

# NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**February 18, 2015, 6:00 P.M.**

at 461 Main Street, Newcastle, CA 95658, Newcastle, CA 95658

## MEETING MINUTES

Board Present: Jim Jordan, Chairman  
Eric Sprouse, Vice Chairman  
Jonita Elder, Secretary  
Rocky Robinson, Director  
Robin Enos, Director

### **1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

- (A) Chairman called meeting to order at 6:03 pm. All Board Members Present.
- (B) Chief Higgins in attendance.
- (C) Pledge of Allegiance.

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

- (A) February 18, 2015 Meeting Agenda. After reviewing the posted agenda, Vice Chairman Sprouse moved to approve the agenda as posted; seconded by Director Robinson. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- (A) Secretary Elder made the motion to approve the submitted minutes for the board meeting of January 21, 2015 regular meeting; seconded by Director Enos. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.

### **4. BILL APPROVAL:**

- (A) Monthly Expense Report – Month of February, 2015. Spreadsheet presented and reviewed by Chief Higgins and board. Additional information provided by Chief Higgins on Item numbers 16, 17, and 23. [#16] Sutter Buttes-new Monitors were ordered (one per Captain) that are voice recorder pagers; [#17] Alert-All prevention material are Hats for Kids; [#23] OshKosh is the annual payment for the Brush Engine.

Vice Chairman Sprouse made the motion to approve the monthly expense report as submitted; seconded by Director Robinson. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.

- (B) Financial Report: Email copy available upon request “[info@newcastlefire.org](mailto:info@newcastlefire.org)”

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- (A) none

### **6. Newcastle Professional Firefighter Association:**

- (A) Chair Jordan will look at the provided information/email. A Draft MOU is requested. A meet and confer may be set up to discuss.

### **7. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- (A) Auburn Journal article brought up possible funding cuts. Have no effects on the district at this point. Chair Jordan will look into it.

## 8. INFORMATIONAL/NON-ACTION ITEMS:

### (A) Chief's Report (By Chief Higgins).

- Training: month of January = 101.5 personnel hours.
- Emergency Response for the month of January - EMS: 32 Auto: 4 Fire: 9 Public Assist: 14. Total of 59 responses.
- General Information: 1) I would like to compliment Newcastle crews on their great assistance that was given to Placer Hills on their most recent structure fire during the last bad rain that passed through our area. They saved lots of valuables. 2) January was a busy month for emergency calls. 3) The Raise I-80 Projects are going well. The next bridge raise will be the Gilardi Rd. overpass. Water pipeline rehab/removal taking place. 4) In March, we will hopefully be having Brown Act training that will be presented by Placer County. The training will be held down at the Penryn Fire District.

## 9. ACTION ITEMS:

### (A) Purchase of SCBA's, NFPA 1977 to current NFPA 2013 standards.

- Chief Higgins recaps the equipment needs for the district. Life expectancy of apparatus versus *life safety ...most important*. The current SCBA packs are deteriorating greatly. 12 months of life remaining to standards given.
- New Packs
  - 15 year warranty included.
  - Universal packs – MMRs, Tanks.
  - Loaner pack is here for viewing/demonstration.
  - Voice amplifier system – clearly hearing the firefighters adds safety.
  - Requesting and recommending 8 new packs with 8 additional bottles, Ric pack, 2 face masks per (one for each staff/volunteer).
  - Newest Design – latest state-of-the art technology. Communication heard clearly.
  - Several SCBA manufacturers researched. There are two biggest vendors. Chief met with them.
  - 4-months lead time.
  - Chief is requesting and recommended a Go-ahead to Purchase. \$61,871.10 (will come out of mitigation account)

*Chair Jordan asked for a motion from the Board to bring to a VOTE. Director Robinson made the motion to approve Chief Higgins' request to purchase the SCBA equipment and supplies; seconded by Vice Chair Sprouse. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.*

### (B) Property Tax Reviews.

- Neil Anderson presented the February 18, 2015 exemption list including 6 property owners with 'land hook'. As decided in previous meeting, the district will treat as single parcels. Some residents asked for refund for previous two years. Mr. Anderson provided hardcopies of excerpts from Measure B with highlighted language of Section 8 and Section 10. It requires that ... "appeals shall be filed by December 1<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year for which the tax is levied". The Lords property had a timely appeal; however the other 5 properties did not make reimbursement requests in time. Mr. Anderson is recommending, per clear statute, to deny those appeals.
- Mr. Anderson and the board will look into previous correspondence and the dates of requests for reimbursements.

*Vote on recommendation to deny all appeals pending discovery of new dates showing the validity of property owners' requests for reimbursements. Director Robinson made the motion to approve to deny all appeals; seconded by Vice Chair Sprouse. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.*

**10. Board of Director Reports:**

- (A) Secretary Elder – Lowell Jarvis, volunteer grant writer offered his help to the district with grant applications. He's in the Ophir District.
- (B) Booth for the May Event – Chair Jordan will look into getting pictures out and possibly getting assistance from Roseville Design Group on providing firehouse information.
- (C) New Fire Station update – Chair Jordan is waiting to hear back from Union Pacific Railroad.
- (D) Brown Act Training – Secretary Elder is working on presentation to take place – on our next meeting Agenda.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.**

- 11. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Location: 461 Main Street.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Capik, Recording Secretary