# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



May 29, 2019

The regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for May was called to order at 6:00 PM by <u>Commissioner Julie Hiatt with Commissioner Dominic Barrera in attendance and Commissioner Liz Giba participating via conference call</u>. Also, in attendance were Mike Marrs, Bob Price, and Shauna Sheppard.

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

## Meeting Minutes

<u>Dominic Barrera moved</u> to accept the minutes of the April 22nd regular meeting as presented. <u>Liz Giba seconded</u>. <u>Motion carried</u> (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

Julie Hiatt moved to approve the accounts payable vouchers as follows:

• 19051001 to 19051010 in the amount of \$285,331.71 (May Month End Vouchers)

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

## Correspondence

None

## **Public Comment**

None

#### Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Hiatt reported: (1) The King County Fire Commissioners' Meeting is Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, at Eastside Fire and Rescue in Issaquah. The topic is firefighting foam products. Chief Clark, a regional expert on the topic, will be presenting. (2) Jubilee Days will be the weekend of July 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>s</sup>. The boat, safety trailer, engine and firefighter props will be at the Street Fair on Saturday. Street closures will be needed for Sunday's parade. (3) Our Summer Newsletter should be ready for Jubilee Days. (4) Mark your calendars for the annual WFCA Conference in October at the Tulalip Casino.

Commissioner Barrera reported: None.

Commissioner Giba reported: Senator Nguyen will be at NHUAC's June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Everyone is welcome.

### IAFF Local #1461

None

## **Financial Reports**

The Board received copies of the April 2019 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports.

Chief Marrs reported that this month's vouchers include the April invoice from King County District #2 for shared expenses. Our expenses for 2019 are still tracking.

#### Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- Update on Interlocal Agreement Met with the Battalion Chiefs regarding concern over additional training needs. We are now moving crew to even out staffing levels and for overtime shifts. Kudos to the union for being flexible and collaborating as the changes are taking effect. The Battalion Chiefs are instrumental in this process and are effectively managing the changes.
- Update on Air Packs The new air packs are on the engines. We are ready to move the old air packs out of North Highline's inventory.
- Update on New Engines Our new engines were delivered to Hughes. Post-production items are being worked out. We have robust acceptance criteria as we are using Kent's acceptance process. They test the functionality of all systems, including a pump test and 100-mile driving course, and then put the engine on a lift to ensure that standards and specifications are met. Commissioner Giba asked if the new engines would be available for Jubilee Days and Chief Mike Marrs said, "Yes!"
- King County Sheriff's Quarterly Report The report shows nuisance fires, as well as the larger brush fire that impacted an apartment complex. Commissioner Giba asked about

the case status on Case #19-010729. The fire occurred on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Her understanding is that the prosecutor declined to prosecute within a few days. However, the report indicates the case was not submitted to the prosecutor and dismissed until March 25<sup>th</sup>. Chief Marrs will review the sequence of events and status of the case.

- Sales Tax Bill has been signed by the governor and will go into effect in July 2019.
- Coronado Springs Update Neil Blindheim and Brian Snure reviewed the April 15<sup>th</sup> letter from Mindy Tiangson of the King County Assessor's Office stating that King County will not act to collect the outstanding 2017 Fire Benefit Charge (FBC) because it is a fee, not a tax. As you know, a representative for the owners of Coronado Springs reached out to A.C. Ray Pettigrew. They also made a public records request regarding Coronado Springs' Fire BC from 2014 to 2018. They wanted to understand why the amount of the FBC had varied over those years. A closer look showed that the variation was largely due to King County's misclassification of Coronado Springs as "Commercial" rather than "Commercial Multi-Family" property.

There is some good news. The Coronado Springs' representative was notified of our findings. He said that Coronado Springs' would pay the 2017 Fire Benefit Charge. Both 2017 and 2018 have since paid. Also, Neil has changed his database to ensure that there is a safeguard built in for tax account numbers ending in 3, 8 or 9.

Commissioner Hiatt suggested that Neil implement the tax-exempt status on the data to the attributes that are a part of the formula so that adding them together would be easier on the one parcel and then if there are two, simply add them together so that the formula is not skewed.

After further discussion, the Board decided to craft two letters. A response to the county noting that Paragraph 7 of our Contract for Reimbursement of County Expenses Associated with Collection and Administration of Fire District Benefit Service requires King County to collect unpaid FBC charges in the same manner as unpaid property taxes. The second to the state asking about the process granting Coronado Springs' taxexempt status retroactively. Commissioner Giba suggested that tax-exempt data for parcels all over the state could have the same issue. Each County Assessor receives a list of tax-exempt properties from the state each year. It is unlikely that this situation is only occurring in North Highline. We should learn as much as we can to minimize this situation.

## Attorney's Report

None

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Review the long-term care benefits for LEOFF I Premiums for LEOFF I long term care increase significantly each year. We have arranged a meeting with Gordon MacIlvennie on June 5, 2019 to review the different plan options.
- Commissioner Giba asked about the accounting process to review the first quarter billing and payment. Chief Marrs intends to have a meeting with the accountants.

#### **New Business**

A list of MSA Firehawk M7 and H45 Bottles was presented to commissioners to surplus.
<u>Dominic Barrera moved</u> to surplus the items that are obsolete or no longer serviceable

as noted on the SCBA Inventory list presented. <u>Liz Giba seconded</u>. <u>Motion carried</u> (3-0). A copy of the SCBA Inventory list is on file with the meeting minutes.

- 2018 Pension Certification Form To be signed by a Commissioner and Chief.
- 2019 King County Payables Authorization Form Due June 21, 2019

## Good of the Order

None

As there was no further business, <u>Dominic Barrera moved</u> to adjourn. <u>Liz Giba seconded</u>. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary of the Board

Chairman, Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner