

NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



May 23, 2022

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

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Meeting Minutes

- The minutes of the April 25, 2022 regular meeting will be reviewed at the June 27, 2022 regular meeting.

Accounts Payable

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

- 2205101 to 2205106 in the amount of \$377,663.08 (May month-end vouchers)

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

Correspondence

- None

Public Comment

- None

Commissioners' Report

- Commissioner Giba reported that Chief Marris will be attending the June 2nd NHUAC meeting to discuss the proposed Subarea Plan, the fireworks ban and the informational yard signs we purchased.

IAFF Local #1461

- None

Financial Reports

The Board received copies of the May 2022 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports. All is tracking well to date.

Chief's Report

Chief Marris reported on the following:

- Station 18 Remodel Update – Integrus Architecture's invoice outlines expenses to date and the anticipated cost of the total project. **A copy of the invoice is on file with the meeting minutes** Chief Marris explained that the quotes for the labor and materials are 50% to 100% more than we had hoped and too high to avoid the formal bid process. The general opinion seems to be that costs will continue to rise. Since they already exceed the \$300K in this year's budget, we can roll the remodel into 2023 and set aside the rest in next year's budget, and/or we can scale it back. Our firefighters need and deserve separate bathrooms and sleeping quarters. The options were discussed. Chief Marris estimated the bid process would take at least 3 months. He added that our reserve and general expense funds are healthy, and the architect and contractor are available. Commissioners Giba and Hiatt agreed to move forward.
- COVID Update – Cases are increasing. There are currently at 400 Delta variant cases per 100,000 people. Deaths remain low, but hospitalizations are up 48%. We still conduct daily testing and are starting to run low on test kits. However, our diligence is paying off. We discovered four asymptomatic firefighters in the last month,
- Open Public Meetings Act – **Attorney Brian Snure's letter about the Open Public Meetings Act is on file with the meeting minutes.** Starting on June 1, 2022, Governor Inslee has lifted the COVID-19 restrictions on public meetings while continuing the option for remote meetings. Since firefighters we will be using the meeting room in Station #18 as a sleeping area during the remodel, Chief Marris suggested using Station #28 for in-person meetings. Commissioners Hiatt and Giba agreed. We will issue a resolution at the June 27, 2022 regular meeting establishing the future dates, time and location. Commissioner Hiatt would like to move the meeting times to 5:00 PM. Commissioner Giba agreed.
- Fireworks Ordinance Yard Signs – North Highline Fire District ordered 100 "Respect Your Neighbor, Respect the Ban" yard signs for the upcoming 4th of July holiday to help publicize the fireworks ban. Most will be available for community members to pick up from Station #18. We will hold a few for fire prevention.

- FBC Update – Neil Blindheim is working with his contact in the King County Assessor’s Office to correct and update parcel data so we can be confident that the correct Fire Benefit Charge is established for all properties.
- Joy Clark’s Passing – . Joy Clark was a great supporter of the North Highline Fire District, raising funds for our crews through the White Center Eagles. Her service was at Washington Memorial on May 18, 2022. We supported the service with an engine and Captain Scott Thorsteinson, Captain Ernie Brown, and Firefighter Ian Watkins.
- Bite of St. Bernadette Event – The first ever Bite of St. Bernadette on May 21st was a great success. Engines 218 and 319 and Shauna Sheppard did a great job engaging with attendees.

Attorney's Report

- None

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- None

Good of the Order

- Assistant Chief Ray Desmarais reported that Emily Stoen, Austin Makowski, Ryan McFarland, and Joshua Causie recently graduated from the Fire Training Academy. Ryan McFarland was chosen by his fellow graduates to receive the Top Rung Award and by his instructors to receive the Chief’s Company Award. Joshua Causie gave the graduation speech at the ceremony. This was the first time that one of our recruits was chosen for that honor. Emily Stoen was the only female to complete it and graduate.

As there was no further business, Commissioner Hiatt moved to adjourn. Commissioner Giba seconded. Motion carried (2-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary of the Board



Chairman, Commissioner



Commissioner