

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



**August 24, 2020**

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for August 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 amended. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hiatt moved to accept the minutes of the July 27, 2020 regular meeting. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

## Accounts Payable

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

- 20080101 to 20080104 in the amount of \$277,140.71 (August month-end vouchers)

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

## Correspondence

- None

## Public Comment

- None

### Commissioners' Report

- Commissioner Giba reported that King County recently held a Zoom meeting on King County's 20 Year Subarea Plan for North Highline. Valerie Kendall of the Housing and Community Development Department of the Executive's Office said they are interested in lowering the median income used for low-income housing in North Highline. It is now 60% of King County's median income. They would like to lower it to 60% of North Highline's median income.
- Commissioner Barrera shared his suggestions to the Fire Benefit Charge Flyer. Commissioner Hiatt thinks it should be changed and shortened to accommodate mailing addresses. After some discussion, Commissioner Hiatt agreed to prepare a draft.

### IAFF Local #1461

- None

### Financial Reports

- The Board received copies of the July 2020 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports. Everything is tracking. Chief Marris also reported that Hawthorne & Associates is working on its Preliminary Report. When complete, it will be shared with all commissioners.

### Chief's Report

Chief Marris reported on the following:

- COVID-19 Update – Eleven firefighters have been tested to date; all were negative. There are some discussions going on about school openings and new guidelines going forward. Southwest King County continues to have more cases than other areas of King County. New testing facilities may be opening at Evergreen Pool and North SeaTac Park. Chief Marris reported that the pool manager has confirmed that they are amenable to putting a testing site there. Seattle Fire has offered to assist, and Maya Andrews of Burien Public Works has been in contact with the school district and the non-profit runs the pool. Hopefully, we will have an answer this week.
- NHUAC / NHFD Mask Give Away - We plan another one in October. Commissioner Giba reported that King County is holding some at the Safeway stores and suggested NHFD might do one at Saars Super Foods. Chief Mike Marris will look into that.
- B/C Testing Update – Battalion Chief testing is scheduled for the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September. We will update the eligibility list per the Consolidation Agreement with the union.
- New Hires Testing Update – We met with two private testing organizations, National Testing and Public Safety Testing, to help us access a broader, more diverse talent pool. Working with an outside vendor will be more efficient and less expensive.
- Chaplaincy Program - Our chaplain's ability to go on calls has been hindered by the COVID-19 pandemic. The last year has made it clear that we need a Chaplain Program. Chief Marris knows of a potential new chaplain.
- Patch Update - The design is being finalized. We are close to having patches produced and replaced on all uniforms.

- Email Address Update - All employees, except for NHFD's commissioners, will have their email addresses changed to the King2FD.org.
- Aid Car Staffing - We expect to run out of budget monies in October. We will review our finances to determine what funds are available to cover the rest of 2020.
- Station 19 Roof Repair - We are finalizing a bid of \$18,800 to repair the roof over the crew compartments.
- Make-A-Wish Foundation – We received a “Thank You” card for our participation in a special event for JoJo, a little girl in our community. Captain Jamie Cissell and Firefighters Colby Cruz and Matt Nugent from Station #18 went above and beyond providing a special day for JoJo and her family.

#### Attorney's Report

- None

#### Unfinished Business

Benefit Charge – (1) King County Elections sent us a letter acknowledging receipt of Proposition No. 508. A copy of the letter is on file with the meeting minutes.

(2) Thanks to Barbara Dobkin and Wendell Davis for writing and filing the Pro Statement for the Voters Pamphlet. A copy is on file with the meeting minutes.

(3) Continuing the conversation under Commissioners' Report above, a variety of possible changes to the flyer were discussed. The flyer needs to be complete by end of September so it can be printed and mailed by October 10, 2020.

(4) Chief Marrs will participate in NHUAC's October 1 meeting to talk about the importance of the Benefit Charge.

#### New Business

- Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) Rating – The WSRB has completed its 5-year reevaluation of North Highline Fire District. We were upgraded from 4 to 3! This is an important change based a variety of factors that are a direct result of the Benefit Charge and Interlocal Agreement with King County Fire District #2. The WSRB evaluated the two districts as one labor group with back-up apparatus to support the larger area. Thanks to Captain George Stoess for his proactive efforts in obtaining the 3 rating for NHFD. A copy of WSRB's 2019 PowerPoint Presentation to the King County Fire Commissioners is on file with the meeting minutes.
- Benefit Charge Agreement with Interface Systems, LLC – Counsel Brian Snure has reviewed and approved it. There was an increase for postage costs. Commissioner Hiatt moved to approve the agreement with Interface Systems, LLC and to have Chief Marrs sign it. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0). A copy of the Agreement is on file with the meeting minutes.
- Notice of Public Hearing on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> was received from King County elections. A copy is on file with the meeting minutes.

Good of the Order

- None

As there was no further business, Commissioner Hiatt moved to adjourn. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 7:08 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