



**Tri-North Fire District  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes**  
April 17, 2023  
Station 21, Bainbridge Island & Remote Access

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Commissioner Jay Rosenberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**MEETING ATTENDEES**

**NKFR:** Commissioners Patrick Pearson, Wilson Stewart, Steve Neupert, John Huntington and Gillian Gregory.

Staff: Chief Rick LaGrandeur, AC Ryan Buchanan, Katie Patti, and Summer Luther.

**BIFD:** Commissioners Tim Carey, Andrea Chymiy, Scott Isenman, Jay Rosenberg and Fritz von Ibsch.

Staff: Chief Jared Moravec, and Ed Kaufman.

**PFD:** Commissioners Jeff Uberuaga, Darryl Milton, Jim Ingalls, Dave Ellingson, and Chris Quinn.

Staff: Chief Jim Gillard, DC Jeff Russell, Captain Kevin Vay, and Nichole Sawyers.

**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

Bruce Alward attended the meeting in person. Two unidentified members of the public joined the meeting via telephone.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS & DELETIONS**

None

**BUSINESS AGENDA**

- 1) Joint Management Group (JMG):** Chief Moravec provided an overview of the JMG and its request of the Tri-North Districts to join the group. The Tri-North departments already use the JMG facilities for training purposes, however the JMG would like the Tri-North departments to join to increase its leverage and appeal when applying for significant grants through state and

federal channels. The Tri-North Chiefs recommend a phased in approach to the Tri-North districts joining the JMG. Phase 1: join as “affiliate” members for at least the remainder of 2023 and perhaps longer. This will allow the districts to have a seat at the JMG table while not requiring any financial commitment. Phase 2: formal membership in the JMG can be negotiated over the next several months if each department’s Chief sees the benefit of full membership. Chief Moravec noted that at a minimum, the Tri-North departments should be paying their share for current use of the facilities.

Concerns raised by some Tri-North Commissioners include the cost of the buy-in for full membership, the organization’s legal structure (LLC?), JMG’s current and future budgets, size of grants the JMG intends to apply for and future financial obligations if the Tri-North districts join. Chief Moravec will request additional documentation from the JMG, including current by-laws, and budget information as well as a formal request from the JMG for the Tri-North districts to join that will enumerate the reasons for the request.

- 2) **Shared Resources ILA:** Chief Gillard discussed the need for a formal Interlocal Agreement establishing the rules of engagement for the sharing of resources among the three districts. The Tri-North districts have a history of sharing resources such as equipment and apparatus when needed but do not have a formal agreement for this practice. A formal agreement can assist with WSRB ratings and can reduce the amount of duplicated reserve apparatus across the Tri-North region. Chief Gillard indicated that a Shared Resources ILA has been drafted by the Department’s attorney and will be available for Board action by each Department in the near future.
- 3) **Areas of collaboration and assistance:** Chief Moravec briefed the Commissioners on the April 15<sup>th</sup> grounding of WSF Walla Walla on Bainbridge Island. The event, which resulted in a Level 3 MCI callout, involved all Kitsap County fire districts, Washington State Ferries, Kitsap Transit, US Coast Guard, various law enforcement agencies and other local municipal agencies including COBI. The event unfolded over several hours without any casualties but did include several emergency medical responses on the ferry.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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Jared Moravec, BIFD Board Secretary