

North County Regional Fire Authority COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

via ZOOM **January 26 , 2022 4:00pm**

CALL TO ORDER

The following attendees were present:

COMMISSIONERS

Greg Oakes, Chair

Jan Iverson

Judy Williams

Ric Cade

Larry Longley

Rob Johnson

Marilyn Oertle

Debora Nelson Excused

Barb Tolbert

FIRE AUTHORITY STAFF

John Cermak, Fire Chief

Dave Kraski, Deputy Chief

Chris Dickison, Assistant Fire Chief

Katie Casey, Human Resources Manager

Randy Krumm, Finance Director

Kayley Mizell, Administrative Assistant

Theresa Ramey, Executive Assistant

Doug ten Hoopen, Temp. Project Manager

Meeting called to order at 4:00pm by Chairman Oakes.

EMPLOYEE AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA

1st: Commissioner Cade 2nd Commissioner Iverson

Discussion: none

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

1st: Commissioner Oertle 2nd Commissioner Longley

Discussion: none

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM JANUARY 12, 2022

1st: Commissioner Williams 2nd Commissioner Iverson

Discussion: none

APPROVED: Unanimous

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

The Federal and State of Washington list of recognized holidays were provided to the Board. Also provided was a list of which holidays were paid holidays for the Represented, Non-Represented, and Part Paid staff.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE HOLIDAYS PROVIDED TO THE REPRESENTED STAFF AND PROVIDE THE SAVE TO THE NON-REPRESENTED AND PART PAID STAFF WITH THE INTENT ON REVISITNG DURING THE NEXT NEGOTIATION PERIOD

1st: Commissioner Cade 2nd Commissioner Oertle

Discussion: Commissioner Iverson stated she felt that this should definitely be equal for all staff

APPROVED: Unanimous

Randy requested the Board approve Chief Cermak to enter into another five-year lease with 3 optional 5-year renewals with Verizon Wireless. Mike Makela had been working on this for the past year and it has been reviewed and revised per Rich Davis. Randy believes we entered into the lease with Verizon twenty years ago and we are just concluding our last five-year renewal period. New proposed rent is \$1,200/mo which is up from \$1,036. The new lease also has a 3% increase annually. The tower's reception area is strictly the 1-5 corridor so it's primarily to benefit public safety on the freeway that



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runs through our district. Forcing Verizon to relocate could make Verizon customers a little less safe. Commissioner Cade stated that the market rate was a concern when this was reviewed the last time. Randy checked with 6 area Fire Departments in the area and Tulalip Bay Fire is the only one who reported that they receive money for a cell tower lease and they receive \$1,284. Cities in our area working with cell tower owners directly receive between \$2,500 - \$2,700 a month whereas we receive almost \$3,000 monthly combined from owner Crown Castle, and leasers Verizon and AT&T.

Commissioner Tolbert asked if we have received any objections from any parties. Randy reported that he has not heard of any objections from the public or employees.

MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRE CHIEF TO RENEW THE CELL TOWER LEASE

1st: Commissioner Cade 2nd Commissioner Oertle

Discussion: none

APPROVED: Unanimous

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Kraski reported that Chief Cermak is in Wisconsin for the new Engine pre-build meeting. There will be an Interlocal Agreement between NCRFA and City of Arlington for IT services coming to the next Commission meeting.

There have been discussions with the Local regarding the 5,265 hours increase in sick leave incentive article – this will likely be coming to the next Commission meeting.

The Fire Chiefs have been discussing the possibility of offering incentives to recruit paramedics to include signing bonuses, sending current NCRFA members to paramedic school, and recruitment at Central Washington University.

COVID/OMICRON is spreading quickly, affecting our staffing. Seems to decreasing now as compared to a few weeks ago.

Six new Entry-Level Firefighters started the Fire Academy on Monday. And Lateral Paramedic Dan Welk is now on board and working on B-Shift. Nine new Part Time Firefighter/EMTS are in the process of onboarding.

The Assistant Chief – Community Risk Reduction interviews occurred this week and 2 will move forward to Chief's Interviews on February 2nd.

We are in the process of getting bids to replace the roof at Station 99.

It has been noticed that a lot of general rig and station clean-up has been happening, showing a lot of pride from our crews.

Discussions have occurred regarding getting a chassis ordered soon.

A presentation with our contracted social work partner, Center for Justice will be scheduled to explain the program. This is a pilot program funded by the legislature awarded to the City of Arlington.

We have been asked to help at the Local Hero's Night at the Silvertips game on Sunday.

Eviation at the Arlington airport still continues with potential requests for crews to be onsite during their testing.

Doug Kunzman with All American Leadership continues to do Ride-A-Longs with our crews.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Iverson stated that the Compensation Committee is going to recommend some modifications to policy 72 to make it easier for the next Compensation Committee members to decipher. It will be brought to a future meeting for consideration and approval.



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CORRESPONDENCE

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Longley stated that he thinks it is great that we are going to partner with South County Fire for Hero's Night at the Silvertips game. He also inquired as to whether or not other departments are experiencing the same amount of overtime due to COVID and wonders if it is possible to reach out to other departments to seek volunteers to help eliminate the number of overtime hours our crews are experiencing due to mandatory overtime. Chief Kraski stated that there is a unilateral agreement in Snohomish County to determine which stations to brown out if necessary and it also allows reciprocal employees.

MOTION TO ADJOURN at 4:44pm

1st: Commissioner Iverson

2nd Commissioner Williams

Discussion: none

APPROVED: Unanimous

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Grez Oaker

Board Chair

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Board Secretary