



**North County Regional Fire Authority  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
October 22, 2024  
4:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Chair Oertle called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

The following attendees were present:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Ric Cade  
Rob Johnson  
~~Leonard Kelley~~ excused absence  
Greg Oakes  
Marilyn Oertle  
Al Schreiber  
Holly Sloan-Buchanan

**FIRE AUTHORITY STAFF**

John Cermak, Fire Chief  
Dave Kraski, Deputy Fire Chief  
Kari Wheeler, Business Proc. Coord. / Comm. Secretary  
Randy Krumm, Finance Director  
Allison Jubb, Human Resources Director

Commissioner Chair Oertle led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEE COMMENTS**

Public comment was given by FD21 Chief Chad Schmidt.

**IAFF LOCAL 3438**

Comment was given by Local IAFF Political Action Chair, Kirk Normand.

**MOTION TO AMEND AND APPROVE THE AGENDA, ADDING A TOPIC FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER THE ALLOWABLE RCW.**

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Commissioner Cade      **2<sup>nd</sup>:** Commissioner Sloan-Buchanan

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*The Board entered executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel matters relating to litigation or risks.*

*At 4:20pm, Commission Chair Oertle announced that the Board would meet in executive session for 15-minutes, until 4:35pm.*

*At 4:35pm, Commission Chair Oertle announced a 15-minute extension of executive session, until 4:50pm.*



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*At 4:50pm, the executive session concluded and the regular meeting was called back to order. No action was taken.*

**MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. [October 09, 2024 Minutes](#)
- b. [General Fund Accounts Payable Check #'s 125409-125450 in the amount of \\$468, 229.77](#)
- c. [Staff Report](#) – Status Update: Discussions w/IAFF 3438 Regarding Management's two (2) Proposals to Increase EMS Leadership Staffing

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*There was no unfinished business discussed and no action taken.*

**NEW BUSINESS**

[September Financial Report](#) – presented by Finance Director, Randy Krumm

*No discussion, no action*

*In response to a recent news article relating to NCRFA's ending cash balance, Director Krumm clarified the difference that ending cash balance or reserve funds, are not the same as surplus funds. [North County Regional Fire Authority's Financial Management Policy – 11](#), approved by the RFA's Board of Commissioners on December 11, 2019, is to maintain a 25% reserve fund balance for economic downturns or unexpected financial emergencies. See [attached table](#).*

*There was also a claim made that NCRFA allocates more resources for fire suppression services than EMS even though EMS services account for approximately 85% of our call volume. Director Krumm provided the [attached table](#) which demonstrates that in 2024, EMS related funding was greater than fire suppression.*

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10222024-01 AMENDING THE TRAINING CENTER DAILY USE FEE STRUCTURE FOR FIRE ACADEMIES CONDUCTED BY THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY TRAINING CONSORTIUM.**

See [Resolution 10222024-01](#)

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous



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**MOTION TO APPROVE THE WAIVER REQUEST AS PRESENTED**

See [Waiver Authorization 2024-00003113](#)

**1<sup>st</sup>**: Commissioner Johnson    **2<sup>nd</sup>**: Commissioner Schreiber

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

*Chief Cermak attended the Consortium Advisory Chief's Committee and presented the new cost modeling for the Consortium. Chief worked with Director Krumm to develop that and thanked the Commission for supporting. Chief attended a statewide meeting on the shortage of EMS IV solutions.*

*Chief shared that Baxter Pharmaceuticals is located in Asheville, NC and it's presented an issue across the nation as the facility has been shut down since Hurricane Helen. They supply about 40-50% of the nation's IV solutions. The entire healthcare industry has put themselves on a conservation mode of IV solutions. Dr. Corsa put a message out and Chief confirmed that we'll follow his direction on trying to conserve IV solutions. It appears the State has a plan to address the issue moving forward. It may be 10-12 weeks before the supply chain is up and running.*

*A great deal of work was conducted in preparation for negotiations and additionally, Labor Management have been working hard to come to resolution over several MOUs to address the absence of the MSA and additional administrative position.*

*Chief met with Nicholson insurance for our annual renewal meeting. The national insurance industry has experienced a larger than normal increase in Auto and Property Liability Insurance premiums. We have budgeted an additional 10% in preparation for that.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

*The Board entered executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) to review the performance of a public employee.*

*At approx. 5:10pm, Commission Chair Oertle announced that the Board would meet in executive session for 15-minutes, until 5:25pm.*

*The Executive session concluded at 5:25pm with direction given, but no action taken.*

Commission Chair Oertle called the regular meeting back to order at 5:35pm.



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**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commission Oakes asked for an update on the timeline for fulfilling the EMS position. Chief Cermak and Director Jubb gave an update on the MOUs that will be presented to the local.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN 5:42pm**

**1<sup>st</sup>** Commissioner Cade

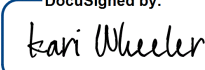
**2<sup>nd</sup>** Commissioner Johnson

**Discussion:** None

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

Prepared by:

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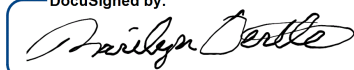
**Kari Wheeler  
Commission Secretary**

11/14/2024

**Date Signed**

Attest:

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**Marilyn Oertle  
Commission Chair**

11/14/2024

**Date Signed**