

**NORTH SHORE FIRE DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AGENDA**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a meeting of the North Shore Fire Department Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. The Board of Directors will utilize Zoom Video Conferencing to host this meeting. Further details are outlined at the bottom of this agenda. The Board of Directors will consider the following items of business at this meeting:

1. Call to order, roll call
2. Persons desiring to be heard
3. Consideration of minutes: January 9, 2024
4. Fire Chief's report on Department activities relating to Department calls, staffing, appointment/promotion needs, training, community risk reduction activities and upcoming events
5. 2023 Response Data Presentation
6. NSFD Fire Commission Chairperson's report
7. Monthly financial report – KateLynn Harrigan
8. GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting
9. Schedule for next meeting will be IN PERSON – March 12, 2024
10. Announcements
11. Adjournment

DATED this 9th day of February 2024.

Eido Walny
Secretary/Treasurer
NSFD Board of Directors

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL UTILIZE ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING SOFTWARE FOR THIS MEETING. TO JOIN THE ZOOM MEETING USING A COMPUTER OR TABLET:

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81544644557?PWD=WHJQMFFBR0C2V2HYNW5YEXI3R2MRQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81544644557?pwd=WHJQMFFBR0C2V2HYNW5YEXI3R2MRQT09)

MEETING ID: 815 4464 4557
PASSCODE: 360950

IF USING A TELEPHONE TO DIAL IN: 312-626-6799. CONTACT ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR KERRY WENZEL WITH QUESTIONS. SHE CAN BE REACHED AT KWENZEL@NSFIRE.ORG OR 414-357-0113, EXT. 1152.

UPON REASONABLE NOTICE, EFFORTS WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NEEDS OF ALL PERSONS THROUGH APPROPRIATE AIDS AND SERVICES. CONTACT ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS AT 414-357-0113.

IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MEMBERS OF AND POSSIBLY A QUORUM OF MEMBERS OF OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BODIES OF THE AGENCY MAY BE IN ATTENDANCE IN THE ABOVE STATED MEETING TO GATHER INFORMATION; NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN BY ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BODY EXCEPT BY THE GOVERNING BODY NOTICED ABOVE.



Fire Chief's Report

January
2024



Introductions



Heavy Equipment Operator Sean Phelps: Sean was hired in 2002 and was promoted to HEO in 2022. Sean is a proud member of the Army National Guard. He has been active on Department committees and currently serves on the Peer Support Team for the Department. He is presently stationed out of Station 83 on Red Shift.



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Key Accomplishments towards Strategic Goals and Objectives

- **Objective 1D: Expand capabilities of the Department's open water rescue program to further align with the community risk:** The Department has responded to an increase in the number of water rescue incidents in the last 3-5 years, mostly on Lake Michigan. Formal training on searching for a victim in the water has been provided to all members, however, concerns with rip currents in Lake Michigan have become more prevalent in recent years. The Department is intending to apply for a FEMA Fire Act Grant for up to \$40,000 to fund additional training and equipment that can be used in swift water rescue. FEMA requires a 10% match from the agency if awarded.
- **Objective 2E: Update Department branding and marketing:** Staff members have been working with a graphic artist to update branding and with the Department's website vendor to do a refresh to the Department's website. This should be completed mid-year.
- **Objective 3A: Receive the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award:** The Department has been awarded the GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award annually since 2013.



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Capital Projects Update

- Fire Station 82 project continues with a completion project date of April 15, 2024. The general contractor has requested an extension to the deadline that has been denied by the Department. Several items are closely being monitored by staff currently including:
 - Furniture bids were opened last week and are being reviewed for compliance with specifications.
 - The break in the winter weather in early February has afforded the contractor the opportunity to begin work on grading the parking lots and roadways that surround the building. This work was originally planned to be completed in Fall of 2023. Part of the grading process includes testing the ground to ensure it is stable enough prior to paving. Ground that does not meet the standard for stability requires additional stone to be installed prior to paving. Additional stone beyond what was included in the project bid will come from the contingency amount for the project or from cost savings in other areas.



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Legislative Update

- **Federal:**

- **S.1673** – The Preserving Access to Ground Ambulance Medical Services Act of 2023. This is the Senate companion bill to H.R. 1666, introduced earlier this year by Representatives Brad Wenstrup (R-OH), Terri Sewell (D-AL), Buddy Carter (R-GA) and Paul Tonko (D-NY). These pieces of legislation would extend the current temporary increases under the Medicare ambulance fee schedule of 2% urban, 3% rural and 22.6% super rural for another three years. Additionally, the Senate version of the bill would go even further by increasing the add-on payment levels for urban from 2% to 3.4%, for rural from 3% to 4.3% and for super rural from 22.6% to 26.2% to help offset the increased costs of providing ground ambulance services. The last extension of the add-on payments was scheduled to end on December 31, 2022, but our champions on Capitol Hill were able to secure a two-year extension through December 31, 2024. The additional three-year extension is critical to keep the add-on payments in place through ambulance data collection and provide time to Congress to then use the data to reform the Medicare ambulance fee schedule.

- **State**

- **SB986** - A levy limit exception for certain shared emergency services expenditures introduced by Senator Larson and Rep. Andraca. The bill creates an additional exception to local levy limits. Under the bill, fee increases apportioned to each city, village, or town operating a joint emergency dispatch center do not apply to the levy limits, but only if the fees would cause the city, village, or town to exceed the levy limits, and only if the total charges imposed by the center for the current year, compared to the previous year, are less than or equal to the rate of inflation plus 2 percent.



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Notable Calls for Service

- Blue shift ran a total of 76 calls for service throughout the day and evening of January 12. The winter storm that came through the area created the significant increase in call volume.
- Battalion 8 and Med 82 assisted MFD on a structure fire on the evening of January 14. The incident created challenges due to the negative 25-degree weather. Med 82 transported a burn victim from the fire.
- On January 16, 2024, at 2350 hours, Battalion 8 was requested to a MABAS box alarm in Mequon for a single-family home on fire. Shortly after Engine 81 and Engine 85 were requested to the scene. Due to hording conditions and extreme cold weather with temperatures of negative 10-degrees, after several hours on scene Engine 81 and Engine 85 were relieved by Engine 84. The next morning at shift change Engine 84 was relieved by Engine 81 to continue with fire suppression and searching for the report of an unaccounted victim.
- January 26 around 1100 hours a full assignment was dispatched for a report of a bedroom fire on Marne Avenue in the City of Glendale. Due to quick response from NSFD and MFD units, the fire was extinguished by fire companies and contained to a small area of a bedroom, with minimal damage and no extension to the rest of the house. Crews overhauled and ventilated. No injuries reported from this fire.
- On January 29, 2024, at 0815, Battalion 8 was requested by Glendale Police Department to assist with a missing person on West Riverview Drive. Battalion 8 was informed that upon waking up, family found the victim's clothing with the hot tub open, however, the missing individual could not be located. Battalion 8 requested several North Shore units along with a dive response from Milwaukee Fire Department. MFD divers entered the water to search for the missing person but due to poor ice conditions and a heavy current under the ice, the divers were not able to risk diving under the ice. An additional unit from MFD was requested with an



underwater camera. The DNR also was requested with their underwater remote-controlled vehicle to assist with searching for the missing person. After several hours of searching the DNR contacted MPD's harbor division to come assist with their underwater camera. Searches continued throughout the day until sunset when the search was called off. During the search period Truck 82 assisted with manpower while Med 82 provided EMS group. Later in the day Engine 84 was requested with their RDC and water rescue suits to assist cutting holes in the ice. Pictured are members from the DNR using their underwater drone/ROV.



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Events

- Crews from Station 85 in Bayside participated in a Cub Scout Pinewood Derby on January 27. The event was fun and our group even came home with a trophy.



Above L to R: Captain Jankowski, HEO Quicker and FF Schneider are all smiles after bringing home the Pinewood Derby trophy.



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Emergency Medical Services

- Firefighter Michael Simonis and Firefighter Antonio Salerno began MATC paramedic education on January 1. According to MATC, the Department is proud to report they are the top two students in the class.
- After a vendor search, a direct supplier has been secured for EMS gloves. The savings to the Department are an estimated \$6,000 per year.
- BC Bonnell has begun discussions with Milwaukee County to move hosting of Image Trend EMS report hosting to the county supported site. This transition will save the Department from having to purchase this service independently.



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Training / Continuing Education

- Members participated in search and rescue training at the old Boston Store at Southridge Mall. The training concentrated on honing search techniques in residential structures including single-family and multi-family residences.
- Companies have started to implement the 2024 training plan which concentrates on company level trainings throughout the year. January's focus was officer expectations, apparatus orientation, and EMS reporting.



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Community Risk Reduction & Community Events

- Staff installed nine car seats and conducted four home safety visits throughout the month of January.
- Hands Only CPR and AED training was taught at the Dolan Community Center in Brown Deer on January 17.

False Alarm Report

	January
Bayside:	4
Brown Deer:	14
Fox Point:	7
Glendale:	17
River Hills:	1
Shorewood:	2
Whitefish Bay:	2



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