

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

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting

Wednesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.

@ AHIC

**Call to Order:** Chairman Taft called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Attendees:** Chairman Taft, Commissioner Nordstrom, Commissioner Safford, Chief Schmidt, Financial Director Perez, Admin Assistant Linklater, 4 citizens, and 1 member of the crew.

**Flag Salute:** Led by Commissioner Safford

**Oath of Office** – Chief Schmidt swore in Commissioner Taft for another 6-year term as Snohomish County Fire District 21 Fire Commissioner.

**Election of Officers** – Selection of Board Chair and Vice Chair for 2024 - Chairman Taft nominated Eric Nordstrom as the Chair for 2024.

*Chairman Taft made a motion to approve Commissioner Eric Nordstrom as the Chair for 2024. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

Commissioner Taft nominated Commissioner Dave Safford as the Vice Chair for 2024.

*Commissioner Taft made a motion to approve Commissioner Dave Safford as Vice Chair for 2024. Chairman Nordstrom seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

**Public Input:** The Valentine's Day Father-Daughter Dance at AHIC will be held on Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Dance is free and open to the community.

**Union Input:** Firefighter Bates thanked the Board of Commissioners for all their Support.

**Volunteer Input:** None

### **Consent Agenda:**

- 1) Approval of Minutes from December 13th, 2023, Regular Meeting
- 2) Payroll: December - \$160,340.89
- 3) Claims: \$97,107.81

*Commissioner Taft made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 1 through 3. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

**Financial Report:** Financial Director Perez shared that in 2023 the District was able to retain more cash as previous years. The District is still waiting to receive the remaining reimbursement for the 2023 Wildland Fires.

### **Old Business:**

**ALS Services/ALS Negotiations** – District 21 has been notified that the ALS Contract with North County Regional Fire Authority (NCRFA) will end on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. NCRFA will not renew its contract with Fire District 21 due to not being able to agree on numbers. NCRFA has not been willing to negotiate any further. Chief Schmidt attended the NCRFA Board of Commissioner Meeting earlier in the day (Jan 10<sup>th</sup>) and communicated how important relationships are to District 21, he explained he feels this happened due to a lack of communication and instead of talking to each other NCRFA had their Attorney communicate for them. Chief Schmidt shared that he asked them to come back to the table and continue negotiating, Chief offered full transparency and to meet with them and the District's Financial Director to go over numbers. Chief Schmidt has tried hard to push this but has gotten very little feedback. It is unrealistic for District 21 to develop their own ALS Services by July 1<sup>st</sup> Chief explained to them. District 21 is using NCRFA methodology to come up with the numbers but they do not agree with what we have come up with. District 21 comes up with \$100,000 less than NCRFA. At NCRFA's February Board Meeting, they will discuss this further.

**Continued ALS Services/ALS Negotiations -**

If we can't come to a resolution District 21 has no choice and will have to hire in-house Paramedics. Chief will be reaching out to the County and asking for them to do a review so that they will consider adding another ALS License.

**Levy** – The Board will motion to approve a Resolution in February to allow the District to run for a General Purpose Levy during the Special Election on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. The District has not passed a Levy in the last three years.

**New Business:**

**Revision of Agendas and Minutes** – Error was realized, since the August 2023 Agenda the “month” of the payroll has been off by one month. The amounts have all been accurate, however, the month was off. The Agenda and Minutes that were affected have been corrected.

**Holidays with Heroes Program** - Arlington Police Department's Chief Ventura invited District 21 to be a part of the Holidays with Heroes Program. District 21's Lieutenant Nunemaker and Volunteer Firefighter Brittany Skrabak participated in the program. This valuable program provides children an opportunity to shop for a special gift for themselves and their families. It also helps foster a positive experience and relationship between law enforcement, first responders, and the community.

**Chief/Secretary Reports:**

- **Apparatus Report** – Looking into purchasing a new Tender Engine with the Grant monies received by FEMA.

*Chairman Nordstrom made a motion to authorize \$791,000 for a new Tender Engine subject to change orders. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

- **Equipment Report** – None
- **Grants** – The District will apply for SAFER Grant again in March 2024.
- **Volunteer Pay** – The Chief is working on a policy. He will discuss this during the February meeting.
- **February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting Change Request** – Due to lack of quorum the February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular meeting needs to be rescheduled to Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

*Chairman Nordstrom made a motion to approve moving the February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Regular Meeting to February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 due to lack of quorum. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.*

**Commissioner Reports** – Commissioner Safford and Commissioner Taft would like to register for the WFCA Conference on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024. Admin Assistant Linklater will register them and herself for the conference.

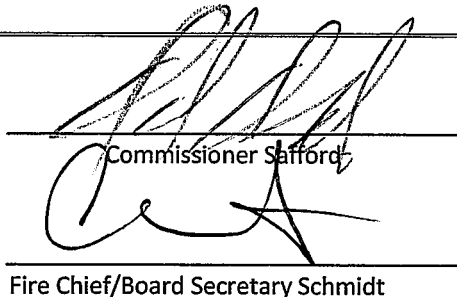
**Announcements:**

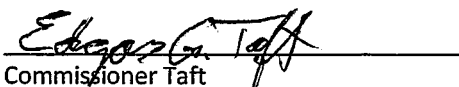
- The Next Regular Commissioner Meeting will be held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Station 50.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Minutes Approved By:

  
Chairman Nordstrom

  
Commissioner Safford

  
Commissioner Taft

  
Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt