



North Mason Fire

NORTH MASON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY Regular Meeting Minutes: 9/10/2024

Present: Commissioners Paul Severson, John Inch, Kelley McIntosh, Dan Kewish, and Bob Miller. Chief Bakken, Assistant Chief Cooper, and Executive Assistant Katie Musgrave.

Absent: None

Guests: Via Zoom Conferencing: Kyle Ottenbacher with North Mason High School

Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

FINANCIALS

Financial vouchers were presented and reviewed. Chief Bakken noted that there was a voucher for a consultant hired to conduct the CMS Audit. Additionally, there were vouchers for the annual hose testing and for the purchase of tires.

Commissioner McIntosh moved to approve Voucher Numbers 240901001 to 240901088 in the amount of \$481,225.96. Commissioner Inch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

GEMT Settlement: Chief Bakken shared that the Authority has received notice of a GEMT settlement in the amount of \$135,000. GEMT is a reimbursement that supplements what CMS pays per ambulance transport. Each year, a report and cost analysis are conducted by GEMT to determine any additional funds owed. He noted that we have historically budgeted conservatively, as we do not have exact calculations for their funding model.

MIHP Documentary Release: Chief Bakken was pleased to announce the successful release of "Beyond 911: Transforming Rural Healthcare," a documentary about the North Mason Regional Fire Authority's Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program. The film premiered on September 4th at SEEFilm Cinema in Bremerton and was well attended. It is now available on YouTube,

<https://bit.ly/filmbeyond911>. Chief Bakken extended thanks to partners Kitsap Strong, videographer Nolan Reynolds, and Katie Musgrave for bringing this project to life.

Kitsap County Fire Academy: Chief Bakken shared that we have students attending the Kitsap County Fire Academy: Conor Taylor, Kylie Franklin, and Quichocho.

Tavia Henry-EMS Provider of the Year: Chief Bakken announced that Firefighter/Paramedic Tavia Henry has been selected as the 2024 EMS Provider of the Year, nominated by her EMS peers in Mason County. He expressed pride in Tavia and emphasized that this recognition is well deserved.

DOH Fall Prevention Award: Chief Bakken shared that the NMRFA has received the Washington Department of Health Falls Prevention Award. This award recognizes the efforts of Emergency Prevention Specialist Abe Gardner and the RAP team for their work in installing grab bars, conducting home safety inspections, and implementing other projects aimed at helping community members age safely in their homes.

Wildland Fire Deployments: Chief Bakken reported that it has been a busy fire season for the NMRFA. Firefighter/Medic Severance has been deployed multiple times this summer with Tender 82, including a recent assignment with a Hotshot Crew. Tender 82 is highly sought after due to being one of the few 4x4 tenders available. Additionally, Firefighter/Medic Quiroz and Firefighter Torres have also been on deployment for several days. A big thank you to all our crew members who have been out on wildfires this year. Their dedication and hard work are greatly appreciated.

South County MIHP: Chief Bakken noted that the vision for a South County MIHP team is taking shape. He recently met with Mason County Public Hospital District #1, which is looking to support the program's expansion through funding, administrative support, and the possibility of a Rural Healthcare Designation. Additional funding opportunities are also in development.

Medic Unit Warranty Repair: Chief Cooper shared that one of the ambulances recently lost its motor. Fortunately, this is a fairly new ambulance, and the new motor is covered under warranty. The ambulance is back in service as of today.

NEW BUSINESS

Command Car Purchasing: Chief Bakken informed the Commissioners that the staff car fleet is aging and that several vehicles need to be replaced. Specifically, Car 5 (the Ford Crown Vic), the 2013 Ford Escape, and Assistant Chief Cooper's 2012 Ford F-150 are slated for replacement. The Ford F-150 could be repurposed as a utility vehicle. Chief Bakken proposed to conduct research and prepare a formal proposal for the Commissioners before making any purchases. The Commissioners reached a consensus to move forward with this plan.

2025 Budget Process: Chief Bakken noted that the 2025 budgeting process is underway, and they are still waiting for values from the Mason County Assessor's Office. They are also pending Labor

& Industries (L&I) and insurance rates. A draft budget is expected to be presented to the Commissioners by the end of October.

NEW BUSINESS

2025-26 CBA: Chief Bakken announced that the 2025-26 IAFF Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) has been completed.

OLD BUSINESS

NMRFA Station Signage: Chief Cooper noted that new station signage has been designed, with each sign branded for the corresponding community, such as "Trails End Station." These signs are currently in production.

State Financial Audit Completion and Exit Interview: Chief Bakken shared that the State Financial Audit and exit interview have been completed. He commended Executive Admin Angie McCormick for her quality of work and the immense time and effort required for the audit. This was the first time the Authority received HRSA funding, which presented several challenges since the HRSA grant was COVID relief funding rather than a competitive grant process. He noted that the audit returned clean with no exceptions.

Station 81 Remodel Update: Chief Cooper provided an update on the Station 81 remodel, stating that cabinets, island, flooring, countertops, paint, and lighting are in progress. He also mentioned that appliances will be ordered this month. He expects that the completion of the project will take place by the Oct 8th deadline.

Public Comment:

North Mason School District teacher Kyle Ottenbacher joined the meeting and shared that he is to participate in the EMS training program that will be introduced at NMHS this year.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Chief Bakken shared that registration is open for the Fire Commissioners Conference, which will be held this year in Spokane, WA.


With no further business, Commissioner McIntosh moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Inch seconded the motion.

With no further business, Commissioner Severson adjourned the meeting at 5:38 pm.

Commissioner Paul Severson



Commissioner Kelley McIntosh

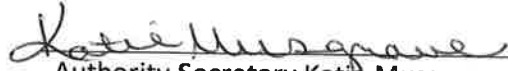


Commissioner Dan Kewish

Commissioner John Inch



Commissioner Bob Miller



Authority Secretary Katie Musgrave