

# Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District

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**FINAL Minutes**

## **Aptos/La Selva Fire Protection District**

### **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

**Minutes of October 25, 2017**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 PM BY PRESIDENT SPISAK**

**1.0 ROLL CALL**           PRESENT: ABENDSCHAN, FOSTER, HURLEY, LUCCHESI,  
SPISAK

ABSENT: NONE

1.1 INTRODUCTIONS: INTERIM FIRE CHIEF RON PRINCE  
BOARD SECRETARY TRACY NEW  
CITYGATE EFO SAM MAZZA

### **2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **3.0 COMMUNICATIONS FROM/TO BOARD MEMBERS & PUBLIC**

3.1 ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.

### **4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

4.1 PRESENTATION AND STUDY SESSION OF CITYGATE DISTRICT EVALUATION  
AND STANDARD OF COVER – EMERGENCY SERVICES MASTER PLAN REPORT

Interim Fire Chief Ron Prince introduced Mr. Sam Mazza of Citygate Associates. Interim Fire Chief Prince stated that that Mr. Mazza would be showing a 20-minute presentation on the Citygate evaluation report, after which questions and/or comments would be welcome. Members of the public were also invited to view the Emergency Services Master Plan Final Report Briefing presentation on the District website, [www.aptosfire.com](http://www.aptosfire.com), and give feedback in writing regarding this presentation, using the email link provided on the site. Over the next couple of months, the District would be developing an implementation plan based on topics discussed in this meeting (and public/staff feedback after the meeting).

Mr. Mazza gave his presentation, which included a Standards of Cover analysis, Fiscal Assessment, Administration/Management Assessment, an Assessment of Future Service Demand and Alternative Service Models, findings and recommendations.

After the presentation concluded, President Spisak addressed the public for comments or questions.

Public Member Becky Steinbruner asked if Central FPD and Aptos/La Selva FPD were already sharing the duties for a Deputy Fire Marshal. President Spisak clarified that this was not the case, but that two retired personnel were currently aiding with Fire Prevention Bureau.

Another member of the public, Mark Fontes, asked if the bottom line of the data gathered in the Standards of Cover report was to improve response times. Mr. Mazza said that one of the primary purposes was to see what the agencies current response system can or cannot provide. Mr. Fontes asked if response times from the incident site to the hospital were also included in the data analysis, and shared concerns regarding road conditions and potential blockage of emergency access routes by trees or storm damage having an effect on those response times, and recounted personal experience regarding hospital response. Discussion between Mr. Mazza, Public Members Drew Johnston, Becky Steinbruner and Paul Vitali, and Directors Jim Abendschan and Vince Hurley ensued regarding the process of gathering data for hospital transport, and the multiple factors complicating the accuracy of such data (coordinating with AMR and SCR911 records, calculating time from incident to placement in emergency vehicles, etc.). The time measurement of transportation from the incident to the hospital is outside the scope of this report.

Ms. Steinbruner asked if the response times in the report data were broken down by time of day, as traffic times may be a factor. Mr. Mazza replied that the incident data was time-stamped, but traffic congestion was not included in the report, per District choice. Further discussion ensued between members of the public, Mr. Mazza and Directors regarding increasing traffic in the District over the last few years, and its effect on response times.

A member of the public shared his concern about the suggestion of a possible relocation of Station 3 in La Selva Beach, and the effect such a move would have on response times to La Selva Beach. Mr. Mazza stated that if that station were moved, they would find a location that would remain within a 4-minute travel time to that area.

Ms. Steinbruner asked if constrictions or conditions were put in place during the 1985-1986 merger between Aptos F.D. and La Selva Beach F.D., that would need to be adhered to if Station 3 were moved today. The Board did not know of any such restrictions. At the time, La Selva F.D. was an all-volunteer department.

Mr. Mazza and several members of the public briefly discussed the potential for revenue growth due to Prop. 13 regulated tax increases, and the sale of homes in the District triggering reassessment of property values.

Ms. Steinbruner asked if a potential consolidation with Central FPD would improve response times, or expand the tax base, in order to make it more cost-effective to add new stations in key

areas. Mr. Mazza said that question would be better posed during the LAFCO consolidation study. Both this current study and a similar one being done for Central FPD will be factored in to the LAFCO study. Mr. Mazza also clarified that the recommendation to share services with other departments included looking at not only Central FPD, but possibly other agencies that would make for a good partnership.

Ms. Steinbruner asked if something akin to the Sheriff substations would be more cost-effective to help with paramedic staffing. Mr. Mazza recommended looking at the alternative recommendations listed in the report, online. Discussion ensued between Directors and the public regarding other potential coverage options.

A member of the public asked about a dip in the fiscal reserves shown during the last fiscal year. Director of Business Services Tracy New explained that two engines were purchased during that time.

Another public member asked if coordinating with other agencies to mitigate wildfire hazards were included in the study. Mr. Mazza clarified that while that was not specifically included, they did discuss a wildfire protection plan, as part of the risk assessment portion of the study.

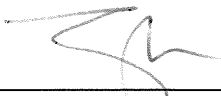
Ms. Steinbruner stated that she would like to hear from District staff about any comments they would have on the study. Interim Chief Prince said the District would be working over the next two months with staff, to set up recommendations for Board to implement, based on the findings of the report, as well as input made from both community and staff. He directed the public to the District website to view the full study, and add feedback on any of the data presented.

Interim Fire Chief Prince thanked members of the Ad-Hoc committee for the Master Plan for assisting in bringing the plan together, and briefly outlined the process going forward to evaluate the data and updating the Board with suggestions for an implementation plan for top priorities identified in the report.

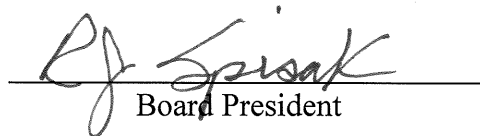
Before adjourning the meeting, President Spisak introduced the District's new Administrative Assistant, Barbara Livanos.

No action taken on this item – discussion only.

**5.0 ADJOURN MEETING: 8:01 PM**



Secretary to the Board



Board President