

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**April 26, 2021**

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for April was called to order via GoToMeeting (virtual online meeting) at 6:00 PM by Commissioner Liz Giba with Commissioner Julie Hiatt and Commissioner Dominic Barrera participating. Also attending via GoToMeeting were Chief Mike Marris, Captain Wayne Metz, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, and Shauna Sheppard.

Chief Marris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hiatt moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hiatt moved to accept the minutes of the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 regular meeting as presented; Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

Commissioner Hiatt moved to approve the April 2021 accounts payable vouchers as follows:

- 2140101 to 2140102 in the amount of \$382.24 - (April vouchers)
- 2140201 to 2142104 in the amount of \$277,682.57 - (April month-end vouchers)

Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Correspondence

- None

## Public Comment

- None

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Commissioner's Report

Commissioners Hiatt and Giba have conflicts that will prevent them from testifying at tomorrow's King County Council hearing on the proposed ban on fireworks in unincorporated King County. Commissioner Barrera will try to participate but has work commitments. Chief Marrs expects that there will be plenty of testimony in support of the ban. Either Chief Marrs or Assistant Chief Pettigrew will testify. Commissioner Hiatt still intends to turn in receipts for the 2021 FBC flyers.

Local #1461

- None

Financial Reports

The Board received copies of the March 2021 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports. All is tracking well. Our contract with King County Fire District #2 is aligning with what was budgeted. We will continue quarterly reporting with Hawthorne Accounting as they do not have concerns about the accounting they have reviewed so far.

Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- COVID-19 Update – The cases continue to climb. Based on today's numbers, we could be moved back to Phase 2. The numbers of those with COVID-19 have shifted. The highest case count is in the 40-60 age group. The death rate remains low. Eight variants are being tracked in King County. The UK variant is prolific in our area. The new strains are 50-70% more contagious than the original virus. There is some good news. The vaccines are working against these variants of COVID-19.
- Vaccinations -- Our mobile vaccination teams have done an outstanding job reaching out to adult family homes and home bound seniors. We have vaccinated 94% of the adult care homes, the most vulnerable group in our community. The pause in Johnson & Johnson vaccine slowed down our mobile vaccinations. Since going back to the Moderna vaccine, we have continued at a steady pace. The mobile vaccination efforts will be winding down in the next four to six weeks. Those who have been assisting in the mobile effort will move to the mass vaccination/drive-up sites. There will not be a mass vaccination in our area. However, we will push for a pop-up clinic with the King County Department of Health, which manages the pop-up clinics across our area.
- Fireworks Ban -- This month's meeting packet includes letters sent to the King County Council in support of the proposed ban on fireworks in unincorporated King County. The commissioners decided to send a letter, which will be digitally signed of them. Commissioner Hiatt moved to have Shauna Sheppard submit the letter in support of the ban on fireworks to the King County Council with the digital signatures of all three fire commissioners. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0). A copy of the letter is on file with the meeting minutes.

Attorney's Report

- None

Unfinished Business

- Personnel costs and full-time staffing for Aid Car 318 are still being reviewed. Commissioner Hiatt and Chief Marrs are meeting again tomorrow. They hope to present their findings at the Board's next meeting.
- Assistant Chief of Operations – Captain Wayne Metz has been selected as the new Assistant Chief of Operations effective May 1, 2021. Congratulations and welcome to the administrative team!
- Our hiring process for firefighters used to be on a 2-year cycle. Because our list became stagnant and we want to reach more people, we started utilizing the National Testing Network. To get ahead of hiring, retirements, and projects such as the Cares Car, we want to hire six recruits for the Fire Academy, which begins on September 7<sup>th</sup>. The list of applicants has been narrowed down to 30 people and interviews begin tomorrow. Commissioner Giba asked if any of the applicants are from the North Highline area. Chief Marrs responded that there are a few. Three of our current volunteers also applied.

New Business

- None

Good of the Order

- None

As there was no further business, Commissioner Dominic moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:26 PM.

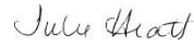
Respectfully submitted,



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Secretary of the Board



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Chairman, Commissioner



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Commissioner



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Commissioner