

Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District

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FINAL Minutes

Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District

BOARD MEETING

Minutes of June 11, 2015

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 PM BY PRESIDENT WEATHERFORD

1.0 ROLL CALL PRESENT:

ABENDSCHAN, JOHNSTON, SPISAK,

WEATHERFORD

ABSENT:

HURLEY (ARRIVED 7:57 PM)

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.0 COMMUNICATIONS FROM/TO BOARD MEMBERS & PUBLIC

3.1 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Roland Baker, Aptos resident, voiced concerns over the Aptos Village development project. He was concerned that increased traffic would put the approx. 600 students in the nearby school at risk for access during emergencies.

Leticia Miller, Aptos resident, remarked on the need for a traffic study for the Aptos Village project, given the addition of a large grocery store to the plan.

Becky Steinbruner, Aptos resident, voiced concerns about traffic, response times, water supply, and difficulty of reaching 3 story buildings without a ladder truck. She provided a partial Geotechnical Investigation report on the area for consideration by the Board.

Shirley Coleman, Aptos resident, voiced concern that parking in the Aptos Village area would be compromised with the new changes.

Mary Lee, Aptos resident and self-identified member of the press, voiced concerns about the risk of earthquake to the area due to liquefaction.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 14, 2015
- 4.2 MOTION TO APPROVE CLAIMS DISBURSEMENTS OF MAY 6, 2015 THROUGH JUNE 4, 2015
- 4.3 MOTION TO ACCEPT AND FILE THE FAMIS GENERAL LEDGER REPORTS FOR THE PRIOR MONTH-END
- 4.4 MOTION TO APPROVE A DISBURSEMENT TO SANTA CRUZ COUNTY FIRE AGENCIES INSURANCE GROUP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$366,428.00 FOR THE FY2015-16 WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE PREMIUM
- 4.5 MOTION TO APPROVE DISBURSEMENT FOR THE FY2015-16 DISTRICT INSURANCE COVERAGES TO KBK INSURANCE AGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$32,536.00 FOR THE ANNUAL PREMIUM COST

On motion by Director Abendschan, seconded by Director Johnston that Consent Agenda items 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 be approved as submitted, was approved by the following vote:

Ayes:

Abendschan, Johnston, Spisak, Weatherford

Noes:

None

Abstain:

None

Absent:

Hurley

4.6 PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: None.

5.0 ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

6.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 MOTION TO APPROVE THE FY2015-16 PRELIMINARY BUDGET

Business Manager New reviewed Program Overtime at the Board's request at the last regular meeting. Director Johnston had concerns regarding the higher percentage of the budget allocated to salary and budget (over 91%) compared to past years. Bus. Mgr. New stated that \$1.2 million of that allocation was a side fund being paid over the next 2 years, and that Fire Chief Jones and she are working towards a Capital Improvement Plan. Fire Chief Jones stated he would like to see funds put away in advance for future apparatus and major equipment replacements.

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COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 6.1:

A member of the public asked if the District received monetary benefits from the SRA fee charged by the Board of Equalization. Chief Jones explained that the District receives no monetary benefit from that fee, but that services are provided via mutual aid through CalFIRE, including CalFIRE Fire Inspectors, due to the funding from that fee.

Another member of the public had a question about the programs being used in the MIS budget, and asked if someone could talk to her after the meeting to explain some of the details.

On motion by Director Johnston, seconded by Director Abendschan, to approve the FY 2015-16 Preliminary Budget, was approved by the following vote:

Ayes:

Abendschan, Johnston, Spisak, Weatherford

Noes:

None

Abstain:

None

Absent:

Hurley

Note: Item 6.2 moved down due to later arrival of Director Hurley, who asked that the Board wait until he is present for the vote on this item.

7.0 NEW BUSINESS

7.1 MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRE CHIEF TO FILL ANTICIPATED VACANY DUE TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

Chief Jones announced that one of the Captains will be retiring as of July 1, 2015. One of the three Acting Captains will be selected for promotion, which creates the need to hire a new entry-level Firefighter/Paramedic. There are a number of qualified applicants on the current list (from the most recent recruitment period).

On motion by Director Johnston, seconded by Director Spisak, that Agenda item 7.1, to authorize the Fire Chief to fill anticipated vacancy due to employee retirement, was approved by the following vote:

Ayes:

Abendschan, Johnston, Spisak, Weatherford

Noes:

None

Abstain:

None

Absent:

Hurley

8.0 STANDING REPORTS

8.1 BOARD OVERSIGHT INQUIRY: None

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8.2 FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT: Fire Chief Jones described a letter he received regarding an off-duty rescue of a resident by Firefighter/Paramedics, Tim Hornstein. Another A/LSFD employee, Firefighter/Paramedic Jason Wichelmann, also provided excellent off-duty care of an injured resident. Fire Chief Jones commended both employees on their dedication and quality of care.

Fire Chief Jones has met with Cabrillo College regarding their training program. South Bay Regional Consortium will be managing the Firefighter training courses for Cabrillo, which may change the way training funds are allocated in the future. All Santa Cruz fire agencies are working with Cabrillo to help make the transition as smooth as possible.

Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District wants to start assessing fees for prescribed burns (not backyard burns). This may affect future burns for the purpose of hazard abatements.

The Training Structure Project is underway, and permits acquired. The project is expected to last approximately 90 days.

Director Johnston inquired about gas pipeline testing in the District. Fire Chief Jones said that PG&E has been working with them on gas pipeline testing, and will be looking at pipelines in at least 3 areas.

- 8.3 REPORT FROM FIREFIGHTERS' LOCAL 3535 PRESIDENT MIKE KRETSCH No representatives present, no report given.
- 8.4 REPORT FROM CHIEF OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT MIKE CONRAD

Division Chief Conrad reported on the latest Fort Hunter-Ligget training. Weather conditions were not optimal, but served as a good example of how weather affects burning. Three counties participated in the live fire training this year.

Note: Director Hurley arrived at 7:57 PM

6.2 DISCUSSION AND MOTION TO APPROVE MOU WITH CENTRAL FIRE DISTRICT FOR THE COOPERATIVE PREVENTION PROJECT

Fire Chief Jones gave an overview of the research and progression of the project. He stressed the need for a heavier focus on fire prevention education in residences, as a majority of fires and fire deaths are in homes, as opposed to businesses.

President Weatherford discussed the benefits of the proposed MOU for the Cooperative Prevention Project. The CPP plan, as written, will be cost-saving as well as an improvement to current Public Education and Prevention services. He also mentioned other areas in which the District has combined resources and shared service agreements with Central Fire Protection District.

Fire Marshal Wallace thanked the staff for their support during the transition process.

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Central Fire Protection District Board President Howard reported the CPP project was approved by their Board of Directors by a majority vote after an extensive discussion. They are looking forward to going ahead with the project.

Director Spisak requested clarification on the increased cost of Public Education to the District with CPP in place. Business Manager New and Fire Chief Jones reviewed the proposed organizational structure including costs and a comparison to Aptos/La Selva hiring this position independent of CPP.

Director Abendschan asked who the Fire Marshal would report to in this program. FM Wallace would report to both Fire Chiefs, at Central FPD and Aptos FPD. Fire Chief Jones stated that this has been the case during the initial trial of the program, and has worked well so far.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEM 6.2:

Leticia Miller suggested hiring a current District employee to fill the Public Educator position.

Shirley Coleman requested that the Public Education employee have a degree in Fire Science. Fire Chief Jones replied minimum requirements for the position would be finalized during the planning process of the position, over the next year.

Mary Lee, asked why all planning meetings were not made public.

Leticia Miller stated that she was not given notice of the meeting or planning process, and while she appreciates the program as outlined, she does think that more public notice should be given on projects like these.

Shirley Coleman stated that her experience with the fire department has been 100%, and thanked the fire department for assistance she has received in the past.

On motion by Director Abendschan, seconded by Director Hurley, to approve the Cooperative Prevention Program (Plan A –including Public Educator position) as proposed, was approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Abendschan, Hurley, Johnston, Spisak, Weatherford

Noes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

9.0 CONVENE CLOSED SESSION 9:20 PM

- 9.1 LABOR NEGOTIATIONS
- 9.2 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

10.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION 10:45

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION: Discussed labor negotiations and gave direction. Conference with legal counsel Al Smith, regarding anticipated litigation. No action taken.

11.0 ADJOURN MEETING 10:46

Secretary to the Board

Board President