

NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



September 27, 2021

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

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Barrera moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Giba seconded. Motion carried (2-0).

Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Barrera moved to accept the minutes of the August 23, 2021 regular meeting as presented. Commissioner Giba seconded. Motion carried (2-0).

Accounts Payable

Commissioner Barrera moved to approve the September 2021 accounts payable vouchers as follows:

- 20190101 to 20190103 in the amount of \$824.60 (3rd Quarter Payroll)
- 20190201 to 20190208 in the amount of \$336,410.41 (Month End Vouchers)

Commissioner Giba seconded. Motion carried (2-0).

Correspondence

- None

Public Comment

- None

Commissioner's Reports

Commissioner Giba reported that the NHUAC's October 7th meeting will be a town hall with King County Executive Dow Constantine and State Senator Joe Nguyen, who are running for King County Executive.

Local #1461

- None

Financial Reports

The Board received copies of the August 2021 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports. Chief Marrs reported that all financials are in line with projections. We have been able to improve aid car staffing. Instead of two 12-hour shifts, we now have two 24-hour shifts.

Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- COVID-19 Update – The numbers are rising in what is being called the “pandemic of the unvaccinated.” Two of our firefighters are likely to resist the governor’s October 18 vaccine mandate. We are reviewing policies and options before we decide how we will proceed. On October 19, we hope to issue a press release assuring the public that we have 100% vaccination rate for all patient interactions.
- Hiring and Promotion Update – We have four recruits in the training consortium and six more will start on January 3, 2022. Captain promotional testing, to establish a new list that will be good for 2 years, is taking place this week. We just finished chief interviews.
- Significant Fires Update – North Highline had six large commercial fires in recent months. One was at the Duwamish Marina. Most of the Marina’s losses occurred prior to our arrival. The other five fires were in the White Center business district. Two (4/21/21 and 9/1/21) were in the old, abandoned Atlas Electric Building next to Gerber Collision & Glass, two in the Locker Room Tavern, and one started in the LumberYard Bar on July 5th. That fire displaced the LumberYard and seven adjacent businesses. The age of the properties, their proximity to each other, and lack of alarms and sprinkler systems added to the loss. The LumberYard fire is being investigated as arson by the Sheriff’s Office. Assistant Chief Pettigrew shared a video from the second Locker Room fire of September 13th. Assistant Chief Metz added that it was a 3-Alarm, and the building was fully involved when we arrived. It was a complete loss. The adjacent buildings sustained water damage. A Battalion Chief actor was working that day. The fact that the fire was contained speaks volumes about our crews’ training, knowledge and experience, and support from our partner agencies. The September 1st fire in the old Atlas Electric Building was a 2-Alarm. The adjacent Gerber building has water damage and a ventilation hole in the roof. Again, the damage could have been much worse.

Attorneys Report

- None

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- None

Good of the Order

- Commissioner Giba noted that there was a substantial fire on 16th and Barton in Seattle that might have been caused by squatters, cause still undetermined at this time.

As there was no further business, Commissioner Barrera moved to adjourn. Commissioner Hiatt seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary of the Board



Chairman, Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner