



NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

January 10, 2013

Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

461 Main St.

Newcastle, CA

www.newcastlefpd.org

Email: info@newcastlefire.org

Call to Order:

- Chairman Ward called the NFPD Board of Directors Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

- Chairman Ward present, Vice- Chairman Jordan present, Secretary Elder present and Director Calkins present.

Pledge of Allegiance:

- VC Jordan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda:

- Director Calkins made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 13, 2012 meeting as presented. Secretary Elder seconds the motion. Motion carries.
- VC Jordan made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 17, 2012 and the December 20, 2012 meetings as presented. Secretary elder seconds the motion. Motion carries.
- Director Calkins made a motion to accept the December Expense Report as presented. VC Jordan seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Discussion/Information/Action:

- Presentation of DRAFT Financial Audit for FY 2011_2012
 - **SEE ATTACHMENT 1**
 - Public Comment:
 - Glenda Freeman asked if co-mingling of DEVFEE funds with GEN funds had been noted specifically DEVFEE funds put into the GEN fund and strike team funds deposited into DEVFEE.
 - Andy Sisk stated that no co-mingling of the monies had been observed. He did note that there was \$800 in strike team monies inadvertently deposited into DEVFEE. He recommends that the Board, through an audit adjustment, transfer that money into the GEN fund.
 - Melinda Moyn asked if DEVFEE funds are taxpayer money.
 - Andy Sisk stated that yes they are.
- Station 41 Report
 - Chairman Ward reported that the first set of plans for the temporary repair on the door is already with the county. Further, the county wants a full set of repair plans before issuing permits. Once plans have been received by the county, NFPD will begin the bidding process which shouldn't take too long.
 - Approve Board Assignment to Prepare a Letter Seeking Bids for a Licensed and Bonded General Contractor.
 - Chairman Ward stated that taking action on this item tonight would be premature.
 - Correct and Approve Previous Action to Expend \$3600 to Roseville Design Group for an Official Architect's Report on Station 41.
 - Chairman Ward stated that the previous Board action to pay RDG out of the DEVFEE monies was an error and needs to be corrected to spend the money out of the GEN fund.
 - VC Jordan made a motion to expend \$3600 from the GEN fund, Object Level 3, 2405 (Bldg. Maintenance and Repairs) to pay for the Official Architect's Report on Station 41 from Roseville Design Group. Secretary Elder seconds the motion.
 - Chairman Ward AYE
 - VC Jordan AYE
 - Secretary Elder AYE
 - Director Calkins ABSTAIN
 - Motion carries.
- Brown Act Statement
 - Chairman Ward stated that he does not intend to hide behind the Brown act but the transparency promised during the campaign will not be there. He will be as open as he can. This will also slow down the building repair process.
- Formation of Measures F and B Exemption Committee
 - Chairman Ward stated that he believes that no one is totally exempt from paying the fire tax except State, County, Churches and Schools. He would like the Exemption Committee to consider a reduced rate for the elderly that own many parcels. Their income may be able to dictate what they pay. Possibly using the undeveloped parcel price for parcels other than their base living parcel.
- Spending Limits Direction

- Chairman Ward stated that spending limits are being introduced to reign in the spending established by the previous Board. If we continue the course that was set by the previous Board our expenses for one year's operation will exceed \$617,334.60. We generate about \$627,000.00 annually. So with \$10,000.00 if we continue the same spending policies we're not going to repair a station and we're definitely not going to be able to build one. So there will not be any type of a spending limit. There will be zero spending without a Board signature before making the purchase. There is now a form to be filled out before making a purchase. No nuts and bolts are to be purchased from the hardware store unless pre-approved. We are looking at 2 years before a new station can be built.
 - Director Calkins asked how much did Measure K cost.
 - Secretary Elder responded it will be between \$7K and \$11K. We are not sure yet because it was held during a general election. The special election cost \$21K. We still owe the county \$3500 for the audit.
 - Director Calkins stated that we got something out of Measure B and nothing out of Measure K.
 - VC Jordan stated that that was a matter of opinion.
 - Director Calkins asked if this can be discussed in closed session.
 - The Clerk responded that it cannot.
- Select Applicant to Fill Board of Director's Vacancy
 - Secretary Elder suggested that each candidate be given an opportunity to make a statement to the Board.
 - Jack Godsey
 - Has been a resident since 1972.
 - Works well with the public.
 - Agrees with the new Board's plan to curb unnecessary spending.
 - Eric Sprouse:
 - Has been a resident for 10 years.
 - Used to be an Auburn City Fire Volunteer.
 - Is a registered nurse.
 - Would like to explore generating revenue from medical aids.
 - Secretary Elder stated that both candidates are well qualified and the decision will be difficult.
 - VC Jordan made a motion to appoint Eric Sprouse to fill the vacant Board seat. Director Calkins seconds the motion.
 - Richard Molzahn asked how much time the new Board is spending on District business.
 - Secretary Elder, 2-3 hours per day.
 - VC Jordan recently returned from vacation.
 - Director Calkins, 1 meeting per month, a few special meetings each year and a 2-3 hour special project.
 - Secretary Elder asked Director Calkins if he is leaving the Board?
 - Director Calkins, yes he is resigning effective at the end of this meeting for personal reasons.
 - Chairman Ward AYE
 - VC Jordan AYE
 - Secretary Elder AYE
 - Director Calkins AYE
 - Eric Sprouse is appointed to the vacant Board seat left by Mr. Orsolini.
 - Placer County Supervisor Jim Holmes administers the Oath of Office to Mr. Sprouse. Director Sprouse takes his seat on the Board at 7:17 p.m.

Announcement of Closed Session

- Chairman Ward announced that the Board will be going into closed session and read the topic from the agenda aloud. No public comment was received.
- The Board went into closed session at 7:18 p.m.
- Chairman Ward reconvened open session at 7:40 p.m.
- Chairman Ward announced that no action had been taken in closed session.

Reports:

- Battalion Chief's Report – **(ATTACHMENT 2)**
 - BC Love reported that ISO has been making the rounds through Placer County and that we should expect to be visited in the near future. Further, BC Love reported that LAFCO will be doing a study to determine if consolidation of the fire districts would be beneficial in Placer County.
- Director's Reports –
 - Chairman Ward - None

- o VC Jordan – Anyone interested in serving on the Inventory Committee should speak with Mr. Jordan after the meeting.
- o Secretary Elder - None
- o Director Calkins – None
- o Director Sprouse - None

Public Comment

- o Richard Molzahn, Maybe each unimproved parcel should have their tax reduced to \$20. Also, would it be possible to have someone from Newcastle Community Association come to the fire board meetings to sign up new members.
 - » Clerk Metz will put Mr. Molzahn in touch with the current NCA Secretary for membership information.
- o Elliott Rose, Requested that the Clerk read from a notice he found posted in Denny's and in the Newcastle Post Office (**ATTACHMENT 3**)
 - » The notice was condemned by Secretary Elder and Chairman Ward.
 - » Mr. Rose also read a written statement aloud (**ATTACHMENT 4**)
- o Michael Leydon, In reviewing the minutes of the 12/20/2012 meeting he requests that the policy updates that are referenced be published.
 - » Chairman Ward stated that he will look into it.
- o Terri Andreucci, Are the figures from the temporary relocation leases published?
 - » Chairman Ward responded that the NFPD will not need the trailers. The station will be functional during the repairs. It appears that the trailers will not be needed at all. We will be out \$22K if they are not returned.
- o Jerald Saladana stated that he had given property to the Board to build a new fire station, but received a rejection letter.
- o Sue Stack requested that a recap of the trailer expenses be agendaized at a future meeting.
- o Denny Veiga, in regard to the sleeping trailer; why can the FF's be in the building 16 hrs/day and sleeping in a fire trap of a trailer with no working smoke alarms or carbon monoxide detectors?
 - » Chairman Ward, Hopefully they will be able to occupy the building again, full time, in about 2 weeks.
- o Heather Pier asked where the travel trailer came from.
- o Captain Greg Kirk stated that there is a working smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector inside the trailer.
- o Gary Williams asked if the rumor was true that the FF's can no longer take the engine to community service events, does this include talking with the local kids?
 - » Chairman Ward stated that what this includes is no longer going to the grocery store, Starbucks or delivering things to Board members homes. That type of activity costs us thousands of dollars in repairs and fuel each year. Things like going to work with the children are ok. Other than training and responding to emergency calls the engine does not leave the station. This is just a way of saving a few thousand dollars each year.
- o Lefty Wilkes asked if the gentleman not selected for the Board will be given a chance to apply for the latest opening.
 - » Chairman Ward responded that he most certainly will.
- o Alex Blanca stated that as a past fire board member, it is important to focus on what's important to the community. He is glad that medical aids are on board. He knows that this Board has taken a lot of heat. The room set up and pledge of allegiance was shaky tonight but it's important to remember that we are here to fight combat, not be spit and polish every time.

Announcements

- NFPD REGULAR Board Meeting, Thursday, February 14, 2013, 6:00p, 461 Main St.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By:

Minutes Approved By:

Patrice Metz, Clerk

Dave Ward, Chairman of the Board