**NORTH COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**WEEKLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**December 5, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. Board members present (with social distancing, and conference call in place) were Director Mr. Tiberghien; Director Mrs. Austin; Director Mr. Anthony; Chief Keith Goldstein; Battalion Chief Wesley (Wes) Morgan; Medical Officer Jennifer Swatek (not present); Shop Stewart Kurt Lubiewski; Shop Negotiation Members Mike Kiefer, Tony Miller, John Centerino. Director Mr. Tiberghien called for all in attendance to stand, and remove their hats, and silence their cell phones for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Chief Goldstein presented the minutes from November 28, 2023, Open Session. Director Mr. Anthony made a motion, seconded by Director Mrs. Austin to approve the minutes of the Open Session from November 28, 2023, as presented. Ayes: Director Mr. Tiberghien, Director Mr. Anthony, Director Mrs. Austin.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Chief Goldstein presented the Agenda for December 5, 2023, Open Session, Director Mr. Anthony made a motion, seconded by Director Mrs. Austin, to approve the December 5, 2023, Open Session agenda as presented. Ayes: Director Mr. Tiberghien, Director Mr. Anthony, Director Mrs. Austin.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF THE WARRANTS: Chief Goldstein presented the Warrants for December 5, 2023. General Revenue: $14,401.86; Bond (Capital Projects 2020): $56,628.24; Dispatch (Communications) $.00; Health and Welfare: $00; Pension: $00; Debt Service (Bond Retirement): $00; EMS: $00.; **for a total of $71,240.10**, Director Mr. Anthony made a motion, seconded by Director Mrs. Austin to approve the Warrants for December 5, 2023, as presented. Ayes: Director Mr. Tiberghien, Director Mr. Anthony, Director Mrs. Austin.

CORRESPONDENCE: Chief Goldstein presented a resignation letter from Firefighter Paramedic Jordan Houston who accepted a position with the Pattonville Fire Protection District.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Chief Goldstein reported on the new building projects.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Goldstein reported that he had a meeting with Martin Ghafoori with Stifel Group related to a “NO TAX RATE BOND INCREASE” for April 2, 2024. Chief Goldstein explained how important it is for this district to continue to grow, and the only way is to keep these bonds active. Having these bonds frees- up the district’s General Revenue. Chief Goldstein asked the Board if it was acceptable for him to continue moving forward with preparing documents for the April 2, 2024, election. All three (3) Board of Directors agreed to move forward with this process.

Ordinances: None.

Resolutions: None

CHIEF’S REPORT: Chief Goldstein reported that he will be out of town December 7 through December 10, 2023. I will be available by phone and computer. The on-duty Battalion will be overseeing the district. Chief Goldstein presented the November 2023 Call Stats for the district.

BATTALION CHIEF’S REPORT: No Report.

MEDICAL OFFICERS REPORT: No Report.

SHOP REPORT: Shop Steward Kurt Lubiewski reported that there will be a shop steward election per the Local 2665 Bylaws to be held at the end of December 2023. Negotiations Committee met with the Board in Open Session. There was a lengthy discussion related to this topic. Chief Goldstein asked if we could present to Board on December 12, 2023, meeting all the non-monetary items/changes for the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) to be approved. Chief Goldstein also asked that we present the monetary items at the December 19, 2023, Board Meeting with District Accountant present. This way we can get everything over to payroll for the start of the new year. All three (3) Board of Directors agreed with this including the Negotiation Members.

LAWYERS REPORT: No Report.

ACCOUNTANT REPORT: No Report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT: Director Mrs. Austin wished everyone a “Good Evening” Director Mrs. Austin thanked everyone for tonight’s negotiations, related to the CBA. Director Mr. Anthony thanked all our First Responders for what a great job they do keeping us safe. Director Mr. Anthony stated that we are a transparent Fire District, this is why we are negotiating in open session with our employee group “We have nothing to hide”. Director Mr. Anthony asked that during these holidays that we have a peaceful time with our families and friends. Director Mr. Anthony asked that everyone please take care of our young and elderly, make sure they have coats on, and they are keeping warm, and work on our negative behavior please” Slow Down, Be Kind, God Bless”, and “God Bless America”. Director Mr. Tiberghien thanked everyone for the fruit basket, warm words, before and after his surgery, things are going very well per the doctors. Director Mr. Tiberghien reminded everyone that if they have questions regarding the board meeting to please email the Chief or Director Mr. Tiberghien ([kgoldstein@nocofr.com](mailto:kgoldstein@nocofr.com) or [rtiberghien@nocofr.com](mailto:rtiberghien@nocofr.com)). Also, you can call in at every board meeting, and listen in.

CITIZENS COMMENT: Chief Goldstein reported that he did not receive one (1) email, nor were there any citizens present at the open meeting.

With no further discussion at 6:08 PM Director Mr. Anthony made a motion, seconded by Director Mrs. Austin, to adjourn. Ayes: Director Mr. Tiberghien, Director Mr. Anthony, Director Mrs. Austin. Next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in person or by conference call on Tuesday December 12, 2023, at 5:00 PM.

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Director Richie Tiberghien Director Kevin Anthony Director Yolanda Austin