

**MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN LAKES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS**

REGULAR MEETING

December 23rd, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.
125 W. Hayden Ave., Hayden, ID

I. Call To Order

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioners Amende, Halpin, Pearce, Thompson, and Washko

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Riley, Division Chief Mather, Fire Marshal Drechsel, Secretary Knapp, Doug Duncan, and John Spencer

II. Pledge of Allegiance

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON led the Pledge.

III. Amend Agenda

There were no amendments to the agenda.

IV. Consent Calendar

The consent calendar was presented for review as follows:

- A. Approval of December 23rd, 2021 Meeting Agenda as presented;
- B. Approval of November 24th, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes;
- C. Approval of Unpaid and Paid Bills Lists;
- D. Review of YTD Monthly Revenue/Expense Report for November

COMMISSIONER HALPIN made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER AMENDE** to approve the December 23rd, 2021 Consent Calendar as presented.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion. There was no further discussion.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Amende	Yes
Commissioner Halpin	Yes
Commissioner Pearce	Yes
Commissioner Thompson	Yes
Commissioner Washko	Yes

Motion carried

V. New Business

A. Idaho State Fire Commissioners Assoc. (ISFCA)

A packet of information on the District's membership renewal for 2022 in the Idaho State Fire Commissioners Association (ISFCA) was presented for review. The membership cost remains at \$1,000 annually. FIRE CHIEF RILEY noted that if the board votes to approve renewal of their membership, the board can then consider renewing the Life/AD&D insurance again for 2022 available to members of ISFCA.

There was discussion on ISFCA as an organization including an annual conference normally held in southern Idaho. **COMMISSIONER THOMPSON** noted that Northern Lake Fire is one

of the largest District members with the majority member districts being smaller, rural, combination departments.

COMMISSIONER HALPIN made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER PEARCE** to renew the Northern Lakes Fire District's membership in the Idaho State Fire Commissioners Association (ISFCA) for 2022 at a cost of \$1,000, as presented.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion. There was no further discussion.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Commissioner Amende Yes
Commissioner Halpin Yes
Commissioner Pearce Yes
Commissioner Thompson Yes
Commissioner Washko Yes

Motion carried

Also presented for review was information on renewing the AD&D benefit offered to members of the ISFCA through Provident for effective dates 2/1/2022-1/31/2023.

COMMISSIONER PEARCE made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER AMENDE** to renew coverage for all current members in the ISFCA Accidental Death & Dismemberment policy through Provident for 2022 at an annual cost of \$1,560 for 52 members, as presented.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion.

FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported that the District currently participates in this benefit with the renewal for 52 current members (including full time, fire commissioners and volunteers) unchanged from current policy period. He also noted that the coverage through ISFCA is limited to current members as of 1/15/22 and any new members cannot be added until the following year renewal.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Commissioner Amende Yes
Commissioner Halpin Yes
Commissioner Pearce Yes
Commissioner Thompson Yes
Commissioner Washko Yes

Motion carried

B. Land Lease St 5 Mokins Bay Road

A Special Use Permit between the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service and the District was presented for review. FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported that in 2001, the District entered into a 20-year agreement to lease the USFS land on Mokins Bay Road that Station #5 was then constructed on, and that this agreement expires December 31st. FIRE CHIEF RILEY stated that the annual cost remains \$800 and he recommends the District approve the agreement for another 20 years (through the end of 2041).

FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported that there is an "out clause" included in the agreement but if the District chose to terminate it early, the property would have to be returned to its original state.

He also noted that he plans to work with the Idaho Dept. of Lands on using it to house wildland firefighters. There was further discussion on uses for St. 5.

COMMISSIONER WASHKO made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER PEARCE** to renew the special use permit with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service for the District to use and occupy the land described therein on Mokins Bay Road in Hayden, for a term of 1/1/2022 through 12/31/2041, as presented.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion. There was no further discussion.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner Amende	Yes
Commissioner Halpin	Yes
Commissioner Pearce	Yes
Commissioner Thompson	Yes
Commissioner Washko	Yes

Motion carried

VI. Reports

A. Chiefs Report – Was presented for review. FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported on the following:

1. Hiring Advertisement – The District’s advertisement for firefighter/paramedic testing/hiring has been posted on the National Testing Network (NTN) website nationwide. We have seen a 65% increase in visitors to our website since the posting, with 2 candidates already having taken the test through NTN and 8 more scheduled to do so. Demographics indicate the majority of those candidates are from Idaho, Washington, Oregon and California so far.
2. Station 8 Shop – Provided an update on the Idaho Transportation Dept. (ITD) highway project’s effect on operations at our Station 8/mechanic’s shop in Rathdrum. FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported that the ITD has offered the District \$34,000 for the right-of-way in front of both Station 8 and Station 2 for the Highway 53 revision. After speaking with their land acquisition person, FIRE CHIEF RILEY is recommending that the District not sign the right-of-way agreement yet. He reported that admin staff have worked on getting quotes for the following options:
 - a. Purchasing land and a new building for the mechanic shop for \$1.395 million in Warren K Park;
 - b. Demolishing the existing Station 8 for \$55,000;
 - c. Relocating the existing Station 8 to the east on the District’s property where the “pit” is located would have an upfront cost of \$30,000-\$50,000 due to the fill dirt not being compacted for construction.

FIRE CHIEF RILEY also reported that the timeframe estimated for constructing any new station/shop on the property between Station 2 and existing Station 8 is 16-20 months.

FIRE CHIEF RILEY is recommending that the District request funding from the ITD to relocate Station 8 to Warren K Park, and offer the existing Station 8 building for their equipment storage during the highway revision project.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON questioned if the mechanic shop could be relocated to Station 3 at Garwood. FIRE CHIEF RILEY noted that the recent IAFF GIS study identified Station 3 as the location for a future 4th staffed station.

COMMISSIONER PEARCE clarified with FIRE CHIEF RILEY that the existing Station 8 building would remain the District's property if the shop was relocated. There was discussion on the BNSF Railway having donated the entire parcel that both Station 2 and the Station 8 shop are located on; with the quit claim deed stipulating the property has to be used for fire station(s). CHIEF MATHER noted that the current Station 8 shop building could be used for a storage station as well. There was further discussion on the property available in Warren K Park.

3. Levy Committee – Will be meeting with members of Local 4045 the 1st or 2nd week of January to discuss creating a levy committee to include two (2) commissioners. **COMMISSIONER PEARCE** and **COMMISSIONER WASHKO** volunteered to sit on this committee.
4. Other – FIRE CHIEF RILEY reported that Timberlake Fire District's Division Chief Bill Wright is currently in the ICU at Bonner General and will be sending well wishes on behalf of the board and staff, as well as offering up any assistance that Timberlake Fire may need at this time.

B. Commissioner Reports

COMMISSIONER HALPIN presented **COMMISSIONER THOMPSON** with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the board and District staff for his 16 years of serving as a commissioner for Northern Lakes Fire District, as well as for his years as a fire commissioner for Rathdrum Rural Fire prior to consolidation.

VII. Public Input

JOHN SPENCER thanked the District crews who recently came to his home within an hour of his request for their assistance in replacing batteries in his smoke detectors. MR. SPENCER stated that he knows how busy the crews are and really appreciated the quick response.

VIII. Executive Session

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER WASHKO**, to enter Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206 (1) (a) and (b) to consider hiring of personnel and to consider the evaluation of an employee.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion. There was no discussion.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:
Commissioner Amende Yes
Commissioner Halpin Yes
Commissioner Pearce Yes
Commissioner Thompson Yes
Commissioner Washko Yes

Motion carried

Entered Executive Session at 10:25 a.m.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON made a motion, seconded by **COMMISSIONER PEARCE**, to exit Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Meeting.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for discussion. There was no discussion.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for a roll call vote:

ROLL CALL VOTE:	
Commissioner Amende	Yes
Commissioner Halpin	Yes
Commissioner Pearce	Yes
Commissioner Thompson	Yes
Commissioner Washko	Yes

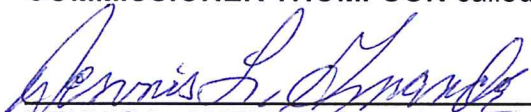
Motion carried

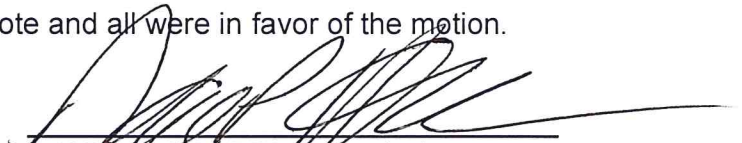
Exited Executive Session at 10:35 a.m. There was discussion on hiring of personnel and evaluation of an employee. No decisions were made.

IX. Adjournment

The regular meeting was adjourned upon the motion of **COMMISSIONER WASHKO** and as seconded by **COMMISSIONER PEARCE** at 10:35 a.m.

COMMISSIONER THOMPSON called for the vote and all were in favor of the motion.


 DENNIS L. AMENDE, Commissioner

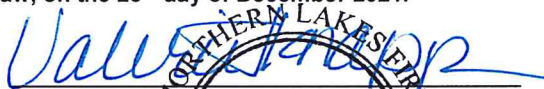

 DAVID P. HALPIN, Commissioner


 MICHAEL R. PEARCE, Commissioner


 JAMES C. WASHKO, Commissioner

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a duly called meeting of the governing body of the Northern Lakes Fire Protection District held in accordance with all applicable legal requirements, including Idaho Open Meeting Law, on the 23rd day of December 2021.

ATTEST BY:


 Valerie Knapp, District Secretary

