



North County Regional Fire Authority

COMMISSIONER'S MEETING

May 28, 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~~, excused absence

Greg Oakes

Marilyn Oertle

Al Schreiber

~~Holly Sloan-Buchanan~~, excused absence

FIRE AUTHORITY STAFF

Dave Kraski, Fire Chief

Kari Wheeler, Board Secretary / Bus. Process Coordinator

Matt Hickman, Assistant Chief of EMS

Chair Johnson led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEE COMMENTS

None.

IAFF LOCAL 3438

Speaker: Kirk Normand, Vice-President, IAFF Local 3438

Kirk Normand provided a brief update, stating that IAFF Local 3438 plans to contact approximately 8,000 voters during the current levy cycle through mail, door-to-door outreach, and phone calls. The effort will ramp up following sign-ups at the next union meeting. He also reminded the public of the upcoming "Fill the Boot" fundraiser scheduled for the following weekend.

Mr. Normand expressed appreciation to Commissioners Oaks and Cade, Chief Kraski, Chief ten Hoopen, and Allison for their collaborative efforts during recent labor negotiations. He noted that the process has been positive and productive, with meaningful progress made on historically challenging issues through open dialogue and teamwork.

Before calling for approval of the agenda, Chair Johnson noted the need for an executive session, allowable under RCW 42.30.140 to discuss matters relating to collective bargaining and negotiations.



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MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA, ADDING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION ALLOWABLE UNDER RCW 42.30.140 TO DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND NEGOTIATIONS.

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

Discussion: none.

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED AGENDA.

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

Discussion: none.

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA.

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

Attachments:

- a. [May 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)
- b. [General Fund Accounts Payable](#) Check #'s 126350-126405 in the amount of \$285,702.37.
- c. [May 31, 2025 Payroll](#) in the amount of \$1,463,205.13

Discussion: none.

APPROVED: Unanimous

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing Scheduled

NEW BUSINESS

Quarterly Update, Training Division, presented by Battalion Chief, Greg Koontz

[Training Division Presentation](#)

Training Officer, Will King shared a video presentation demonstrating the use of our MS Teams platform in creating innovative and streamlined processes for our training division. These same processes are being deployed to other divisions within the department. Recently, TO King worked with MSO Brian Price on our EMS inventory and supply ordering process, resulting in a more efficient process and reduced workload.



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MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO USED CHEVY COLORADO STAFF RIGS FROM SOUTH COUNTY FIRE'S SURPLUS VEHICLE INVENTORY.

1st: Commissioner Cade

2nd Commissioner Schreiber

Attachment: [Purchase of Two Surplus Staff Vehicles from South County Fire](#)

Discussion: None

APPROVED: Unanimous

MOTION TO APPROVE, THROUGH RESOLUTION 05282025-01, THE SALE OF THE RESCUE BOAT (with trailer) IN ACCORDANCE WITH NCRFA FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICY NUMBER TWO.

1st: Commissioner Cade

2nd Commissioner Schreiber

Attachment: [Surplus through Public Auction, NCRFA Rescue Boat and Trailer](#)

Discussion: AC ten Hoopen shared that Tulalip Bay Fire is has need for the rescue boat and at the direction of the Board, the boat will be sold as surplus in accordance with NCRFA's financial management policy, offering the boat to a neighboring agency in need, or, through public auction.

APPROVED: Unanimous

CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief's Report Summary:

- **Wildland Season Preparation:** Crews are completing wildland preparation. A drier and warmer summer is anticipated, indicating an early and active wildland fire season.
- **Recruitment & Training:** Fire Academy 25-1 has concluded. One recruit, Gage Smith, graduated and has been assigned to B-Shift.
- **Chelan Conference Preparation:** Draft agenda items have been shared for the upcoming Chelan retreat. A working session is scheduled for Friday, June 6, from 1:00–4:00 p.m. at Chelan 7 Headquarters (may extend to 5:00 p.m.), followed by a 6:00 p.m. dinner. An additional educational event hosted by Nicholson is scheduled for Friday, with Allison attending.
- **Negotiations:** Contract negotiations are ongoing and nearing completion, with strong collaboration among all parties.
- **Community Engagement & Levy Education:** Planning is underway for summer events in Arlington and Stanwood. Emphasis is on educating the public about the upcoming levy and the services it supports. Informational videos and materials are nearing release.



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- **Payroll Audit:** The long-running payroll audit is close to completion, pending final input from the union's representative, who experienced a personal emergency causing delays.
- **Strategic Plan & Annual Report:** Both documents are expected to be ready for review at next week's retreat. A data analyst's work is being incorporated into the reports.
- **Co-Staffing Initiative with District 21:** The co-staffing of Medic 46 begins Sunday. Preparations are underway, including onboarding and training verifications for new members.
- **Antique Fire Engine Donation:** Construction of a display facility for the 1962 Arlington fire engine is underway at the Pioneer Museum. The vehicle remains at Station 92 pending completion.
- **EMS Supply Management Improvements:** A new ordering system, developed by Will and Chief Hickman, has significantly reduced inventory volume and costs. The agency is now ordering supplies as needed, leading to cost savings and inquiries from vendors due to the drop in order volume.
- **Appreciation:** The Chief thanked Will for his technology presentation and emphasized the financial efficiency gained in EMS supply management.

MOTION TO ADJOURN 5:34pm

1st: Commissioner Oakes

2nd: Commissioner Cade

Discussion: None

APPROVED: Unanimous

Prepared by:

DocuSigned by:

Kari Wheeler

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Kari Wheeler

Commission Secretary

6/12/2025

Date Signed

Attest:

Signed by:

Rob Johnson

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Rob Johnson

Board Chair

6/12/2025

Date Signed