



North County Regional Fire Authority
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING
via ZOOM
April 14, 2021
4:00pm

declined staying at the hotel. She also feels the retreat could be condensed. Commissioner Johnson is interested in possible remote accessibility.

Temporary Project Manager Doug ten Hooopen provided an update on the grants that have been applied for or are in the process. Two grants have been awarded recently – Firehouse Subs has provided a grant of \$16,896.06 in order to purchase a LUCAS device (chest compression system). Once we receive the press release guidelines from them we will make sure to do a proper press release. The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians recently notified us of an award of \$130,253.69 received from the Casino Impact Grant.

Randy Krumm provided this month's Treasurer's Report.

Assistant Chief Makela provided the Community Risk Reduction monthly report.

Assistant Chief Bartlett provided an update on the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau (WSRB) report status. Although it is not finalized yet, we are still a protection class 4 for within the city limits but there is a slight chance we can drop that to a three, we are 90% certain we're going to drop from a protection class five in the area surrounding the city down to a four, and up in the area of Grandview it's going to remain a protection class 9 up to West cedar Vale road then east of cedar Vale it will become a 9A.

Assistant Chief Makela provided information for the Commission to consider regarding the change from New World Systems for the reporting of fire incidents to ESO Fire for this reporting.

MOTION TO APPROVE A NEW CONTRACT WITH ESO FOR RMS TO MATCH ANNEXING ARLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

1st: Commissioner Cade 2nd Commissioner Johnson

DISCUSSION:

APPROVED: Unanimous

Assistant Chief Makela provided information for the Commission to consider regarding contracting with a third-party vendor who will track, review, and follow-up with commercial occupancies and fire protection contractors to ensure fire protection and life safety systems installed in the built environment are inspected and tested at prescribed intervals and deficiencies found are addressed appropriately

MOTION TO APPROVE A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE COMPLIANCE ENGINE TO TRACK INSPECTION, TESTING, AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS FROM THE FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACTORS PERFORMING WORK IN THE CITY OF STANWOOD AND CITY OF ARLINGTON

1st: Commissioner Longley 2nd Commissioner Iverson

DISCUSSION: Ric Cade initially opposed the motion because he believed it may be unfair to those fire protection companies to be required to provide their reports to us through the compliance engine if they have never been required to do so in the past. After further clarification that this was not the case he was okay with the motion.

APPROVED: Unanimous

CHIEFS REPORT

Chief Cermak met with the City Administrator and Police Chief on Emergency Management items relating with the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) and Disaster Mitigation Plan and our Interlocal Agreement responsibilities.

Chief Cermak attended the All-American Leadership monthly all-day training academy with a cadre of other Snohomish County Fire personnel as well as throughout the West Coast.

Chief Cermak attended the Snohomish County Wildland Joint Review Board Committee meeting to review red card applications for the county applicants. Involved agencies do not have more than one representative on the committee. Nich Sacha represents Arlington, so he notified the group that Nich would be representing North County Regional Fire Authority and Arlington Fire in the future.



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The Stanwood Camano Area Foundation Philanthropist of the Year event occurred. The Stanwood Food Bank and North County Regional Fire Authority nominated the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Shawn Yanity, for the continued support they provide to both groups.

Chief Cermak met with Attorney Don Austin regarding the Brittany Miller trial in June. The preliminary hearing will occur on May 13 in Everett. Don Austin requested that a large quantity of information be reviewed and categorized for that meeting. Doug ten Hoopen will make a credible and capable witness for the preliminary hearing. Chief Cermak has asked Doug ten Hoopen to take on that project as it will take a significant amount of time in a short period and he will be a good witness.

Continued meetings occurred regarding the Regional Fire Authority annexation. The negotiations group met in preparation for the upcoming meetings. April 5th was the kick off meeting to set ground rules. April 20th is the next scheduled meeting.

Chief Cermak attended the North County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) meeting with an update on North County Regional Fire Authority annexing Arlington into the Regional Fire Authority and discussing the pandemic direction. Chief Cermak expressed gratitude for their assistance at the airport during the pandemic as volunteers.

Chief Cermak attended the Sno-Isle Commissioners meeting via Zoom.

Work was completed to purchase a new fire engine, Pierce Pumper, for Station 48 Arlington. It will be a 13-18 month build. Chief Cermak is anticipating a staff report to the Board in the second meeting of April for consideration. The apparatus committee will be meeting one more time to complete the recommendation.

All evaluations for 2020 have been completed and reviewed. Chief Cermak thanked everyone for their hard work on them. They are the best evaluations provided since he has been with North County Regional Fire Authority.

Representative Rick Larsen's office provided a letter of support for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant that was forwarded to the Federal Emergency Management (FEMA) representative to be considered in that application.

Assistant Chief Makela is assisting the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians with projects involving fire marshal issues. As a sovereign nation, it is advisory but another opportunity to drive fire and life safety.

Tribal Chairperson Shawn Yanity contacted Chief Cermak and asked that we put together a Wilderness First Aid program for them. This might be beneficial for us with the tree farm and ultra-rural areas of our community served. It could be beneficial to all concerned. We will look into forming a committee of interested people to research, develop, and work with the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians in assisting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Cade noted that there will be a Blue Card simulation lab next month.

Commissioner Oakes noted that the Regional Fire Authority Committee is meeting one time per month.

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Human Resources Manager Katie Casey provided an update on employee Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Association plan (VEBA) benefits that was just discovered. The current VEBA plan does not provide a defined beneficiary designation. Through some research she has discovered that the VEBA plan that Arlington Fire currently uses does provide this option. At any point we can offer a second VEBA plan to employees, so this may be an option soon.



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Assistant Chief Bartlett stated that the new radios have been disseminated. The brush truck modifications are in process. The radio belts that were ordered had an error by Motorola so they are replacing them for no cost to us.

The Board entered into Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140 to discuss items relating to collective bargaining issues and negotiations. The Board resumed the regular meeting at 6:50 with direction given to the Fire Chief.

ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn at 6:50pm

1st: Commissioner Johnson **2nd:** Commissioner Iverson

Discussion:

APPROVED: Unanimous

DocuSigned by:

Greg Oakes

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Greg Oakes
Board Chair

DocuSigned by:

Katie Casey

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Katie Casey
Board Secretary