



North Mason Regional Fire Authority (NMRFA)

Meeting Minutes

460 NE Old Belfair Hwy, Belfair

3/17/2020

Present: Commissioners Kelley McIntosh, Dan Kewish; Executive Assistant Wassenaar; Chief Bakken; Assistant Chief Cooper

Via Zoom Conference/Telephone: Commissioners Brooke Quigley, Bob Miller, Paul Severson

Absent: None

Guests: Student Firefighters Patrick Fournier, Austin Clague, Marcela Rafael-Garcia, Hannah Greenhill, Lindsay Chaffee

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADMINISTRATION

Chief Bakken indicated we are postponing all Agenda Items until the next Commissioner Meeting in April, in order to focus on COVID-19 updates.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC): State of Emergency declared by Mason County on Saturday 3.14.2020 at 2:30 p.m., with intent to open Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Monday 3.23.2020, and develop Area Command over the weekend. Previously, Incident Command had been led by Mason County Public Health through Friday 3.13.2020. Area Command has been divided into functions – Chief Bakken will be leading Fire and EMS.

Cases/Testing: As of 3.17.2020, there are zero confirmed cases in Mason County. The virus is more than likely active in the area, but has not yet been confirmed via testing. COVID-19 Tests have been received by Mason General Hospital, but are only being provided to symptomatic patients. Belfair Urgent Care also has symptomatic testing available. NMRFA has access to tests for symptomatic Responders, should testing become necessary.

Cancellations: Community CPR Classes, CRT Training, outside training, portions of upcoming Fire Academy, NMRFA Dinner

NMRFA Update: In weeks prior, NMRFA First Responder fell ill and attempted to get tested for COVID19 through Mason County Public Health, but was unsuccessful. As a result, Responder self-quarantined at home and has since been medically cleared by his doctor; Responder will return to work next rotation. First Responders are following CDC guidelines and are not coming in when sick. Fire Stations have been

closed to the public with notification posted, including instructions on how to ensure illness is not brought into the station.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): All Fire Districts within Mason County are currently stocked with adequate PPE. Mason County has also been awarded \$500,000 from Washington State for preparation.

Public Health: NMRFA is notifying Public Health when in contact with someone who is potentially ill with COVID-19; Chief Bakken is finalizing plan/procedure with Public Health, to ensure that NMRFA is receiving timely updates from Public Health as well. Chief also working closely with Public Health on potential quarantine locations; this is a function of Public Health, however since they are not familiar with North Mason area, NMRFA is consulting on locations.

Harrison Hospital: 90% of patients transported to Harrison Hospital which is outside of Mason County (Kitsap); Chief Bakken has asked Area Command to formalize process to confirm we are receiving timely updates from Harrison or Kitsap County. Harrison Hospital is anticipating moving from Level 2 to Level 3 lockdown (no visitors including Labor and Delivery).

Child Care: Setting up child care locally has been slow. An estimated 40% of Harrison Hospital staff have school-aged children. If staff are unable to find appropriate child care or choose to stay home with children, there is a concern that Harrison may have to pull staff from the local clinics and provide only specific services (cancel elective procedures). North Mason Schools to provide care for all NMRFA First Responders at the HUB; anticipate opening next Wednesday 3.25.2020. Chief Bakken is also working with NMSD regarding meals for students – have identified specific pickup locations, however the turnout has not been great; will continue discussion including potential alternatives i.e. bus route.

Fire Station Cleaning: Station 21, Tahuya and Collins Lake to be sanitized next week.

Funding: Due to State of Emergency Declaration, NMRFA is able to recover costs associated with COVID-19 – Angie is currently tracking.

GOOD OF THE ORDER/GENERAL DISCUSSION

Commissioner McIntosh indicated joint Fire Commissioners meeting still scheduled for April 2; currently reaching out to other Districts to determine if it will be cancelled.

Commissioner Severson self-quarantined as he had exposure to COVID-19.

Public Comment: None

With no further business, Commissioner McIntosh adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

BOARD FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

Present: Commissioner McIntosh, Chief Bakken, Executive Assistant Wassenaar, Volunteer Dani Willey

Meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m.

An invoice in the amount of \$100.00 for a volunteer firefighter physical was presented for review and approval. **Chief Bakken moved to approve the invoice. Volunteer firefighter Willey seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

The 2019 Pension Participation Certification form was presented for review and approval. **Chief Bakken moved to approve the certification. Volunteer firefighter Willey seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Authority Secretary Renee Wassenaar

Commissioner Kelley McIntosh

Commissioner Brooke Quigley

Commissioner Bob Miller

Commissioner Daniel Kewish

Commissioner Paul Severson