

## North Shore Fire Department Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: June 9, 2020

### Meeting held via Zoom Conferencing

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Eido Walney, representing Bayside  
Wanda Montgomery, representing Brown Deer  
Scott Botcher, representing Fox Point  
Bryan Kennedy, representing Glendale  
Peter Kingwill, representing River Hills  
Allison Rozek, representing Shorewood  
Julie Siegel, representing Whitefish Bay

Also Present: Robert Whitaker, Fire Chief  
Andrew Harris, Assistant Chief  
Dan Tyk, Battalion Chief  
KateLynn Harrigan, Finance Director  
Kerry Wenzel, Administrative Coordinator  
Andy Pederson, Bayside Village Manager  
Rachel Safstrom, Glendale City Administrator  
Rebecca Ewald, Shorewood Village Manager  
Paul Boening, Whitefish Bay Village Manager  
Ann Christiansen, North Shore Health Department  
Nick Padway, Fire Commission

#### 2. PERSONS DESIRING TO BE HEARD

#### 3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

*It was moved by Mr. Kennedy and seconded by Ms. Montgomery to approve the May 12, 2020 Board of Directors Minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.*

#### 4. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT ON DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO DEPARTMENT CALLS, STAFFING, APPOINTMENT/PROMOTION NEEDS, TRAINING, FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

The Department will be sending the general contractor for the Station 84 project notice that if the Department cannot move into the building by the end of week, there will be charges. Staff does not believe this final timeline will be an issue. Mr. Kennedy asked if it is the same contractor working on the Station 84 project also worked on the Whitefish Bay Village Hall remodel. Chief Whitaker stated it is a different contractor.

The Department had two Battalion Chief promotions and a Captain promotion this past month. The Commission is in the process of interviewing for Firefighter candidates to create an Eligibility List in anticipation of a fall academy.

**5. NSFD COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

The Commission met to approve promotions of Battalion Chiefs and Captain. The Commission will meet this week to interview HEO Candidates for the promotional process and also interview Intern candidates. At the end of the month the Commission will also meet to interview Firefighter candidates. The Commission plans to host both meetings virtually via Zoom.

Ms. Rozek asked who appoints the Commission members. Mr. Padway stated the Village appoints Commission members to a 5-year term.

**6. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – KATELYNN HARRIGAN**

Ms. Harrigan stated the Department is 42% through the fiscal year. The Department anticipates the funds from Health and Human Services should offset lost revenue from April billing collections. The Department currently is showing a surplus of approximately \$277,000, however, the Department will be going into a three-payroll month in July and is planning for a fall academy. She added larger expenses for the month of May include expenses related to the construction projects.

**7. UPDATE FROM NORTH SHORE HEALTH DEPARTMENT – ANN CHRISTIANSEN**

Ms. Christiansen thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak regarding COVID response. Ms. Christiansen outlined her report including a breakdown by community and demographics. She stated the NSHD is moving into another wave of cases and anticipates this as a long-term response until a vaccine is made available. The focus has shifted to harm/risk reduction.

Mr. Kennedy stated at tomorrow's ICC call there will be a county-wide update.

Ms. Rozek stated at yesterday's ICC call the suicide rate has increased by 80% and mental health is a concern. She asked if the Health Department is seeing similar North Shore statistics. Ms. Christiansen stated that data can lag so it is hard to know what the North Shore rate is; noting it can be a 6-12 month lag. Staff hopes to have more clarity by the end of summer. She added the NSHD has an intern working on this data. The NSHD continues to focus on mental health and work with local prevention groups. The challenge is to devote staff while we are working on COVID.

Ms. Rozek asked if the Fire Department expects more revenue due to the increase for fatalities or suicides. Chief Whitaker stated the Department has not seen an overall change in call volume and does not anticipate a significant revenue change.

Ms. Montgomery asked if the NSHD has contract tracers. Ms. Christiansen stated the NSHD does have dedicated staff and has been able to keep all contract tracing within NSHD capacity. Ms. Montgomery asked what the enforcement capability is for residents. Ms. Christiansen stated there cannot be much enforcement due to the NSHD issuing guidelines and not mandates.

As budget season is approaching, Ms. Siegel urged the NSHD to consider budgeting for staffing and resource requests.

**8. CONSIDERRATION OF APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO 2 TO THE EMS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NORTH SHORE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND MILWAUKEE COUNTY**

Chief Whitaker stated this is an extension to the current contract. It has been approved by the County Board and ICC. This is to approve the contract extension for five years.

*It was moved by Mr. Kennedy and seconded by Mr. Kingwill to approve Amendment NO 2 to the EMS Agreement between the North Shore Fire Department and Milwaukee County. Motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Kennedy thanked Chief Whitaker to work on this amendment and the effort to put together a five year agreement.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**11. DATE AND LOCATION FOR NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on July 14, 2020. It was the consensus to conduct a Zoom meeting in July.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

*It was moved by Ms. Montgomery and seconded by Mr. Kennedy to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 8:36 a.m.*

Kerry Wenzel for  
Wanda Montgomery  
Secretary/Treasurer  
NSFD Board of Directors