

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**February 24, 2020**

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The regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for February was called to order at 6:11 PM by Commissioner Julie Hiatt with Commissioner Dominic Barrera in attendance and Commissioner Liz Giba participating via conference call. Also in attendance were Chief Mike Marrs, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, Shauna Sheppard, and Attorney Brian Snure via conference call for the executive session.

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- A 30-minute Executive Session was called at 6:13 PM per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss potential litigation.
- The regular meeting resumed at 6:43 PM.

## Meeting Minutes

Dominic Barrera moved to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2020 regular meeting. Liz Giba seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

Dominic Barrera moved to approve the February accounts payable vouchers as follows:

- 2002001 to 2002010 in the amount of \$292,647.74 (February month-end vouchers)

Liz Giba seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

### Correspondence

- Letter from Firefighter Tony Rosenthal's attorney

### Public Comment

- None

### Commissioners' Report

Commissioner Giba reported that the fireworks legislation sponsored by Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon did not make it out of the House of Representatives so we will have to try again next year. King County Councilman Joe McDermott has been invited to NHUAC's May meeting. Commissioner Giba will follow up with him about the ordinance banning fireworks he will be sponsoring in the King County Council. Chief Marrs forwarded a letter Executive Dow Constantine requested from King County's Fire Marshall in support of the county's proposed fireworks ban.

Commissioner Barrera asked about Legislative Day in Olympia. Commissioner Hiatt said it was a good day with many items on the docket. The fireworks ban bill had a great deal of support although there were not many people from King County talking about it. We will need to get WFCA's support early for the next session. Due to changes in dealing with Public Records Requests and the impacts of those changes on legislators' staff, we can no longer leave paper supporting bills or topics of issue for legislators. E-mail and leaving business cards are the best options.

### IAFF Local #1461

- None

### Financial Reports

- The Board received copies of the January 2020 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports.
- Hawthorne & Co. Update – The accounting firm conducted a two-month review (through October 2019) of the bills and will continue a two-month review process. Our goal, at the six-month mark, is to evaluate the financial model to see if it is holding as projected and if the categorization of the system is aligned. We are planning to have a mid-year review between both boards to review the financials.

### Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- Update on Peer Support – We continue to move forward. We had a special presentation with veterans to better understand navigating the VA programs and how best to move forward in the job as a firefighter and beyond. This was a group session discussing emotional impacts that arise from both military and fire service careers. We expect that Colleen Hilton will partner with our Peer Support Team and help guide us through building this program.

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- Update on MIH/Cares Car – There does not seem to be a direct correlation with the LEAD Program (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) because we will be focusing on different parts of the population. The patients we see are more medically related versus crime or drug related, so our initial overview is that our low-acuity calls are centered on care facilities rather than homelessness, drug, or mental health issues.
  - Billing for A318 Upstaffing – We are looking at standardizing the rates to streamline the billing process. The current process is very cumbersome and time-consuming. It is unduly impacting the payroll process.

#### Attorney's Report

- None

#### Unfinished Business

- The 2020 Fire Benefit Charge review of appeals as per the outlined appeals list attached hereto. There are six formal appeals. The first two are based on overvaluation by King County Assessor, three are sprinkler discount requests, and one is requesting a senior discount that is currently in progress with King County. Dominic Barrera moved to approve items 3, 4, 5, and to not grant items 1, 2, 6 on the outline appeals list. Commissioner Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

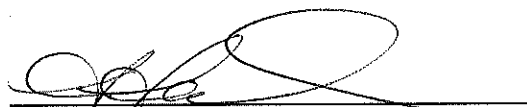
#### New Business

- Discussed the scheduling for the upcoming vote on renewal of the Fire Benefit Charge (FBC). The commissioners agreed that August will be a good time. We have the general election in November if need be. The commissioners agreed that they want to prepare an informational mailer. Work will need to start on that soon. Outreach efforts such as Chief's speeches for NHUAC, Rotary, Kiwanis and other civic groups are also a great opportunity to educate the community on the FBC and its benefits.

#### Good of the Order

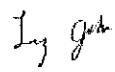
As there was no further business, Dominic Barrera moved to adjourn. Liz Giba seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



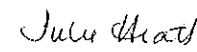
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Secretary of the Board



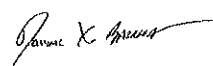
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Chairman, Commissioner



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Commissioner



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Commissioner