



North Mason Regional Fire Authority (NMRFA)

Meeting Minutes

490 NE Old Belfair Hwy, Belfair WA

Telephone/Videoconference Option

7/12/2022

Present: Commissioners Severson, Miller, Kewish, Quigley and McIntosh; Executive Assistant Wassenaar; Assistant Chief Cooper; Chief Bakken

Absent: None

Guests: None

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting minutes from June 14 and 21, 2022, were presented for approval.

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

FINANCIALS

Financial vouchers were presented for review. Commissioner Miller asked about vehicle fuel costs and if we anticipate remaining within the budgeted amount for the year now that the price of gasoline is dropping. Chief Bakken stated that he anticipates being over budget but will be able to make up the loss in other budget areas (such as timber). Commissioner Miller asked who performs vehicle maintenance for the Fire Authority. Assistant Chief Cooper stated that tire-related services are received through Les Schwab and brakes are through Gilmore's Automotive.

A motion was made by Commissioner McIntosh to approve the payroll and expense vouchers under BIAS 220701001 to 220701088 in the amount of \$388,822.46 and expense vouchers under BIAS 220702001 to 220702005 in the amount of \$123,610.12. Commissioner Severson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION

Tahuya Day: Chief Bakken provided a brief update, indicating that the Firefighters Association made roughly \$3,000 grilling hamburgers throughout the day. He also advised that there was a suicide near Kay's Corner, close to the start of the parade route. Chief Bakken indicated that a Chaplain was dispatched, and the Handle with Care Program was initiated, to reach out to the victim's school aged sibling.

Mason County Burn Restrictions: Chief Bakken stated that outdoor burn restrictions are in effect. He also explained that the new Fire Marshal has been very collaborative with the Fire Chiefs Association and Department of Natural Resources (DNR), which allowed the countywide restrictions to be put in place almost simultaneously with DNR's restrictions. Chief Bakken advised that a countywide burn ban policy is currently being developed, to align Mason County burn ban indicators with those used by DNR. He also explained that he is anticipating an aggressive wildland season, which may be a result of limited resources available because of the COVID vaccination requirement. Commissioner Miller asked if the burn restrictions are published/advertised; Chief Bakken indicated that the Fire Authority utilizes social media, readerboard signs and the website.

Station 21 Construction Closeout: Chief Bakken advised that the Fire Authority is in the process of closing out construction of the new headquarters fire station. He stated that the final invoice was approved at tonight's Board meeting; only minor costs for our own subcontractors are remaining at this time (i.e. Plymovent, Intellisystems). He also discussed the Owner Contingency balance; TRICO is requesting to recover some loss through the Owner Contingency, subject to Fire Authority approval. Chief Bakken stated that the Fire Authority team, with support from Hill International, will be pushing back on the requested funding for stormwater pond repairs.

Chief Bakken explained that the old headquarters fire station has been cleaned and is nearly ready to turn over to the county. He also advised that multiple county departments are preparing to move in.

Dan Cady Passing: Chief Bakken stated that Don Cady recently passed away; he and his family have done a lot for the Fire Authority over the years. He explained that Don assisted with construction of Fire Station 24, and his family continues to lease the Fire Authority land for Station 82 at Maggie Lake. Commissioner Quigley advised that there will be a celebration of life for Don at the HUB in August.

Fourth of July: Chief Bakken stated that there were 34 calls throughout the weekend, including a suicide, ATV accident fatality and fireworks accident resulting in internal injury.

ARPA Funding Request: Chief Bakken explained that the Fire Authority submitted a \$337,000 request for ARPA funding, to augment the mobile integrated health program. If approved, the funding will assist with initial outfitting, x-ray equipment, vehicle, etc. He further explained that there is roughly \$6 million available to Mason County through ARPA, and the funds need to be loosely associated with COVID response.

Tender 21 Site Visit: Assistant Chief Cooper stated that he and Lieutenant Rhead flew to South Dakota to inspect the new water tender. The tender will be shipped to Spokane shortly, for additional outfitting by General Fire.

NMRFA Aid Car Incident: Chief Bakken explained that on Friday one of the rear wheels broke off the Aid Car during a BLS transport. While the wheel did hit another car, there was only minor damage and no injuries. The Aid Car has been inspected by Les Schwab, who confirmed all 8 lug nuts had broken off, which may have been the result of overtightening. Chief Bakken stated that the Fire Authority does not alter or adjust wheels, specifically for this reason.

OLD BUSINESS

Joint Fire Chief's/Commissioners Meeting Recap: Commissioner McIntosh provided an update, stating that the meeting was held last week with all districts participating (aside from 6 and 13). She advised that the meeting went well; the new Mason County Fire Marshal Randy Collins introduced himself, and Emergency Prevention Specialist Abe Gardner provided a presentation on the RAP Program. Chief Bakken stated that he will have Abe brief the Board on the program's impact over the next month or two.

Mobile Integrated Health: Chief Bakken explained that stakeholders recently met to confirm that everyone is on the same page in regard to the overall purpose of the program. He indicated that the Fire Authority will need a professional services agreement between itself and Dr. Hoffman individually, as a licensed physician through WA State; Fire Authority attorney Brian Snure has provided a draft contract that is currently being considered and modified. Chief Bakken stated that we will also need an interlocal agreement with Mason County Public Hospital District #2. Additionally, Captain Ehresman is currently working with EPIC to create a medical records portal for the Fire Authority; EPIC is already utilized by CHI Franciscan. He explained that setup is \$7000, which he will be asking St. Michaels to cover. Chief Bakken advised that he anticipates the program going live in October. He also indicated there may be a joint meeting with the Fire Authority Board and the MCPHD2 Board to sign an ILA in September.

Chaplain Program: Chief Bakken provided an update, stating that the new truck for the Chaplain program has been delivered. He explained that they are currently in the process of scheduling a countywide Chaplain Academy, which may be made open to other counties.

WSRB Evaluation: Chief Bakken stated that the WSRB evaluation has been completed. At this time, there is no additional information regarding the score received; however, there is no indication that it will be changed. He explained the evaluation process, with many of the documents being gathered and sent electronically, followed by a two-hour site visit. He also stated that many insurance companies are moving away from WSRB and are evaluating total fire loss costs when evaluating insurance rates.

NEW BUSINESS

Strategic Plan Review: Chief Bakken briefly reviewed Fire Authority accomplishments and provided an updated Strategic Plan matrix to the Board. He stated that there will be further discussion at a later date but wanted to be sure it was addressed.

Public Comment: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Stork Pinning: A stork pinning ceremony was held for Fire Authority Paramedic Mickey Cotter, who recently delivered a baby.

Commissioner Miller moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Commissioner Paul Severson

Commissioner Bob Miller

Commissioner Kelley McIntosh

Commissioner Brooke Quigley

Commissioner Dan Kewish