

## **SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 21**

### **Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022 @6:30 p.m.**

**Station 49 Bay**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Safford called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

**Attendees:** Chairman Safford, Commissioners Nordstrom & Taft, Chief Schmidt & Executive Assistant Tiner. There was one Guest and four Crew present.

**Flag Salute:** Led by Chief Schmidt

**Public Input:** Citizen Johnson asked if the District is still looking for Volunteers. Yes, the District is still looking and stated they need signs at both Stations requesting Volunteer Firefighters.

**Union Input:** None

**Volunteer Input:** None

### **Consent Agenda:**

- 1) Approval of minutes from January 10, 2022, Regular Meeting
- 2) Payroll: December = \$156,211.93
- 3) Financials: \$72,697.55

***Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda item 1 as amended and items 2 through 3 as presented. Commissioner Taft seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.***

### **Old Business:**

#### **Station 50 Update –**

- The Waterline construction has begun. The District had an obstruction removed, which will lower the adjoining neighbor's pond level which will be a benefit to them.
- PUD will remove several trees back to 30 ft. in front of the Station.
- Spoke with the County regarding the process of applying for Housing Grants – the process is quite complicated.

### **New Business:**

#### **Five-Member Commissioner Board Discussion –**

Re-addressed last year's suggestion of a Five Member Board. Chairman Safford believes a Five Member Board should consist of two representatives from the South District, two from the North District and one At-Large. Discussion held. The Board agreed to table the discussion until 2023, once Station 50 is complete.

### **Chief/Secretary Reports:**

- **Apparatus Report** – Discussion held regarding all the Apparatus repairs.
- **Grants** –
  - Applied for the SAFER Grant for three positions.
  - Working on an AFG Grant for a Tender Engine and for various Training.
  - Grant Writer Michelle Mazzola is helping with the Fire Levy, newsletters, etc. Working on how the District can better communicate with the Public. She is also researching Grants for Volunteer Retention. The District's Volunteer Coordinator will assist with this process with the Chief.
  - Commissioner Taft would like all potential Public Communications to go through the Board before pursuing. He would like that in writing. It was suggested to amend the Communication Policy to add this.

- EMT Training - The Chief is getting his EMS Instructor License back. He will start various EMT training classes for both in-house and outside students.
- District Accountant – Various local Fire Districts have spoken to the Chief about a shared Accountant. Discussions will begin, with the Board’s approval. This position would handle Finances, Payroll, Human Resources and Medical Services Officer duties.  
It was the Consensus of the Board to proceed with discussions with other local Fire Districts for a shared Accountant position.
- District Training Program - FF Nunemaker moved the District’s Training Platform from North County’s to a shared Platform with local Fire Districts. It is up and running. Chief is very appreciative of FF Nunemaker’s work on this.
- Public Comments regarding New Fire Station – Most comments have been positive. One Citizen voiced concerns. Chief offered to have them set up a meeting with their neighbors to discuss any concerns.
- Internet – Our IT department is setting up internet in the Bays and at the AHIC.

**Commissioner Reports:** None

**Announcements:**

- Next Regular Commissioner meeting Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., at the Arlington Heights Improvement Club.

**Executive Session:** The Board recessed at 7:40 p.m. and went into Executive Session to Review the Performance of a Public Employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). It was expected to last until 7:55 p.m. At 7:55 p.m., the Chairman came out of Executive Session and extended the meeting until 8:00 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the Board emerged from Executive Session and returned to Regular Session. The following motions were made:

1. *Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve a salary increase of 4% for Fire Chief Chad Schmidt, retroactive to January 1, 2022. Chairman Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*
2. *Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve a salary increase of 4% for Hourly Employees, retroactive to January 1, 2022. Chairman Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*
3. *Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve a salary increase to \$16.00 for all Volunteers, retroactive to January 1, 2022. Chairman Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote, with Commissioner Taft abstaining.*

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

**Minutes Approved By:**

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Chairman Safford

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Commissioner Taft

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Commissioner Nordstrom

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Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt