







**North County Regional Fire Authority  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**

**December 13, 2023  
4:00pm**

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12132023-01, ADOPTING THE 2024 ANNUAL BUDGET**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Williams                      2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Oertle

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**MOTION TO ADOPT THE AMENDED APPENDIX B-2023 PAY SCALE FOR NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES WITH THE SAME EFFECTIVE DATE AND RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS AS ORIGINALLY ADOPTED ON OCTOBER 11, 2023.**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Oakes                      2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Cade

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**MOTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED APPENDIX B-2024 PAY SCALE FOR NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES WITH THE A 2.0% CPI ADJUSTMENT**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Iverson                      2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Nelson

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**MOTION TO CANCEL THE DECEMBER 27, 2023 BOARD MEETING.**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Nelson                      2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Oertle

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**NOVEMBER FINANCE REPORT** – *as submitted by Randy Krumm – no discussion; no action*

**DEPLOYMENT & OPERATIONS STANDARDS REVIEW** – *presented by DC Kraski; no action*

**Discussion:** This item will be brought back to the Board, likely in January for review, discussion, and possible action.

**CHIEF'S REPORT** – *as presented by Chief Cermak – no action*

- A lot of time was spent with Archbright to secure a Temp HR and test contract before the Board this evening.
- Attended a L/M meeting where both parties agree that we should begin negotiations before the CBA stated June requirement in order to achieve a contract before the end of the year. An agreement email



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was sent to start in March but not responded to date. Additionally, we shared the idea that NCRFA would utilize Merlin Halverson as the RFA mediator and suggested reaching out to Greg Markley as a representative for the Labor group without mutual agreement by Dec 15, we will have to seek a PERC recommendation per the CBA. This process worked well in the past with these two.

- An atmospheric river reaped havoc on the area, causing widespread flooding unusual to the past norms. The academy students were of great assistance in preparing sandbags for the remainder of this event and a future expected event this coming weekend.
- The EOC was activated and a local emergency is expected in order to recover disaster funds should they become available.
- Santa Runs have been very productive. A big shout out to Nich Sacha for all he does, every year to coordinate the 12 days of Santa. It produces literally tons of food and some cash for the area food banks. We did receive one complaint from a citizen upset that it never comes through Eagle Ridge. I replied and tried to explain that this is totally volunteer run and that we can't possibly come through every neighborhood. This is a huge impact on the volunteers during the Christmas season and to staff that coordinate movement of signs, apparatus, food to food banks, etc.
- Chief Kraski and I attended recruit evaluations, who are all doing extremely well in the academy. They will graduate in Everett on Thursday at 2:00 P.M.
- Randy and I attended a meeting at Everett Fire headquarters to report on the transition of finance from South County Fire to NCRFA. The Consortium finance Directors are going to begin meeting to put their heads together on further advancing the academy and firefighter training into the future as it relates to shared training and training development as envisioned since inception.
- I met with Paul Ellis regarding the quarterly meeting required per the ILA. There were no significant issues from their perspective. I shared a looming ILA requirement that on January 1, 2024, the City would implement a self-inspection program for lower-level occupancies. AC Goforth provided them with a list of what we had a while back. Also, I shared and reiterated that at our last meeting, I was made aware that CED employees were unaware of the ILA changes and that Steve had provided them a copy to illuminate the requirement that the RFA be included in ALL fire permit inspections. AC Goforth had shared that they were not aware of that change. Further, he was told that the same policy was being continued and that we would only take overflow that Kevin couldn't get done. AC Goforth confirmed this by multiple calls from contractors questioning conflicting messages. Paul assured that this would be clarified and if necessary, we would all get in the same room to resolve what he is being told vs what I am being told.
- I came in on Saturday to visit the first group to rent the training facility. Julian Gilman did an outstanding job.

**IAFF LOCAL 3438 REPORT – verbal update from BC Koontz – no action**

- The local would like M48 to be fully staffed before staffing any additional stations.

**BOARD DISCUSSION – COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Johnson extended a thank you to the Board, noting it will be hard to have 5 Commissioners leaving the board, and up to the 4 returning and 3 new commissioners to step into service. Commissioner Williams enjoyed her time as commissioner very much. She found the process intriguing and regarding public safety, has great respect for all they do. She also noted great respect for Chief Cermak and



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the team he has put together. She noted "much work left to do" and is sending admiration and luck to returning and incoming commissioners.

Commissioner Iverson recollected how she came to serve as Commissioner and has enjoyed her time.

Commissioner Nelson expressed the honor it has been to work with the Commission and Chiefs. She feels a special bond with "the guys" and commended their excellence in service.

Commissioner Tolbert has enjoyed getting to know personnel (as an elected official). She challenged incoming Commissioners to see your employees as people. She sends well wishes to the incoming Commissioners.

Larry Longley expressed that 12 years has gone by fast. When he began, 2/3 of "the department" was PT or volunteer personnel. The FFs said they wanted more and better training and to be "more professional". Larry believes that has been achieved. He wanted to "remind the local that they should be thankful for what they have". Larry believes "we've come a long way". Larry indicated he couldn't recall being thanked 1 time in his service as Commissioner. Larry said he will cherish the friendships made over the years.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN 5:33pm**

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Commissioner Oakes

**2<sup>nd</sup>** Commissioner Cade

**Discussion:** None

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

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*Rob Johnson*

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*Kari Wheeler*

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**Rob Johnson  
Commission Chair**

**Kari Wheeler  
Commission Secretary**