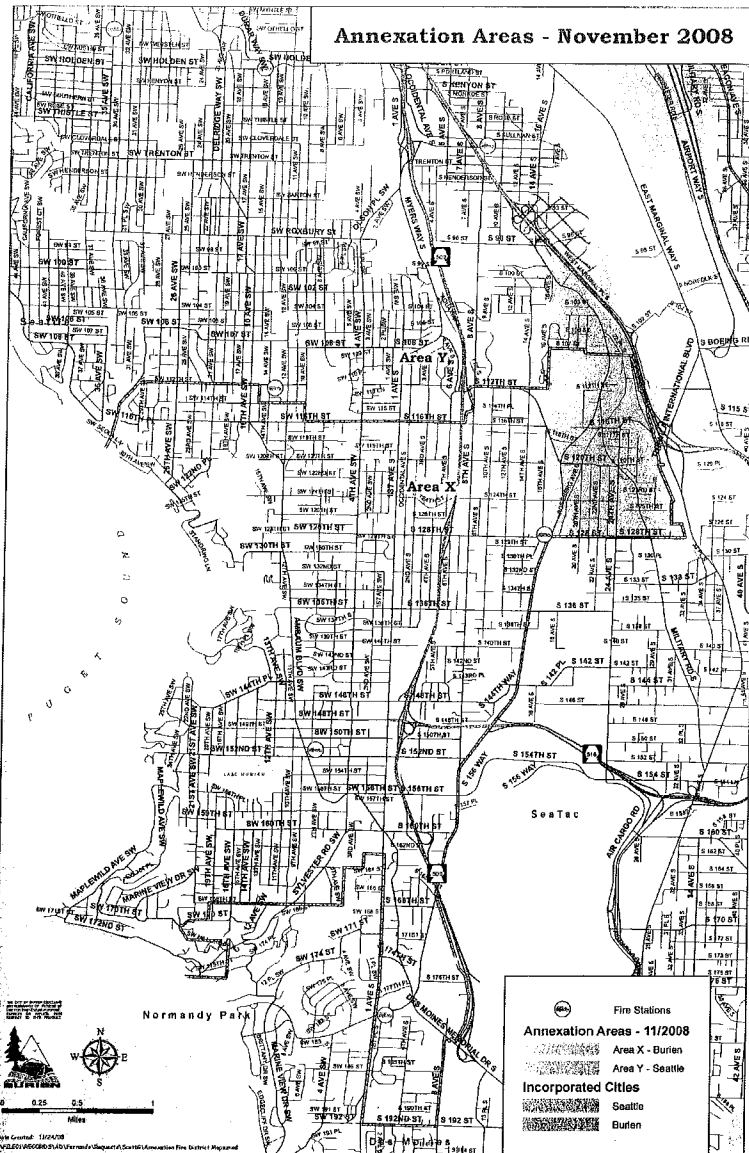
Commissioner Peters asked if we will be ordering bullet-proof vests because FEMA denied our request under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. Chief LaVielle replied that we have budgeted to purchase them out of the 2009 capital fund, and hope to order them the first quarter of next year.

#### Attorney's Report

None

#### Unfinished Business

Chief LaVielle reported that the mediation meetings of November 6, November 20, and December 4 were very productive. The City of Burien agreed to remove Station 18 from their PAA and pursue annexation only in area X (see map). The City of Seattle agreed to pursue annexation only in area Y. The cities also agreed to allow Seattle to receive a sales tax benefit capped at \$5 million (the same for each city).



Fire services in the area would remain the same, and we will continue to provide service to the northern portion of Burien through the contract with Fire District 2 until its expiration January 2012.

The Chief and Chairman Malaspino have met with District 2 (and will meet again in January) to discuss various options to restructure the contract. No matter who annexes the area, North Highline Fire District will cease to exist; and we need to gear up for that.

To that end, all parties agreed that all current fire district employees shall be transferred to Fire District 2 or the City of Seattle.

Chief LaVielle presented a memorandum of understanding and a letter of support agreeing to the negotiated MOU.

An in-depth discussion was held regarding maintaining the current level of service to our

citizens, the future of district employees, fire station staffing, equipment and asset transfer issues, and LEOFF 1 liabilities. Wayne Alishokis moved to support the North Highline memorandum of understanding. Barbara Peters seconded. Motion carried. The Board signed the letter of support, and Chairman Malaspino signed the MOU.

Chief LaVielle then presented revised Policy #2716 (Administrative Salaries), which was amended to include education incentives for non-represented employees as requested by Chairman Malaspino at the last meeting. Commissioner Alishokis recused himself from this subject. After a brief discussion, Barbara Peters moved to adopt revised Policy #2716. Ron Malaspino seconded. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the LEOFF 1 long-term disability insurance. Again, Commissioner Alishokis recused himself from the subject. At issue was whether the district should continue with the long-term disability insurance policy, which only covers half of our LEOFF 1's, or place the insurance premiums in an interest-bearing account for use when needed. After discussing the matter, both Chairman Malaspino and Commissioner Peters decided to keep the long-term disability insurance policy.

The meeting recessed at 9:24 a.m.

## 2009 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING



Chairman Malaspino called the 2009 Public Budget Hearing to order at 9:24 a.m.

Chief LaVielle explained that the 2009 budget process began months ago. The budget presented today was prepared after receiving input from department members, unions, and administration.

Chairman Malaspino opened the floor for questions regarding the 2009 proposed budget.

Mark Ufkes (a local citizen) asked for clarification on the following expenses:

Mr. Ufkes' Question:	Chief LaVielle's Reply:
What is Dispatch Service?	NHFD contracts with Valley Communications Center to dispatch our 911 calls. They charge us a set amount for each call they handle.
What is LEOFF 1 Retirees?	By state law, the district is responsible for all medical expenses. NHFD has eleven active and retired personnel in this plan.
What is Volunteer Reimbursement?	NHFD volunteer firefighters are paid on a point system for attending drills, sleep nights, and responding to calls. Each point is worth a dollar amount, which is paid to them twice a year.

The Board was presented with Resolution No. 423 (2009 budget). Barbara Peters moved to adopt Resolution No. 423. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

Chairman Malaspino closed the budget hearing at 9:40 a.m.



Chairman Malaspino reconvened the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners at 9:40 a.m.

#### New Business

A discussion was held regarding the regular monthly meetings. Chairman Malaspino asked the remaining board members if having one regular meeting a month was working out. Both Commissioners Alishokis and Peters stated that they felt one meeting a month was adequate, and they could call for a special meeting if one were needed. After further discussion, Barbara Peters moved to continue holding one regular meeting a month on the third Tuesday of the month at 8:00 a.m., and review the decision at the end of six months. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

#### Good of the Order

Chief LaVielle read a letter from NHUAC Vice-president, Barb Peters, thanking us for our help and attendance at the Steve Cox Memorial Dinner/Auction.

#### Executive Session

An executive session was called at 9:45 a.m. for approximately 30 minutes to discuss a personnel matter (per RCW 42.30.110 [g]) and negotiations (per RCW 42.30.240).

The executive session was extended for an additional 10 minutes at 10:15 a.m.

The executive session was extended for another 10 minutes at 10:25 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:42 a.m.

Barbara Peters moved to accept the negotiated contract with IAFF Local #3780. Wayne Alishokis seconded. Motion carried.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Secretary of the Board

  
Chairman, Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner