

FRESNO COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors – Regular Meeting

December 19, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.

Sanger Headquarters

210 S. Academy Avenue

Sanger, California

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Del Puppo, Guice, Del Testa, Arabian, Chavez, Richter,
MEMBERS ABSENT: Julian
CAL FIRE: Johnson, Chrisman, Bump, Hauff, Brown, Bowman,
Hernandez
LEGAL COUNSEL: Schwarz
GUESTS: Joe Mastro

ROLL CALL

President Del Puppo requested a roll call from the Clerk of the Board. There were six (6) members present and (1) member absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Del Puppo called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm and Director Del Testa opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

INTRODUCTIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Chief Johnson had DC Chrisman introduce Seth Brown, the new Battalion Chief relief/PIO. Seth Brown introduced himself and gave a summary of his work experience with the District. The Chief notified the Board that the new hook lift truck was in the parking lot for them to view. The Board took ten minutes to view the hook lift truck that was in the parking lot.

CHANGES/CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

President Del Puppo proposed moving Agenda Item # 13 to 8.A, so Mr. Mastro could present the Audit.

Agenda Item 1 - PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None.

CONSENT AGENDA (Items 2-8)

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA, SECOND BY DIRECTOR ARABIAN CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS NUMBERS 2 THROUGH 8.

No Public Comment.

OLD BUSINESS

Agenda Item 9 – Capital Facilities Projects

DC Bump gave a recap of Capital Facilities Projects. DC Bump noted that he only had a few updates due to the change in the weather and holidays it is interfering with work times. They are currently working on inside projects. The bathroom remodel at Station 82 is 75% completed. For the kitchen remodel at Station 89 Easton, they are currently painting cabinets and kitchen doors. The District was able to hire JD Triffon as a CAL FIRE Schedule A dozer operator. JD will be going to the Academy for 6 consecutive months for training, so he can get all his training out of the way. Projects that will be worked on in the winter months are the bigger projects that we will be utilizing contractors for.

No Public Comment.

Agenda Item 10 – Update on Mobile Equipment Projects

DC Bump gave a recap of mobile equipment projects. The hook lift truck will be rolling into C Service for its annual maintenance along with all fire engines, ladder trucks and apparatus. Having the extra staff at the shop is helpful moving forward. In August, staff ordered a 2019 Dodge 1-ton for Dozer 43 dozer tender. Dodge delayed the release of the 2019 models and may skip the model all together. DC Bump went to Jim Manning Dodge in Dinuba and notified the dealership of the predicament. DC Bump built a relationship with the fleet manager and asked if they would honor the state contract. We were given an exemption which allowed us to purchase a vehicle off the lot. The vehicle was \$4,000 cheaper than the state contract price because of the end of year rebates. The chassis is currently at the shop waiting to be outfitted. The bed for the truck has been ordered from J.H. Sanders.

No Public Comment.

Agenda Item 11 – Board Officer Nominations

Chief Johnson opened the floor for nominations. Previous nominations were Frank Del Testa for Secretary, Dan Guice for Vice President and Michael Del Puppo for President. The floor was then closed and motions to vote on nominees were conducted.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR RICHTER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE ELECTION OF DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AS BOARD SECRETARY.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR RICHTER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE ELECTION OF DIRECTOR GUICE AS BOARD VICE PRESIDENT.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR RICHTER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED, TO APPROVE THE ELECTION OF DIRECTOR DEL PUPPO AS BOARD PRESIDENT.

No Public Comment.

Agenda Item 12 – Lexipol Policies

Chief Johnson reminded the Board they authorized the District to enter into a contract with Lexipol for the District’s policies. Staff’s intention is to not create a new agenda item each month, instead new policies will show up in the consent agenda. DC Chrisman announced the process is more time efficient due to having a frame work to work from rather than having to start from scratch or having to research the language we should have in a policy. It is an opportunity to review and update policies. The new policies are generating good discussions and helping identifying areas for improvement. Staff anticipate reviewing approximately 30 policies per month. The desire is to put the updated policies in the Consent Agenda after they have been reviewed by legal and the Chief. For policies relating to labor issues the plan is to send them to Felicia Reid, the District’s labor lawyer for review. Staff recommends the Board to approve and give direction from the Board to include policies in the Consent Agenda for future meetings. President Del Puppo made a motion to approve the policies, when Director Guice wanted some clarification on Policy 303. Director Guice had some objections to the language “confirm” in the rescue part of the policy. He just wanted to make sure it did not restrict personnel staff when there is a potential to rescue someone. After discussing and clarifying, Director Guice was no longer reluctant and moved forward with accepting.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR DEL PUPPO, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE THE POLICIES AND DIRECTION FROM BOARD TO INCLUDE FUTURE POLICIES IN THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR FUTURE MEETINGS.

No Public Comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Agenda Item 13 – Audit Report FY 17/18

DC Chrisman opened the floor to Joe Mastro to present the Annual Audit Report. Auditor Joe Mastro presented the audit that was conducted for FY 2017-2018. Mr. Mastro pointed out that on pages 1-2 was his report stating they had been able to apply all the audit procedures they thought were necessary in the circumstances in accordance with the General Accepted Accounting Principles. Mr. Mastro gave an overview of two different basis of accounting consisting of full accrual basis of accounting and general fund financial statements. Mr. Mastro's opinion on financial statements and notes was outlined on Page 1-2, stating he believed they are fairly stated with the General Accepted Accounting Principles. Mr. Mastro gave an overview of another report that is required under the Government Auditing Standards and the report is on internal controls and compliance with laws and regulations. Regarding the internal controls, they did not find any material weakness in the system and no non-compliances with laws and regulations that were required to report to under those standards. Mr. Mastro highlighted some items as compared to the budget vs actual. The overall highlight was that during FY 17/18 the District saw a positive net position.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR RICHTER, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE THE AUDIT REPORT FY 17/18.

No Public Comment

Agenda Item 14 – FAIRA Nomination

Chief Johnson opened with receiving a ballot letter from FAIRA. As the Board is one of the founding members it requires action by the Board to reappoint the Chief or one of its Board Members to be a representative for FAIRA. The District can choose to no longer be a member or move forward and elect a representative. The position holds a four-year term. Director Richter nominated Chief Johnson to continue being a representative. Chief Johnson accepted the nomination.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR ARABIAN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE THE NOMINATION OF CHIEF JOHNSON TO THE FAIRA GOVERNING BOARD.

Agenda Item 15 – Training Plan

BC Bowman presented the 2019 Training Plan to the Board. He highlighted the Training Objectives and Priorities intended to guide the training program to meet the overall objectives.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR DEL PUPPO, SECOND BY DIRECTOR GUICE AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE THE 2019 TRAINING PLAN.

Agenda Item 16 – Training Center Land

Chief Johnson briefed the Board about Mr. Boparai’s land north of the Training Center. Mr. Boparai contacted the District and wanted to discuss selling the property to the District. Chief Johnson and staff met with Mr. Boparai last week, to discuss the details. The Board discussed moving this into closed session for the next Board meeting in January.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR DEL PUPPO, SECOND BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO APPROVE DIRECTING STAFF TO CONTINUE AND MOVING INTO CLOSED SESSION FOR THE NEXT MEETING IN JANUARY.

Agenda Item 17 – Board Member Agenda Requests/Reports

Director Richter inquired about the FireView program and if they had it all straighten out. Assistant Chief Bump said the part that BC Michaels spoke about at the previous meeting has been completed. Interfacing between FireView and CAL FIRE is still moving forward. They believe it still will be completed on the timeline that BC Michaels had spoken about.

Agenda Item 18 – Staff Reports

1. Chief Johnson received a letter of appreciation along with pictures from Hume Lake Fire. Under the County MOU, the District donated a command vehicle which qualified under the \$10,000 credit. The Fire Chief of Hume Lake acknowledged and wanted to thank Assistant Chief Bump for working on getting this transaction done. Assistant Chief Bump said that the District is helping Pine Ridge Volunteer Fire Department with a water tender refurbishment project under the County MOU. He is still reconciling invoicing and believes that the District is close to meeting the MOU commitment with them. The District still has not heard from Big Creek. The District will be working with Mountain Valley Volunteer Fire Department on obtaining a thermal infrared camera.
2. Chief Johnson and Chief McDougald met with Steve White from Fresno County. The County has purchased a new program that integrates with County Health, health inspections and hazmat inspections. Chief Johnson spoke to the County CAO of possibly buying into the program. The County may allow the District to buy into the program, so we can integrate inspections and plan checks with the County. The County also has the capability of collecting fees if the District chooses to go that route.

3. Chief Johnson had a visit last week from Rick Carr, CAL FIRE Staff Chief of Resource Management. CAL FIRE is creating fuel crews for fuel reduction work. Chief Carr inquired about possibly renting land at the Training Center to place an office and store equipment for a regional fuels crew. The Chief will have talks with the Board before the District decides to do anything.
4. Last month Chief Johnson had a meeting in Sacramento at the CAL FIRE Directors Office. The reason for the meeting was CAL FIRE is considering combing the Tulare Unit and Fresno-Kings Unit. CAL FIRE is continuing to evaluate combing both units.
5. Last Friday was CAL FIRE Director, Ken Pimlott's last day, as he has retired.

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR ARABIAN, SECOND BY DIRECTOR CHAVEZ AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION.

Agenda Item 19.A. – Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government code section 54956.9(d)(2): (2 matters)

Written Report to be prepared.

Agenda Item 19.B. – Closed Session Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation pursuant to Government code section 54956.9(d)(1): (3 matters)

Written Report to be prepared.

Agenda Item 20. – Report Upon Return from Closed Session

UPON MOTION BY DIRECTOR DEL TESTA, SECOND BY DIRECTOR CHAVEZ AND CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

The next Regular Board meeting will be held on January 16, 2019.