

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**August 26, 2019**

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The regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' meeting for August was called to order at 6:00 PM by Commissioner Liz Giba, with Commissioner Julie Hiatt and Commissioner Dominic Barrera attending. Also, in attendance were Barbara Dobkin, Chief Mike Marrs, Bob Price, Pat Price, and Shauna Sheppard.

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

## Meeting Minutes

Julie Hiatt moved to accept the minutes of the July 22nd regular meeting as presented. Dominic Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

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

- 19080101 to 19080106 in the amount of \$330,729.02 (August Month End Vouchers)

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

## Correspondence

- None

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### Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Hiatt reported that the next King County Fire Commissioners' meeting will be held in Burien and focus on strategic planning to increase engagement. She will also be attending the Washington Fire Commissioners Association annual conference in October, which will be held at the Tulalip Resort. Commissioner Giba asked if the residents who came to last month's NHD meeting also went to the King County Fire Commissioners meeting. Commissioner Hiatt stated that they submitted a letter to the board asking for support of a fireworks ban. The board voted to write a letter to Councilmember Joe McDermott to support a county-wide ban. Mark Thompson advised the residents that KCFCA would be sending the letter.

Commissioner Barrera reported: None

Commissioner Giba reported that she spoke with Casey from Joe McDermott's office on Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019. Because of the statute requiring a year-long waiting period if the county enacts a fireworks ban, there is not a sense of urgency. State Representatives Eileen Cody and Joe Fitzgibbon will be at the next NHUAC meeting and Commissioner Giba said she will raise the issue at that meeting. Casey also mentioned that they expect resistance to a county-wide ban. Commissioner Hiatt suggested taking it to the Washington State Fire Marshal. Chief Marris offered some clarification as to the variety and differences of the fireworks, the groups and organizations that fundraise through firework stands, and how best to offset the legal, state allowable fireworks and those that are not. In the past, there have been differing opinions about balancing enforcement and public education between fire and police service.

Commissioner Giba also reported on Vintage housing at Top Hat. Some earlier public comments indicated that there could be over 1,400 residents. Commissioner Giba contacted Vintage management and asked about available units. She was told there was only one 1-bedroom unit available out of 298 units. She was told by a county employee that Vintage management has told them that there are 845 occupants. That's significantly less crowded than it could be, but still considerably more than the 623 residents claimed on the SEPA checklist.

The county has a plan to put another housing project (the HUB) on the land where Mary's Place and the Food Bank are currently located. It could be as much as 100 units. Commissioner Giba read a paragraph from their materials that outlines the boundaries and potential up zones of the surrounding area. A copy of this HUB documentation is on file with the meeting minutes.

### IAFF Local #1461

- None

### Financial Reports

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

Chief Marris explained that 2019 was being impacted by some costs that were incurred in 2018 but were paid in 2019. They were not part of the 2019 expense budget. Therefore, we are tracking on the projected budget for 2019. He plans to review the current staffing model to determine if we can make any changes that will result in potential savings of overtime and up staffing. Commissioner Hiatt suggested that a mailing of the Newsletter to the community might behoove our efforts as the FBC vote approaches.

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### Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- Update on contractual consolidation – All is transitioning and going well. We have corresponded with Hawthorne & Company Certified Public Accountants and they have provided an engagement letter for our review. King County Fire District #2 has a follow-up meeting with the Hawthorne team next week and will be discussing the preliminary system review to begin spot checking the invoicing and processes regarding the Interlocal Agreement between North Highline Fire District and King County Fire District #2. This is niche work and there seems to be a challenge to find an accountant to fulfill the standards we have requested. The board decided to read through the engagement letter and will revisit this topic at the next general meeting. A copy of the engagement letter is on file with the meeting minutes.
- Update on new engines – Still working on getting them outfitted and ready for a potential station push event on September 21, 2019 at 1:30 PM.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Fire District Report from King County Sheriff Fire/Investigation – The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is not listed on this report. Chief Mike Marrs will reach out to Craig Mueller to review and get an update. A copy of the report is on file with the meeting minutes.

### Attorney's Report

- None

### Unfinished Business

- None

### New Business

- Fire Benefit Charge Contract between North Highline Fire District and Interface Systems, LLC – There was an increase for postage, otherwise the contract is the same as last year per counsel Brian Snure. *Julie Hiatt moved* to approve the agreement with Interface Systems and *Dominic Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0)*. A copy of this agreement is on file with the meeting minutes.
- State of Washington Board of Volunteer Firefighters – Retirement Invoice Voucher for Jose Rivera for a lump sum payment in the amount of \$6,139.30. *Julie Hiatt moved* to approve the retirement for Jose Rivera benefit. *Dominic Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0)*.

### Good of the Order

- King County District #2 Annual Kids Day Event is on Saturday, September 7, 2019 (Event Flyer). Commissioner Hiatt asked if it were possible to host a similar event in the North Highline community. Chief Marrs said he would investigate and present a few options to start considering how a fun kids' event could be hosted. A copy of the flyer is on file with the meeting minutes.

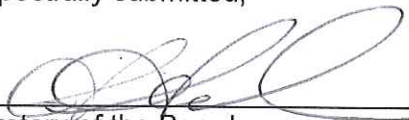
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Executive Session

None

As there was no further business, Julie Hiatt moved to adjourn. Dominic Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:52 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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