



North County Regional Fire Authority

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

April 09, 2025

4:00pm

CALL TO ORDER

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

The following attendees were present:

COMMISSIONERS

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

FIRE AUTHORITY STAFF

Dave Kraski, Deputy Fire Chief
Kari Wheeler, Board Secretary / Bus. Process Coordinator
Allison Jubb, Human Resources Director
Randy Krumm, Finance Director

Chair Johnson led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

None.

IAFF LOCAL 3438

Speaker: Greg Koontz, President, IAFF Local 3438

Mr. Koontz thanked the Board of Fire Commissioners for the evening's proceedings and acknowledged the ongoing dedication of personnel who continue serving the community, even amid leadership changes. They highlighted the recent challenges faced, especially tough pediatric calls, and expressed gratitude to the team and peer support members for their resilience. The speaker also conveyed appreciation to the department members, noting how difficult situations can make one question the job. He closed by expressing hope for a stronger, more effective working relationship moving forward.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA.

1st: Commissioner Oakes **2nd** Commissioner Cade

Discussion: none.

APPROVED: Unanimous



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MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.

1st: Commissioner Cade **2nd:** Commissioner Sloan-Buchanan

Attachments:

- a. [March 26, 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)
- b. [April 3, 2025 Special Meeting – Executive Session Minutes](#)
- c. [General Fund Accounts Payable](#) Check #'s 126138-126203 in the amount of \$192,282.68.
- d. [March Payroll in the amount of \\$1,769,583.16](#)
- e. [CRR 2025 – Quarter 1 report](#) – submitted by AC Goforth

Discussion: none.

APPROVED: Unanimous

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 04092025-01 Fire and Emergency Services Regular Levy
(Six-Year Levy Lid Lift).**

1st: Commissioner Oakes **2nd:** Commissioner Oertle

Attachments: [RESOLUTION No. 04092025-01 Levy Lid Lift](#)

Discussion: none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Cade – YES
Commissioner Johnson – YES
Commissioner Kelley - YES
Commissioner Oakes – YES
Commissioner Oertle – YES
Commissioner Schreiber – YES
Commissioner Sloan-Buchanan – YES

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUS



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NEW BUSINESS

Prior to the motion of New Business agenda item "a. NEW Policy 77", Chair Johnson asked if there was a requirement to have another reading for this new policy. Secretary Wheeler noted there was no statutory requirement prohibiting the Board from taking approval action on the policy if they chose.

MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 77, Veterans' Preference Points.

1st: Commissioner Oakes **2nd** Commissioner Sloan-Buchanan

Attachments: [NEW Policy 77](#)

Discussion: None.

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE POLICY 79, Military Leave.

1st: Commissioner Oertle **2nd** Commissioner Sloan-Buchanan

Attachments: [NEW Policy 79](#)

Discussion: None.

APPROVED: Unanimous

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Kraski gave a verbal update to the board. He updated them on the following items:

- CARES Coordinator Position: Interviews were held for the second CARES Coordinator, funded by NSACH. Six candidates were interviewed, with two moving forward to second-round interviews.
- CBA Discussions: Productive internal discussions were held regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement, with plans to potentially finalize at the next meeting on the 23rd.
- Hiring Process: Entry-level and lateral hiring lists have been posted and will close soon. Annual re-establishment of hiring lists is underway. Internal part-time members are participating in points-based skills testing on Friday at the training center.
- Fire Academy: The current fire academy is in week eight, with one recruit enrolled.
- Wildland Season Prep: Preparations for wildland fire season are ongoing, including pack tests (3-mile walk with a 40–45 lb. vest). Equipment is being prepped, and staff will attend the Department of Natural Resources' preseason meeting next week in Sedro-Woolley.



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- Leave Updates: At the monthly battalion chief meeting, Autumn provided updates on staff leave and return timelines — with many centered around new babies.
- He also expressed anticipation for Monday's retreat with the Commission, which will be held at the airport conference room, with lunch planned nearby. The agenda and talking points will be sent out by Kari on Friday.

BOARD DISCUSSION – COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

At 4:13pm, Chair Johnson called a recess until 5:00pm. At this time the regular meeting moved downstairs to the lower apparatus bay to accommodate additional guests attending the Fire Chief's Oath and Badge Pinning Ceremony.

The live stream portion of the meeting concluded due to technical limitations in the apparatus bay. A notice was posted that the remainder of the meeting would be video recorded and posted on the agency's YouTube channel.

At 5:00pm, in the lower apparatus bay of Station 99, Chair Johnson called the meeting to order and turned over opening remarks to the program emcee, AC ten Hoopen.

Following opening remarks, members of the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, including former Council Chair Shawn Yanity, led the room in an appreciation song and blessing.

AC ten Hoopen gave a brief biographical introduction of the new fire chief, before inviting Chair Johnson to administer the Oath of Office for North County Regional Fire Authority's new Fire Chief, Dave Kraski.

Following the Oath of Office, Chair Johnson called for a motion to adjourn before proceeding with the remainder of the program.

**the remainder of the meeting and ceremony can be viewed here [Oath and Badge Pinning Ceremony 04092025](#)*



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MOTION TO ADJOURN 5:15pm

1st: Commissioner Oakes

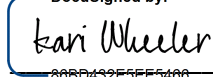
2nd Commissioner Cade

Discussion: None

APPROVED: Unanimous

Prepared by:

DocuSigned by:



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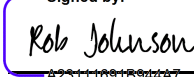
Kari Wheeler
Commission Secretary

4/24/2025

Date Signed

Attest:

Signed by:



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Rob Johnson
Board Chair

4/24/2025

Date Signed