



**North County Regional Fire Authority  
COMMISSIONER'S MEETING  
via ZOOM  
September 14, 2022  
4:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The following attendees were present:

**COMMISSIONERS**

Greg Oakes, Chair  
Jan Iverson  
~~Judy Williams~~ Excused  
~~Ric Cade~~ Excused  
Larry Longley  
~~Rob Johnson~~ Excused  
Marilyn Oertle  
~~Debra 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, Admin Asst 2  
Doug ten Hoopen, AC Support Services  
Steve Goforth, AC Fire Marshal

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm

**EMPLOYEE AND PUBLIC COMMENTS**

N/A

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM AUGUST 24, 2022**

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 61 UPDATE**

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous



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**NEW BUSINESS**

Cost of service analysis for contract cities and mutual aid partners (Public Consulting Group (PCG) project proposal.

**MOTION TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH PCG TO CONDUCT THE STUDY FOR FIRE/EMS COST OF SERVICE AND USE OF EREIQ QUINN FOR LEGAL COUNSEL IN THESE NEW CONTRACTS FOR REMAINING FUNDS APPROVED PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$10K FOR NEW CONTRACTS IF NECESSARY**

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Commissioner Oakes

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

We have allowed the Historical Society to borrow old photos so that they can get reproductions and return the originals to us.

Fire mechanic Mike Torrisi provided us 30-day notice that he is leaving the organization with an opportunity to be an owner in the MAC Tool Distributorships. We wish him the best in his business opportunities and hope he will come by and visit regularly with great MAC Tool deals! We will miss Mike and thank him for his dedication to our personnel safety and our equipment.

NCRFA was notified by Snohomish County EMS (SCEMS) that they were moving in a different direction with the agency with fire service experienced contract employees with paramedic/EMS background and would no longer require the position filled by Kelly Fox. NCRFA noticed Kelly Fox of this direction by SCEMS and her services were no longer needed and as directed by SCEMS Board would be paid her severance per her contract.

Several recognitions of our personnel exhibiting the Core Values of the organization, Integrity, Innovation, Professionalism, Pride and Ownership:

Kayley Mizell, Katie Casey, and Rob Freedman for their coordination of another 9-11 recognition. Mayor Sid Roberts and Adam Fortney were speakers with attendance of Nate Nehring, Councilpersons Shepro and Robb. The ROTC posted colors while Kari Wheeler sang an amazing rendition of the National Anthem finalized by the playing of Taps by David Spangler. The Arlington event was very nice also, attended by Councilpersons Schuette and Logan. The Scouts posted colors while Kari Wheeler again sang the National Anthem. A long-time Arlington citizen reached out to Chief Kraski last week requesting he be able to read a poem about 9-11 that he created that was heart felt and tearful. FFs Jacob Oesch and Mitch Kadlec did a great job of conducting the ringing of the "four/fives" bell during a moment of silence.

Innovation- over the past couple of weeks we have had dry, warm weather and low humidity acting as a recipe for brush fires. We experienced several during the period. Dan Welk receives the act of innovation recognition for this period. As Station 99 was toned for a wheat field on fire in Stanwood, FF/PM Welk looked at his captain and said grab the leaf blower. Capt. Booth didn't question his ask as they were readying for the call. As they arrived, FF Welk grabbed the blower while Capt. Booth walked the block assessing the rate of travel and tactics to communicate to incoming crews. FF Welk followed with the blower pushing out the trailing edge of the fire without a drop of water. DNR arrived and began to watch the operation and asked that they stop so that



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they could film what they had been requesting as a tool for a while. They had the video proof to justify the extinguishment. As you know, one of the challenges on wildland fires is the lack of water.

Chief Cermak worked on the staff report for the City of Arlington ILA and with Rich Davis’ review and position agreement. It will be important that he attends this meeting for this issue as there are legal implications for him to address. He was unable to attend this meeting. The question is whether the Board would like to have a special meeting or schedule Rich Davis for another meeting.

All NCRFA Chiefs and Administrative staff attended the monthly Battalion Chief’s meeting as part of our communication plan.

The training center remains on target for target completion currently. County inspectors were very impressed with the state-of-the-art retention system at the recent inspection.

Chief Goforth and Chief Cermak attended a Rotary meeting in Stanwood.

Chief Kraski and Chief Cermak attended the Snohomish Fire Chiefs meeting. Wall times at hospitals are at unacceptable levels; the County Chiefs united and will send a letter to the appropriate people to help resolve this challenge. Some immediate steps have occurred to help the process.

**IAFF LOCAL 3438 REPORT**

N/A

**BOARD DISCUSSION – COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

The Board discussed possibly scheduling a special meeting to discuss the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Arlington regarding fire inspections. Commissioner Tolbert would like to invite the City Administrator with Commissioner Johnson in agreement. Commissioner Nelson asked if the City of Arlington would have their legal counsel present as well. Commissioner Oakes suggested that NCRFA be advised by our own legal counsel before engaging with the City of Arlington regarding potential legal issues. Chief Cermak will send to the Commissioners what Paul Ellis with the City of Arlington sent to him.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

The Board thanked Mr. and Mrs. Burney who donated two statues to our crews to thank them for all they do.

Commissioner Johnson let the Board know that his daughter is just getting started with her medical trials.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** at 4:40pm

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

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

**Discussion:** none

**APPROVED:** Unanimous

DocuSigned by:  
Rob Johnson  
A23111681B944A7  
**Rob Johnson**  
**Vice-Chair**

DocuSigned by:  
Katie Casey  
428E14579521410  
**Katie Casey**  
**Board Secretary**