



North Mason Fire

NORTH MASON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY Regular Meeting Minutes: 9/9/2025

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

~~Zoom~~^{KW}: Commissioner Inch

Guests: None

Meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

FINANCIALS

Financial vouchers were presented and reviewed by the Board.

Commissioner McIntosh moved to approve Voucher Numbers 250901001 to 250901093 for \$729,803.16. Commissioner Inch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

MCPHD #2 MIHP ILA Extension: Chief Bakken provided an update on the Mason County Public Hospital District 2 MIHP ILA. He noted that the current Mobile Integrated Health Program funding was set to end in 2025. He was pleased to report that the district has approved an additional three years of funding. He requested that the Board of Commissioners send a letter of thanks to the Hospital District for their continued support.

Maggie Lake Fire: Chief Bakken provided a brief update on the incident, noting that it was a significant structure fire that remains under investigation.

Suicide Prevention Month: Chief Bakken shared that the MIHP team responds to suicide calls, including most recent calls to the middle school and high school. Kristi Eilers, PMHNP is providing suicide prevention resources to students, individuals and families throughout our community and Mason County.

NMSD School Levy: Chief Bakken shared that he and Administrative Assistant Katie Musgrave are working to support the school district's levy campaign. He noted there is strong momentum and broad community support for the effort.

LWOP Request: Chief Bakken reported that Firefighter Ellie Lechner has requested an extension of her leave beyond October, now planned to return in February 2026. All benefits and pay have been suspended. Firefighter Tuesday Palmer will continue to fill the position during this period.

Solar Panel Program Update: Chief Bakken reported that the solar panels have been installed, and the team is awaiting delivery of the batteries. The project remains on budget and on schedule.

2023-2024 State Audit: Chief Bakken reported that this year's audit will include a one-year financial review and a two-year performance audit. The audit is expected to take place in November and December.

Mason County Service Provider Summit: Chief Bakken announced that on October 22nd, the North Mason Regional Fire Authority will host a countywide Service Provider Summit at the Shelton Civic Center. The event will bring together service providers from across Mason County to network, share information about available services, and strengthen collaboration to better support community members.

2025 RDD Fire Academy: Chief Bakken shared that this year's academy is the largest to date, with 41 cadets enrolled in the state-sponsored program. Five North Mason Regional Fire Authority students are participating, and the program comes at no cost to the department. Chief Bakken also discussed the possibility of implementing an entrance test to ensure candidates are well-prepared and set up for success before starting the academy.

Mutual Aid Agreement: Chief Bakken reported that the last Mutual Aid Agreement was completed in 2019. Since then, several districts have merged, and a new agreement is now nearing completion.

Olympic College Advisory Committee: Chief Bakken reported that the Olympic College MEDIC and EMT program invited him to serve on their advisory committee. He accepted the invitation and looks forward to contributing to the committee's work.

NEW BUSINESS:

2026 NMRFA Budget: Chief Bakken noted that preparation of the 2026 budget is currently underway.

MACECOM Cost-per-Call Discussion: Chief Bakken reported that MACECOM is exploring a possible increase in the cost-per-call billing structure. Further discussions among the chiefs and MACECOM leadership are ongoing to evaluate impacts and next steps.

OLD BUSINESS:

EMS Levy: This topic will be covered at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER: None

Chief Bakken shared that he will be delivering the keynote address at the 9/11 Memorial event in Bremerton, held at Evergreen Park on September 11th at 6:00 p.m. He extended an open invitation for all to join the event.

Commissioner Severson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Inch seconded the motion. With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.



Commissioner Paul Severson



Commissioner John Inch



Commissioner Kelley McIntosh



Commissioner Bob Miller



Commissioner Dan Kewish



Authority Secretary Katie Musgrave