



North Mason Regional Fire Authority (NMRFA)

Meeting Minutes

460 NE Old Belfair Hwy, Belfair WA

Telephone/Videoconference Option

8/10/2021

Present: Commissioners Kelley McIntosh, Brooke Quigley, Paul Severson, Dan Kewish, Bob Miller; Executive Assistant Wassenaar; Chief Bakken; Assistant Chief Cooper

The meeting was held in-person with a telephone/videoconference option available.

Absent: None

Guests: Dale Webb (Belfair Water District 1); Fire Chief Clint Volk (Mason County Fire District 6)

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting minutes from July 13 and July 20, 2021, were presented for approval. Commissioner Quigley asked to make note of Dale Webb's (Belfair Water District 1) full name, as mentioned in the July 13, 2021, meeting minutes.

Commissioner Quigley moved to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Kewish seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIALS

Financial vouchers were presented for review. Chief Bakken explained that there was a large purchase of Zoll AEDs for disbursement to the school district. He confirmed that this is a partnership program and the schools will reimburse the Fire Authority for the equipment.

A motion was made by Commissioner Miller to approve the payroll and expense vouchers under BIAS 210702001 to 210702098 in the amount of \$722,569.93 and expense vouchers 210701001 to 210701002 in the amount of \$1,053,333.21. Commissioner Kewish seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

AFG Extrication Grant: Chief Bakken explained that the Fire Authority applied for a Regional AFG Grant with Mason County Fire Districts 3 and 6 for extrication equipment. He stated that we were awarded \$169,000 to purchase five (5) sets of equipment. Guest Fire Chief Clint Volk advised that he wanted to attend tonight's Board meeting in-person to express his thanks for the multiple grants that have been received as a result of the regional grant applications. Much of the equipment and services received from the grants would not have been a possibility for District 6 without the grants.

Belfair Water District: Guest Dale Webb (General Manager) Belfair Water District 1 provided a state of the union address regarding water supply in Belfair. Mr. Webb discussed the most recent district comprehensive plan, the impact of existing and upcoming construction projects and the relationship with the Fire Authority.

COVID-19 Update: Chief Bakken provided an update, stating that positive cases have increased in recent weeks. Due to the increase in positive cases, the CDC has changed the status of Mason County to high risk for transmission. As a result, the Fire Authority will be re-implementing a mask mandate for employees, regardless of vaccination status. Chief Bakken also stated that he is still awaiting additional guidance regarding any changes to in-person Board meetings and will keep the Board updated as information is received.

Chief Bakken then notified the Board the new vaccination mandate issued by Governor Inslee via proclamation on Monday. He shared the clarification/direction he received from attorney Brian Snure and confirmed the mandate applies to all Fire Authority responders and volunteers who provide medical care. Chief Bakken then indicated that there has been no guidance yet regarding repercussions if vaccination is not received or the impact on collective bargaining units. He advised there is an Officers meeting scheduled for tomorrow to discuss messaging to the crews.

Chief Bakken further explained that before any decisions can be made regarding how to handle the mandate within the Fire Authority, additional guidance is needed from the state. Commissioner Quigley asked if there is a testing alternative available for those who do not want to receive the vaccine. Chief Bakken stated that the language in the proclamation does not allow for testing in lieu of vaccination.

HB 1310 Update: Chief Bakken provided a brief update, stating that there is a disconnect between Mason County Sheriff's Office command staff and administration regarding appropriate response procedures. Legal clarification was received regarding the bill, which indicated that the intent was not to prohibit police from responding to mental health crises, even when no crime is being committed. A countywide workgroup has been created with MCSO, Fire Chiefs and MACECOM. MCSO has indicated that their policy is to continue to respond in most instances; however, multiple Fire Chiefs stated this is not happening in practice. The workgroup will continue to meet on a monthly basis.

OLD BUSINESS

Strategic Planning: Chief Bakken explained that the Strategic Plan Steering Committee approved the draft plan which has been provided to the Board for review. He stated that there is currently no deadline for approval and confirmed that the draft will be sent to the CAC for final feedback.

NEW BUSINESS

August 17th Board of Commissioners Meeting: Chief Bakken stated he will be on vacation next week and will not be in attendance of the Board meeting. Assistant Chief Cooper will lead the meeting in his absence.

Required Human Resources Training: Chief Bakken advised that updated sexual harassment training is required and has been assigned to each of the Commissioners in Target Solutions. He stated that if any Commissioners need assistance or password information, they can reach out to Executive Assistant Angie McCormick.

Public Comment: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

With no further business Commissioner McIntosh moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Authority Secretary Renee Wassenaar

Commissioner Kelley McIntosh

Commissioner Paul Severson

Commissioner Brooke Quigley

Commissioner Daniel Kewish

Commissioner Bob Miller