



# North Mason Fire

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## NORTH MASON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY Regular Meeting Minutes: 5/19/2026

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

**Zoom:** None

**Absent:** Commissioners John Inch (Wildland training) and Assistant Chief Cooper

Meeting was called to order at 5:06 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### FINANCIALS

Chief Bakken provided a review of the May financials, noting that tax revenues have begun to flow in, with approximately 60% collected to date. DNR/Timber tax revenue is currently lower than anticipated; however, GEMT and ambulance billing revenues remain strong and continue to perform well. He also noted that the Authority's annual bond payment will be made in May. Additionally, the project construction fund, which currently has a balance of approximately \$6,000, will be closed out, as it is no longer necessary to keep the fund open.

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**Letter of Commendation:** Chief Bakken presented a letter of commendation to Executive Administrative Assistant Katie Musgrave in recognition of her work in securing the Department of Commerce Solar Grant. He also expressed appreciation for her efforts in identifying a federal tax credit that recovered 30% of the project's cost, resulting in significant savings to the Authority that otherwise would have been paid through local funds.

**Assistance to Firefighters Grant:** Chief Bakken shared that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program has opened for the 2025 funding cycle. The Authority plans to pursue four to five grant opportunities, including a regional grant for bunker gear, a SAFER grant for staffing, a Fire Prevention and Safety grant, funding for a water tender, and other equipment needs.

**Community HOA Meeting Tour:** Chief Bakken shared that the Community HOA Meeting Tour continues, with additional meetings being held throughout the district. During these presentations, he provides NMRFA updates and discusses topics of community interest, including

wildfire preparedness, the Mobile Integrated Health Program (MIHP), burn bans, emergency preparedness, and other local concerns raised by residents.

**Type III Fire Engine Purchase Request:** Chief Bakken reported that the purchase of the Type III Fire Engine has been completed. The Authority is scheduled to take possession of the apparatus next week.

**Burn Boot Camp:** Chief Bakken shared that NMRFA will be hosting a Burn Boot Camp in June. The training will be provided by Harborview and is open to local EMS providers throughout the region. He expressed appreciation to Mindy Bishop for coordinating the training opportunity and helping bring this valuable educational event to the Authority and surrounding agencies.

**Passing of CRT Member:** Chief Bakken shared the news regarding Sid Cackette, one of NMRFA's original Community Response Team (CRT) members. He recognized Sid's longstanding commitment to the organization and his contributions to the CRT program.

**DOH Warehouse:** Chief Bakken shared an opportunity identified by Emergency Prevention Specialist Abe Gardner through the Department of Health warehouse in Olympia. Through the equipment acquisition process, several hospital beds were obtained for community members who cannot afford rental costs. Several beds have already been placed in local homes.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Investigation Update and Closeout:** Chief Bakken reported that the personnel investigation has been completed and the disciplinary action has been implemented, bringing the matter to a close.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Commissioner McIntosh reported on the recent all-county Fire Commissioners Meeting, which was hosted by South Mason Fire & Rescue. The Mason County Fire Marshal attended and spoke to the group. She also noted that the next meeting is scheduled for July 9th and will be hosted by District 13. The September 3rd meeting will be held at Central Mason Fire & Rescue.


Chief Bakken shared that Tahuya Day is scheduled for July 4th. He announced that this year's Grand Marshal will be NMRFA's own Carl Bryant, recognizing his service and contributions to the community.

Chief Bakken reminded the Board that 29th Annual Safety Days is scheduled for the week of June 8th at both Sand Hill Elementary and Belfair Elementary Schools. The event provides fire and safety education to local students and is an important part of the Authority's community outreach efforts. He also expressed appreciation to Abe Gardner for his work coordinating the event.

The Commissioners reviewed their calendars and discussed potential dates to begin negotiations meetings. Staff will coordinate scheduling and provide proposed meeting dates for consideration.

**With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm.**

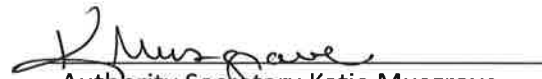
  
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Authority Secretary Katie Musgrave