

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**May 24, 2021**

---

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for May 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 Marrs, Captain Wayne Metz, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, and Shauna Sheppard.

Chief Marrs 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 April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 regular meeting as presented; Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

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

- 2150101 to 2150106 in the amount of \$321,255.96 - (May month-end vouchers)

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

## Correspondence

- None

## Public Comment

- None

### Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Hiatt made the request to go back to in person meetings and wondered if we could do that at this time or in the near future? Chief Mike Marrs stated that in person meetings are not in effect due to the suspension of the Open Public Meetings Act by the Governor until at least June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Commissioner Hiatt also added that she will be hosting a Fourth of July event at her house.

Commissioner Barrera officially filed for re-election last week, looking to seek an additional 6 year term and as of his filing, it appears that there are no opponents at this time.

Commissioner Giba suggested that White Center could be getting increasingly dense in the near future, as King County has been holding meetings to present and approve exclusionary zoning in the White Center and Skyway areas. What this means is that developers will likely include a certain percentage of low income units in their projects and this could exceed the current zoning requirements.. Increasing by 20% seems to be the potential threshold and Commissioner Giba will report as more information is released. It seems that they are focusing on mainly downtown White Center, but it appears it could broach single family areas as well based on land owners intent and whom they sell their property to.

### Local #1461

- None

### Financial Reports

The Board received copies of the March 2021 and April 2021 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports. There were updates to the Treasurer's reports due to a system upgrade glitch in the BIAS software and has now been re-printed to reflect accurate, positive totals in the fire benefit charge. The YTD Cash Flow for the fire benefit charge outlines the correct budgeted amount. The revenue and expenditures of the funds reflects the budgeted amounts and/or the anticipated amount we will receive and is correct as originally stated.

### Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- COVID-19 Update – Vaccinations are up and case numbers are down and it appears that we will fully open effective June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 according to Governor Inslee. Additionally, we will be reviewing the mask policy within the stations. We do have a few firefighters who chose not to get vaccinated; therefore we will review the policies and move forward after a deeper dive into the issue by King County Health and our Medical Directors. The department of health noted that even fully vaccinated people can contract COVID-19, but the vaccine is highly effective in minimizing the symptoms and severe health risks of the virus.
- KCFCA – Letter of Support for the American Rescue Plan Funding Apportionment (ARPA) – There are trillions of dollars of federal aid monies available and commissioners

across the region are looking to get a portion those funds to be distributed to the fire districts/departments and RFA's, along with States, counties, and cities which are already eligible. We can put a template on our letter head and send out or utilize the boiler plate letter included in the meeting packet. Commissioner Giba was curious if it was more effective to send a slightly different letter and said she would be willing to make changes/corrections and resubmit the following week. The commissioners all collectively agreed to have Chief Mike Marris do an electronic signature on the letter as presented with no changes.

- Mobile Vaccination/ Update Farmers Market and other sites – Our crews are still going out and administering the one shot Johnson & Johnson or the Moderna at the Burien Farmers Market. We are also assisting with other pop up clinics that we facilitate in partnership with the King County Health Department as they reach out when a location wants to sponsor an event. They determine the needs; request the team, and then schedule it and we are often working on these vaccination events.
- FF hiring process update – We have 5 more conditional offers out to new hires and they will be starting the academy in August, 2021. This will likely only provide us with a few replacements for those who have promoted within the District or are planning on retiring next year, so we will only be back to even for staffing. Currently, Commissioner Hiatt and Chief Mike Marris will continue to review the percentages for staffing, but at this time, all seems steadfast. The National Testing Network organization has been a great resource that has allowed us to broaden the pool of candidates.
- Hand sanitizer – We are looking to obtain more sanitizer to hand out during our vaccination events. Shauna has reached out to Bong St. Domingo, who works as the Community Liaison with King County Department of Local Services.
- We are likely going to need to replace the HVAC system at Station #18, which is currently 30 years old and is well past its useful life. Chief Mike Marris stated that the cost will likely be between \$20,000-\$25,000 and current bids for the project are being collected. This purchase/replacement will be North Highline Fire District's responsibility.

#### Attorney's Report

- None

#### Unfinished Business

#### New Business

- Summer 2021 Newsletter

#### 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 6:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Secretary of the Board



---

Chairman, Commissioner



---

Commissioner



---

Commissioner