



**North County Regional Fire Authority**  
**COMMISSIONER'S MEETING**  
via ZOOM  
**August 25 , 2021**  
**4:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The following attendees were present:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Greg Oakes, Chair  
Jan Iverson  
Judy Williams  
Ric Cade  
Larry Longley, Vice-Chair  
Rob Johnson  
Marilyn Oertle  
Deborah Nelson  
Barb Tolbert

**FIRE AUTHORITY STAFF**

John Cermak, Fire Chief  
Don Bartlett, Assistant Fire Chief  
Mike Makela, Assistant Fire Chief  
Katie Casey, Board Secretary  
Randy Krumm, Finance Manager  
Kayley Mizell, Administrative Assistant  
Doug ten Hoopen, Temp. Project Manager

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm

**EMPLOYEE and PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA with amendments to include Resolution 08252021-01 and to add discuss regarding negotiations pursuant to RCW 42.30.140**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Iverson

**DISCUSSION:**

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Williams

**DISCUSSION:**

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 11, 2021 MINUTES with changes to remove Greg Oakes from the motion to approve the consent agenda and replace it with Marilyn Oertle**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Oertle

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Nelson

**DISCUSSION:**

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**OLD BUSINESS**

Doug ten Hoopen provided an update on the Training Center.

It was suggested and agreed upon that the Division reports be supplied and reported as part of the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION TO POLICY 72**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Longley

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Johnson

**DISCUSSION:**

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 73**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Nelson



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**DISCUSSION:** Due to the timelines required by the Governor or Washington State this policy will only be reviewed one time. No comments have been received by the Local and no members were present for the meeting.

**APPROVED:** Commissioner Cade opposes this motion, all others voted are in favor of it.

**CHIEFS REPORT**

Chief Cermak will not be at the next Commission meeting. He will be on vacation from August 29 – September 10<sup>th</sup>. During this time questions and concerns will be addressed by Chief Kraski.

Chief McFalls, Chief Hovis, Chief Kraski and Chief Kraski met to discuss current issues. Discussions occurred that indicated that we were recommended to get more involved as a larger agency. We discussed having the training center as part of the consortium and were asked to join as a full partner into the group. This would provide more input into the shared training opportunities and insure priority into the FTE academies that we are now contractually bound. Chief Cermak is doing research and will be providing a recommendation in September at the second meeting.

We have received an AFG grant in the amount of \$76,727.27 with a matching requirement amount of \$7,672.73. The grant approval was for training, overtime, and backfill for all FTE firefighters to the FFII level. This will allow us a better opportunity for future grants while certifying current FTE firefighters meet this recommended industry standard. Currently, eight Arlington FTE do not meet this criterion; five NCRFA FTE do not meet this recommended requirement. Remaining seats in the class will be offered to PTE firefighters. The remaining approved funds were allocated for a new exhaust recovery system for Station 99. NCRFA was denied Vehicle Extrication Equipment this grant period. We are eagerly awaiting the Friday notice of funding for SCBA fill stations for Arlington and North County Fire Stations and the SAFER request for eleven positions.

AC Bartlett has been completing the implementation of FASTER software for our fleet maintenance program with the assistance of Kayley Mizell as well as researching and preparing a staff report for the purchase of a software management program for equipment, uniforms, and small attractive items.

Chief Cermak met with the City Administrator for the City of Stanwood, who is going to propose to the City Council to provide ARPA funds to NCRFA due to our lost revenue due to COVID. Preliminary discussions occurred last meeting with Council interest with a recommendation after the August recess at the September 9, 2021 council meeting.

Chris Dickison has spent countless hours contact tracing the Delta variant that has inflicted multiple employees with COVID.

Time has been spent in preparation for a meeting with District 21 on September 13. Expect a staff report and contract approval for a separate attorney to represent NCRFA as Rich Davis is counsel for both District 21 and NCRFA.

The Governor's vaccine mandate caused a great deal of research, reading, and implementation work by all parties affected. This process has been well coordinated between our legal counsel, IAFF, WSCFF, the Local Union leadership, and department leadership with the short timeframes for vaccination of the workforce.

A great deal of time has been completed in developing the Business Plan requested for the training center. Chief Cermak is hoping to have that out by end of day Friday for your reading pleasure and absorption prior to the September 13<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

N/A

**CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A



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**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Commissioner Oakes will not be at the next meeting

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Commission broke for Executive Session at 4:40pm and resumed the regular meeting at 4:59pm

**MOTION TO DIRECT THE FIRE CHIEF TO HAVE EMPLOYEES WHO ARE READY TO SIGN THEIR EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS TO GO AHEAD AND DO SO**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Longley

**DISCUSSION:**

**APPROVED:**

Direction was given to the Fire Chief to sign the MOU the Local presented regarding the mandatory vaccination policy.

**ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn at 5:00pm**

1<sup>st</sup>: Commissioner Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Iverson

**Discussion:**

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

DocuSigned by:  
*Greg Oakes*  
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**Greg Oakes**  
Board Chair

DocuSigned by:  
*Katie Casey*  
426E14679621410...  
**Katie Casey**  
Board Secretary