

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**April 28, 2014**

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A special meeting of the North Highline Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairman Ray Austin with Commissioners Liz Giba and Julie Hiatt present. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss budget, revenues and finances to include, but not be limited to, the discussion and possible action regarding Fire Benefit Charges under Chapter 52.18 RCW. Also in attendance were Barbara Dobkin, Mike Marrs, Bob Price, Pat Price, Charlotte Ryan, and Brian Snure.

Chairman Austin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Liz Giba moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Julie Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

Chief Marrs handed out a King County Elections calendar showing the dates when documents must be submitted to King County for the August 5 election. The Ballot Resolution is due May 9, the Explanatory Statement and Pro/Con Committee appointments are due May 13, statements "for and against" are due May 19, and rebuttal statements are due May 21. Commissioner Giba asked when the ballots would be mailed out. Brian Snure (department attorney) replied that they will be mailed out on July 16.

Draft Resolution No. 466, which authorizes the District to place a benefit-charge measure on the August 5 ballot, was provided to the Board at the last meeting. Mr. Snure made one revision to the document; so it now states that a public hearing will be held at least ten days prior to the date of election instead of setting a specific date. None of the Board members had any further questions regarding the revised document.

Chief Marrs then shared the ballot measure's Explanatory Statement as drafted by Mr. Snure. Again, the Board was satisfied with the content and said they had no additional questions regarding the document.

Commissioner Giba said that she has been reviewing the spread sheets which detail the effects of using a benefit charge to help finance the District. She said they were very helpful and thanked the Chief for providing them.

Commissioner Austin reported that he and Chief Marrs met with Kenny Pittman (City of Seattle Senior Policy Advisor) earlier today to discuss the financial impacts of Seattle's proposed annexation of the Sliver and Delta Triangle areas. As reported at the last meeting, Seattle has agreed not to seek an asset transfer of North Highline's assets and to pay North Highline an amount equal to the current property tax revenues (\$1.50/\$1,000 assessed value). We counter offered their proposal today and asked, should the measure pass on the August ballot, to be reimbursed for an amount equal to the benefit charge. We will also need to negotiate the loss of our EMS Levy money in the annexation areas.

The Board then discussed Seattle's annexation timeline. They will probably present their proposal to the Boundary Review Board (BRB) sometime within the next three months and place the measure on either the November 2014 or an early 2015 ballot. If it passes, Seattle will probably set an annexation date for sometime in 2015.

Commissioner Giba expressed her concern that if we don't agree to an interlocal agreement (ILA) with Seattle in a timely manner, we may not have enough time to prepare for the BRB hearing. Mr. Snure said he believes that Seattle has the incentive to satisfy our financial needs in return for not opposing the annexation. Chief Marrs added that he sees no benefit for Seattle to stall on this issue.

After concluding the discussion on the District's finances, the following motions were made:

Liz Giba moved to adopt Resolution No. 466 regarding the fire benefit charge. Julie Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0). A copy of the Resolution is on file with the minutes.

Liz Giba moved to approve the Explanatory Statement as drafted by legal counsel. Julie Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0). A copy of the Explanatory Statement is on file with the minutes.

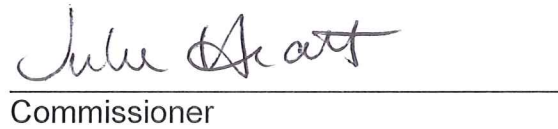
Liz Giba moved to authorize staff to appoint a pro/con committee if citizens volunteer to serve. Julie Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

As there was no further business, Julie Hiatt moved to adjourn. Ray Austin seconded. Motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Secretary of the Board

  
Chairman, Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner