

# NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



## December 27, 2021

---

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for December 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, 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

The minutes of the November 22, 2021 regular meeting will be reviewed at the January regular meeting.

### Accounts Payable

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

- 21120101 to 21120110 in the amount of \$326,659.00 - (December month-end vouchers)
- 21130101 to 21130103 in the amount of \$1,099.44 (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Commissioner Payroll/Taxes)
- 21140101 to 21140101 in the amount of \$9.99 (4<sup>th</sup> Qtr. Dept. of L & I)

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

### Correspondence

- None

### Public Comment

- None

---

## Commissioners' Report

Commissioner Hiatt revisited the idea of getting new apparel for the commissioners. Commissioners Barrera and Giba are interested in seeing her suggestions.

## IAFF Local #1461

- None

## Financial Reports

Everything is tracking very well. We finished the year financially strong.

## Chief's Report

Chief Marrs reported on the following:

- Christmas Outreach – Two Santas, the duty crew, administration, and day staff delivered gifts and meals to 25 DSHS sponsored families. Special thanks to TriMed for its very generous toy donation. Cash donations were also very generous. Despite COVID-19, Fire Inspector George Stoess organized, coordinated, and managed a successful Christmas Outreach. Thanks to all for making this 32-year tradition a reality.
- Aid Car 318 Upstaffing Update – We are having discussions with the union about getting the Aid Car 318 on the schedule every day of the year by amending contract language related to upstaffing and time off.
- Station #18 Remodel – We are working with an architect to determine how to best accommodate female and male firefighters by renovating the restrooms and sleeping areas in Station #18. Also, the front office area will be repurposed for the crew's office space. At Station #19, we are considering turning the areas behind the truck bays into individual sleep rooms and showers. One thing that will help control costs and shorten the remodel time at Station #18 is utilizing the meeting room during the remodel. We would not do anything permanent, but we would establish private dorms during the construction process. Commissioner Giba supports the plan and Commissioners Hiatt and Barrera agreed.
- Omicron Variant Update – We are at an all-time case count high. Medical professionals expect it to continue to increase as Omicron is 10x's more contagious than the original COVID-19 virus. However, the fully vaccinated with the booster, have a small chance of severe symptoms and hospitalization. One of our new hires tested positive after completing a Point of Care (POC) test. Another, fairly new firefighter learned that he was in close contact with COVID at a wedding on Christmas Eve. He is asymptomatic but his POC came back positive, which seems to be a frequent outcome. The 10-day quarantine continues to be a concern in securing emergency responders in King County. Commissioner Giba mentioned that the quarantine period might be reduced for everyone. Chief Marrs responded that the CDC did come out with new guidelines today and King County may drop the quarantine period from 10 to 7 days with testing. It is still being monitored by King County.
- North Highline Subarea Plan Update – Chief Marrs will forward the documentation for all commissioners to review. It appears that the plan is to densify North Highline and increase low-income housing. Chief Marrs noted that more density means more calls. Commissioner Giba believes that more tax-exempt low-income housing would have a significant impact on the fire district with more people requiring more services but not a

---

comparable increase in taxpayers. Commissioner Julie Hiatt asked who wrote the proposed North Highline Subarea Plan. Commissioner Giba answered that it appears to have been written by King County’s Department of Local Services, which includes Jacqueline Reid and Kevin Le Clare. Jacqueline, who reached out to us for our input, has been presenting it. Chief Marrs noted that we did e-mailed Jacqueline asking for more time to respond, but there has been no response.

Attorney’s Report

- None

Unfinished Business

New Business

Good of the Order

- As there was no further business, Commissioner Hiatt moved to adjourn. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,




---

Secretary of the Board




---

Chairman, Commissioner




---

Commissioner




---

Commissioner