



NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
461 Main Street, Newcastle, CA
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Email: info@newcastlefire.org

Call to Order: The Newcastle Fire Protection District Board of Directors Regular Meeting was to order on Wednesday, September 11, 2013 at 6:00pm by Chairman Dave Ward.

Pledge of Allegiance: Chief Carr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Board Present:

Dave Ward, Chairman
VC Jordan, Vice Chairman
Jonita Elder, Secretary
Isaak Egge, Director
Eric Sprouse, Director

Absent:

None

Staff Present:

John Carr, Interim Chief
Chris McKillip, Board Clerk
C Shift Firefighters

Chief Carr commented on the anniversary of the World Trade Center disaster and mentioned 3 of the deceased were students of his when he taught there.

Consent Agenda/Action:

VC Jordan moved to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2013 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Secretary Elder seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	AYE

Motion carried.

VC Jordan moved to approve the minutes of the August 21, 2013 Special Board Meeting Minutes with the following corrections:

- 1) Director Sprouse and Director Egge both voted in favor of, not against, to keep the current medical and benefit resolution in place.
- 2) Director Sprouse voted against, not in favor of accepting the MOU as presented.

Director Egge seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	AYE

Motion carried.

VC Jordan moved to accept the July, 2013 Expenses.

Secretary Elder seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	AYE

Motion carried.

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PROPOSED 2013-2014 BUDGET:

Secretary Elder presented the proposed income and expense budget for 2013-2014 for final approval.

VC Jordan moved to accept the proposed budget.

Director Sprouse seconded.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	AYE

Motion carried.

Discussion/Information/Action

Proposed Feasibility Studies on the Saladana property and on the restoration of current station 41: Chairman Ward requested \$4,000 for each study to be done by Roseville Design Group. Director Egge expressed concern that there had not been enough research for a feasibility study and that there might be other alternatives.

Chairman Ward explained that so far he only had two options and that he had been looking for properties since he had taken office in December of 2012. The previous board had looked into many options during the last ten years and none of them had been feasible. Chairman Ward explained that he had gotten a bargain price for the studies from Roseville Design and these studies would be assist the board in determining the best option to pursue regarding the station. Chairman Ward explained that these feasibility studies are just a start. Director Sprouse indicated that he understood the need for the feasibility study. Chairman Ward asked for input from the meeting attendees:

- Maggie Kelley: You aren't there yet
- Bob Powers: Will the study be useful if we sell the old station?
- Jerald Saladana: There were three studies done on the Elliott Rose property
- Jaimie Conyers: Could the studies be done for the October meeting?
- Bill Monahan: Can you expand the studies?
- Brendan Toowey: Can the studies be done concurrently?
- Tim Compton: Go ahead!
- Chairman Ward: Agreed with the need to move ahead cautiously
- Director Egge: Expressed concern that we are moving ahead without a specific plan
- Heather Pier: Asked what Director Egge's plan was

Vice Chairman Jordan made a motion to allow two feasibility studies at \$4,000 for each project. Director Sprouse seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	NAY

Motion carried.

Purchase of OES Engine

Chief Carr explained that when the state can no longer use a vehicle, it is auctioned. These are Type 1 with less than 50,000 miles and are fully equipped. A new engine of this type would cost approximately \$500,000. NFPD is third in line to bid on one of these used engines. South Placer Chief Bettancourt provided some information on the vehicle. Chairman Ward requested authorization to bid on one of these vehicles. Price would not be over \$55,000 and the funds would be taken from development fees.

Vice Chairman Jordan moved to approve up to \$55,000 for the purchase of the engine with a full inspection. Secretary Elder seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	ABSTAINED
Director Egge	ABSTAINED

Motion carried.

Sale of 2 Brush Engines:

Chairman Ward read a letter prepared by Captain Hickok regarding the current fire apparatus in the NFPD (see attached letter). The letter suggested that NFPD sell Engine 41 (Sutphen) and Brush Engine 41. Chairman Ward said that there is a lot of work to keep these engines operating. We've been paying out \$4,000 to \$5,000 per year and even with that there are always additional repairs necessary. The sale of these engines will be contingent on obtaining adequate replacement.

Vice Chairman Jordan moved that contingent on acquiring/purchasing the appropriate replacement equipment, we will sell both engines. Director Sprouse seconded the motion.

Director Sprouse seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward	AYE
VC Jordan	AYE
Secretary Elder	AYE
Director Sprouse	AYE
Director Egge	AYE

Motion carried.

Rapid Response Unit Update

Director Sprouse: We are looking into getting a smaller vehicle to provide emergency medical aid services which will be able to get into tight areas to provide quick emergency help if/ when other larger emergency units are out (for instance at Castle City Mobile Home Park). There are problems of funding and billing insurance programs to pay the costs. The vehicle will have trained personnel to be up and ready to go. Perhaps there is a possibility of working with the county. Costs are in question and it will require another FT position of a medic or EMT.

Chairman Ward: It's a valid program but I can't see it happening now, therefore, we will shelve until funding can be obtained.

Director Egge: The program should run itself through insurance billing. Castle City doesn't work this way?

Chairman Ward: The recovery rate is only 40% and AMR provides ambulance service for the community.

Director Egge: It will allow more protection to this district's people.

Secretary Elder: It will be a smaller vehicle to provide immediate care then maybe use the larger fire vehicles if more aid is needed.

Chairman Ward: This subject is being brought up for everyone's information at this time.

Vice Chairman Jordan: Currently, Newcastle uses its regular engines to provide rapid response medical aid. Newcastle's calls are about 80% medical response calls.

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Donation of the Suburban

Vice Chairman Jordan: Commented that NFPD has an opportunity to donate the Suburban. It is a vehicle that often requires major work to keep it maintained. Foresthill Fire District has a need for a vehicle like the Suburban. Vice Chairman Jordan would like to have NFPD vote to donate the Suburban to Foresthill since the vehicle was donated to NFPD by the Bollin family.

- Patrice Metz asked about the light bar and the radio.

Foresthill Fire's Luana Dowling was introduced and said that Foresthill appreciates the donation of the Suburban and that Foresthill Fire will purchase the light bar and the radio for \$3,000.

Vice Chairman Jordan moved to donate the Suburban to Foresthill and to accept Foresthill's offer of \$3,000 for the light bar and the radio. The one stipulation to the donation was that the tribute to John Bollin's wife is to remain on the window of the Suburban as long as it is in use by Foresthill. Secretary Elder seconded the motion.

Chairman Ward asked for public comment on the issue and there was none.

Chairman Ward called for a vote:

Ward – Aye

VC Jordan – Aye

Secretary Elder – Aye

Director Sprouse – Abstained Director Egge – Abstained

The motion carried.

Chairman Ward will have a letter sent to the Bollin family thanking them for the original donation.

Grant from Union Pacific Railroad Foundation

Director Egge reported that NFPD was one of the first communities selected nationally to receive a \$5,000 grant. The grant will be used for new signage around the railroad tracks for protection. Director Egge would like to have a contact person to help get the community involved by creating a sign with the assistance of the young people in the community. The Foundation wants to profile the town of Newcastle as one of the first recipients of this grant. Also, he would like to have a railroad safety page on our new website. At the Newcastle school, Paul Beckstrom, will help with a railroad program.

- Patrice Metz: Union Pacific has a program called Project Lifesaver
- Mike Monahan: Chris Graves is the local rail road historian

Website

- Director Egge showed a sample page of the website and would like to include the agendas and minutes on the site. He would like more input before the website goes live.

REPORTS

Chief Carr: reported that NFPD is in the process of beefing up engineer driver training. Lots of classes are available to choose from. NFPD needs people licensed and trained properly on apparatus 1A and 1B. Records of all staff have been checked to make sure that all have proper credentials and that the credentials are on hand. In 2012, we had 490 calls. 82.5% were medical. Total calls for 2013 are not yet available.

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Chairman Ward: reported that we are working on our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). To date NFPD has paid \$9,000 to Wildan to complete our plan. Since the CIP project was started with Wildan a number of years ago, additional funds must be spent to complete the project. South Placer Fire Chief and NFPD resident , Larry Bettancourt , has been helping Newcastle work with Wildan on this project. Once the CIP is in place Newcastle can request an increase in the development fees. These fees will only affect new people coming into the district.

Vice Chairman Jordan: Nothing to report

Secretary Elder: Nothing to report

Director Egge: Nothing to report

Director Sprouse: Discussed the potential of having Newcastle be a center or a site for Training of Advanced Life Support classes for Newcastle residents, firefighters and others. Director Sprouse is working with Chief Carr on this issue.

Public Comment – Limit, 3 minutes per speaker

John Downs: spoke about the Newcastle Elementary school safety problems. He expressed concerns about the ingress and egress to the school site and left pictures of various safety hazards he photographed at the school for the NFPD board. He asked if anything was being done with the hydrant problem and the brush problem.

Chief Carr and Chairman Ward replied that they are trying to work with the school on these issues but to date there has been no response from the school authorities.

Discussion followed with members of the district discussing their concern about the safety of children and staff at Newcastle Elementary. The difficulties with ingress and egress were mentioned. Bill Monahan, who lives next to the school, expressed concerns about the number of children, enrolled (435) and the increase in students in recent years. Concern was also expressed about the narrow streets that lead to the school and the traffic jam created by the large number of parents who drop their children off and pick them up after school.

Jamie Conyers announced the Long Valley Community Hall was having a rummage sale on October 5th and 6th. More volunteers are needed.

Announcements

Next Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 9, 2013, 6:00pm, 461 Main Street, Newcastle, CA.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm by Chairman Ward.

Minutes Prepared By:

Minutes Approved By:

Christine McKillip, Clerk

Dave Ward, Chairman of the Board