

NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



August 24, 2010

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of North Highline Fire District for August was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Wayne Alishokis with Commissioners Ray Austin and Rob Spreier present. Also in attendance were:

Roger Anderson
Amy Benner
Jamie Cissell
Bob Lawson
Gill Loring

Ed Marrs
Steve Marstrom
Bill Price
Pat Price
Rob Richards

Charlotte Ryan
Brian Snure
Kurt Zimmerman

Ray Austin moved to approve the meeting's agenda as presented. Rob Spreier seconded. Motion carried.

Ray Austin moved that the minutes of July 19, July 20, July 27, and August 5, 2010 be approved as presented. Rob Spreier seconded. Motion carried.

King County Voucher Approvals

- No. 08001 — 08047 in the amount of \$34,069.54 (accounts payable as paid on August 16, 2010)
- No. 08048 – 08076 in the amount of \$101,480.54 (accounts payable to be paid on August 30, 2010)
- No. 08077 — 08121 in the amount of \$338,497.51 (August payroll including electronic transfers to be paid on August 30, 2010)

After reviewing the vouchers, Ray Austin moved to approve them as presented. Rob Spreier seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

Pat Price handed out announcements to a free neighborhood barbeque which will be held on Saturday, August 28 at Lakewood Park. She thanked North Highline for allowing a fire truck to attend the event. She explained that the barbeque is to bring the community together, be aware of water safety, and clean up Lake Hicks.

She then spoke about the Technology Access Foundation (an alternative school serving underprivileged children). She happily reported that they will be breaking ground next spring to build a campus in the North Highline area.

Commissioners' Report

Commissioner Austin reported that while he was given approval to send a letter to Local #1810 requesting the opening of certain articles of the Firefighters' Contract, he has held off because it looks like Chief Marstrom will be addressing the same issue. Chairman Alishokis agreed and asked that Commissioner Austin to get together with Chief Marstrom to let him know what had been done so far.

Local #1810 Report

Bob Lawson, Union Vice-president, thanked the Board for hiring Chief Marstrom. He said that he looks like a good fit for our department, and the Union is looking forward to working with him.

Local #3780 Report

Roger Anderson also welcomed Chief Marstrom on behalf of the Battalion Chiefs' Local.

Chiefs' Report

Chief Marstrom reported on the following:

- **2010 & 2011 Budgets**

We are in the process of reviewing and amending the 2010 budget. We will be over budget on a number of line items which will affect the 2011 carry over.

Commissioner Spreier asked about the status of the grants we applied for. BC Anderson replied that we were denied the SAFER grant, and we won't hear anything until next year on our request for new radios. He said he would be getting together with the Chief to budget for matching funds in next year's budget.

We are also beginning the 2011 process and a memo to "all the troops" will be sent out the next day or so. Chief Marstrom explained that the process will be different from past years, and he hoped it's not too much of a culture shock.

- **Lt. Leshner Grievance**

The case has been settled, Lt. Leshner paid, and the issue is done. Commissioner Spreier asked if interest was also paid. The Chief replied that it was. Commissioner Spreier was concerned for the interest rate. Mr. Snure pointed out that we don't have control over the rate, and to challenge it would cost more than the amount of interest.

- **WFOA Annual Conference**

This year's conference will be held in Pasco, and Chief Marstrom encouraged all Board members to attend. Commissioner Spreier said he would like to go but would defer to the Chief attending as the budget allows. Chief Marstrom replied that he had a conflict and would not be able to go to the conference.

- **Legal Counsel at Board Meetings**

A discussion was held whether the department attorney should attend every Board meeting. Chairman Alishokis said that he wanted Mr. Snure here while we work through some of the District's issues. Commissioner Austin suggested we try "walking on our own." Commissioner Spreier said we should leave it as is. After further discussion, it was decided that no changes would be made at this time.

- **Asset Transfer**

The Chief deferred to Commissioner Spreier who reported that Chiefs Marstrom and Marrs, BC Fray, Charlotte, and he met with Bill Fitchitt last week. Mr. Fitchitt produced a draft valuation report effective March 31, 2010 (annexation occurred April 1, 2010), and Commissioner Spreier authorized a progress payment per the contract.

He stated that the bottom line in the report was larger than he thought it would be. Changes to the draft report will include removing of the Antique Fire Truck and adding the limited bond liability. Chief Marstrom added that the asset transfer should include both hard and soft (money and fixed) assets.

- **Department Staffing**

BC Anderson reported that A shift has one employee off on disability. FF Cissell, who has been on light duty, will move from B to A shift when he returns to full duty on September 1. FF Cruz has been assigned to B Shift. Two employees are on disability on C Shift, but one will report for light duty effective September 1.

- **Consent Agenda**

Chief Marstrom requested the Board consider revising the agenda to include a "Consent Agenda" where certain items are grouped together and approved with one motion. A small discussion was held on the topic after which Ray Austin moved to try a Consent Agenda for the next 90 days. Rob Spreier seconded. Results of the vote were: Chairman Alishokis, nay; Commissioner Austin, aye; Commissioner Spreier; aye. Motion carried.

- **Chain of Command**

Chief Marstrom asked that the Board think about designating a "go-to" person to be in charge of the District when he is on vacation and unavailable. A discussion was held regarding how other departments handle this issue; but because we don't have an assistant or deputy chief, our situation is a little more complicated. Commissioner Austin instructed Chief Marstrom to work with the Battalion Chiefs to come up with a solution to this issue.

Attorney's Report

No report.

Unfinished Business

Chairman Alishokis brought up the topic of Seattle Fire Department's offer to send Ladder 13 on structure fires that occur in our area (see minutes of 6/14/2010). He said that we have a resource available to us that won't cost us any money, and we should take a hard look at it.

Chief Marstrom asked the Board what prompted this issue to come up because they've always been available to us if requested. He asked what's different today than a year ago. Commissioner Austin replied that they are now stationed in West Seattle, which they would like to make permanent. One of the ways they can accomplish this is by running more calls, so they've offered to run calls in our District.

After further discussion, Chief Marstrom stated that this is an operational matter. He said that the Board sets policy and identifies the level of service, and it's his job (as Chief) to meet those expectations. He stated that he would like to look into the Seattle

ladder issue and report back to the Board how it applies to us operationally. The Board agreed.

New Business

Chief Marstrom handed out a revised voucher authorized signatures form for the Board to sign (removing Chief LaVielle and adding himself).

He then stated that our actual practice has not reflected the requirements of Resolution No. 433 (authorization of mid-month vouchers). To correct this, we will only process those vouchers which would incur late fees or interest penalties mid-month.

A small discussion ensued regarding the voucher approval process. Chief Marstrom stated he will identify a few options to deal with the issue and bring those options to the Board at the next meeting.

Chief Marstrom reported that because the LOU's with each of the Unions were conditioned upon an administrative contract with District 2 (which didn't transpire), the validity of them may be in question. He requested authority from the Board to enter into negotiations with Locals #1810 (specifically regarding collective bargaining agreement issues and the letter of understanding) and #3780 (specifically regarding the letter of understanding).

Chairman Alishokis stated that this topic will be discussed in Executive Session.

Good of the Order

None

Executive Session

An executive session was called at 11:05 a.m. for approximately 30 minutes to discuss a personnel issue per RCW 42.30.110(g), and labor negotiations per RCW 42.30.240.

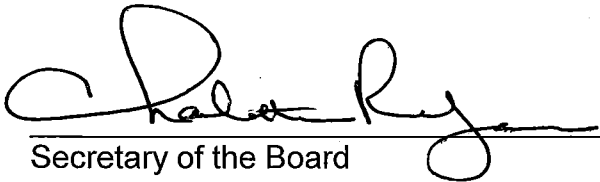
The executive session was extended for an additional 25 minutes at 11:35 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at noon.

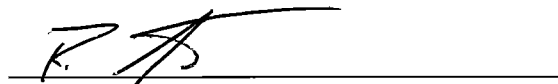
Ray Austin moved to give Chief Marstrom authority to open the LOU's with Locals #1810 and #3780 and negotiate limited articles with Local #1810. Rob Spreier seconded. Motion carried.


As there was no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary of the Board


Chairman, Commissioner


Commissioner


Commissioner