



# North Mason Fire

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## NORTH MASON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY Regular Meeting Minutes: 1/21/2025

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

**Absent:** Commissioner Bob Miller (Excused)

**Guests:** None

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

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**Carl Bryant (Tahuya COC) Introduction** – Chief Bakken shared that he and COC Carl Bryant attended last week's Tahuya Community Club meeting. He noted the excellent turnout and mentioned that Club members expressed their appreciation for the recent renovation of the community room. The group is eagerly anticipating the upcoming pancake breakfast in April.

**Los Angeles Wildfire Response** – FF/Medic Kyle Severance remains deployed to the California wildfires. The strike team, along with other crews from Washington, was featured on the cover of Sunday's Seattle Times. One of Kyle's videos was also highlighted in the digital edition. Teams are expected to begin demobilizing this week.

**Celebration of Life Gary Shirbish** - Chief Bakken shared that Gary's service was well attended; many stories were shared of the impact Gary made in the lives of so many people.

**South Mason County MIHP and Hiring Process** - Chief Bakken provided an update on the nurse hiring process. Following the initial interviews, two candidates were invited for working interviews, which concluded today. An announcement is expected next week. Additionally, the provider position will be reposted.

**FF/EMT Hiring Process** - Chief Bakken reported that following the assessment center, four top candidates have been identified. Meetings with the captains will be held to review and finalize selections.

**Mason County EMT Classes** - NMRFA is hosting the Mason County EMT class, led by Paramedic Robert Collamore. Classes will continue through April.

**NMRFA Annual Dinner** – Chief Bakken reminded the Commissioners about the upcoming NMRFA Annual Dinner on February 8 at the Alderbrook Resort & Spa.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Policy Approval-OPS 35 MIHP Referral** - Chief Bakken shared that the MIHP program is now in its second year and has become the standard of care. To formalize key processes, the policy includes guidelines for patient referrals from fire and EMS crews. Officers are holding crews accountable to ensure consistency in making referrals. Chief Bakken presented the OPS 35 MIHP Referral policy for the Commissioners' review and approval.

**Commissioner McIntosh moved to approve Policy OPS 35 MIHP Referral as presented; Commissioner Inch seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Chiefs MOU Review** - Commissioner Severson requested a review of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Chief and Assistant Chief. The Commissioners agreed to conduct the review in the coming months.

**DNR Timber Sales** - Chief Bakken shared information about a recent press release from DNR regarding the suspension of timber sales. While this will affect Timber Tax revenues, the extent of the impact remains unclear at this time.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**2025 Board Elections** – Commissioner Kewish motioned to continue with the 2024 leadership configuration, with Commissioner Severson serving as Board Chair and Commissioner McIntosh serving as Vice Chair for 2025; Commissioner Inch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**CAC and Community Connection** – Chief Bakken announced on Friday the dissolution of the Citizens Advisory Committee, which was met with a positive response.

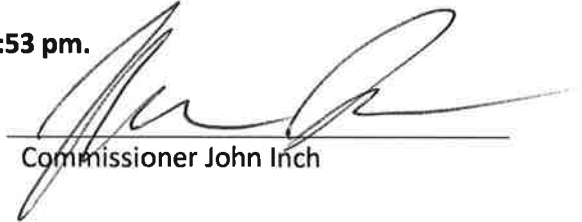
**Public Comment: None**

**GOOD OF THE ORDER:** None

**With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 pm.**



Commissioner Paul Severson




Commissioner John Inch



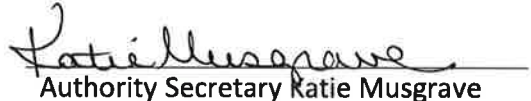
Commissioner Kelley McIntosh



Commissioner Bob Miller



Commissioner Dan Kewish



Authority Secretary Katie Musgrave