

# NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**November 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 6:00 pm. All Board Members Present.
- (B) Chief Higgins was NOT in attendance (on vacation).
- (C) Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- (A) November 18, 2015 Meeting Agenda.  
Secretary Elder moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Director Enos. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.

### **3. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- (A) Conference with Labor Negotiators, Employee Organization; (Newcastle Professional Firefighters Association) (GC 54957.6) (District Negotiators: Jordan, Higgins, and Sergeant). 6:01pm – 6:34pm

### **4. OPEN SESSION:**

- (A) The board met in closed session with legal counsel regarding MOU between the District and the Firefighters Association. The board will vote on the MOU in this meeting.

### **5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

### **6. BILL APPROVAL:**

- (A) Monthly Expense Report – Month of November, 2015. Spreadsheet presented and reviewed by the board. Brief discussion and clarification on items: 17- Hi Press. Line was a replacement; item 18- arborist work; and item 21-Insurance premium reduced.
  - Director Robinson made the motion to approve the November monthly expense report as submitted; seconded by Vice Chairman Sprouse. Motion carried out unanimously with all Directors present.
- (B) Financial Report: Email copy available upon request [info@newcastlefire.org](mailto:info@newcastlefire.org)

### **7. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- (A) none.

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

- (A) No reports from the Association.

### **9. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- (A) Regarding Measure B fund accountability (article from Auburn Journal paper). Yearly accountability on what happened with the funds... lacking breakdown. Per Chairman Jordan, corrective action has already been requested. The Board is working to clarify the reporting process.

## 10. INFORMATIONAL/NON-ACTION ITEMS:

### (A) New Fire Station Update (Chairman Jordan)

- We are in a new submittal phase. Received an email from Roseville Design Group... they will submit the second submittal (documents, plans, etc.) on Friday to the County, to PCWA, and SPMUD. The County will review the changes made and hopefully everything goes well.
- We are getting closer to getting the Bid Process together...working resolving issues. Chief Bettencourt (South Placer Fire) is offering to help. We are reviewing the process and look to have a better understanding with his assistance.
- Arborist report: The revised report has been submitted. It's on the NewcastleFire.org website for review.

### (B) Chief's Report (Chief Higgins provided the written report – read by Chairman Jordan).

- Training for the month of October consisted of 269 hours
- Emergency Responses for the months of September:  
EMS: 15 Auto: 3 Fire: 6 Public Assist: 6. Total of 30 responses.
- General information: 1. The I-80 Bridge raising project was rescheduled to begin in January will probably take place more like in the Spring (weather and Caltrans delays). During that time, Newcastle will be staffing an additional engine on the east side of the highway. We are still determining the location for the staff. 2. The reimbursement invoices have started to come in. Newcastle will be receiving \$33,386.53 in reimbursements from CAL OES.
- Congratulations to Captain Potter on the birth of his baby daughter.

## 11. ACTION ITEMS:

### (A) **Determination to proceed with negotiations and/or talks with SPFD or dismiss SPFD proposal for contracted services.** Board members expressed their thoughts on Chief Bettencourt's October presentation as follows:

- Chairman Jordan: Thought the presentation was very educational. But not ready to make a commitment to proceed with negotiations. Thinks we should wait until LAFCO study is done. Asked to take comments from the board...
- Director Robinson:
  - As a proposal, in the future would like to have seen the proposal in advance to have more time to consider some of the items in his presentation/proposal.
  - Unfortunately, the biggest thing that most people had concern about was closing Station 41.
  - Regarding the LAFCO report – seemed like we'd need their permission to do anything like the proposed services, so need to see the reports first.
  - Energy and focus should be the New Fire Station.
- Secretary Elder: Chief Bettencourt did a good job, it was a good presentation, but thinks it premature to take any action at this time. Thanked Chief Bettencourt for the alternative.
- Director Enos: There were good things in the proposal, but not in favor of fire house closing. Not sure if Newcastle is ready.
- Vice Chairman Sprouse: echoes Director Enos' sentiments.
- Chairman Jordan asked for a motion to dismiss South Placer's Proposal. Secretary Elder made the motion to thank South Placer for their proposal and all the work they did on it, and motioned to dismiss the proposal; seconded by Director Robinson/Vice Chairman Sprouse. Motion/vote carried out unanimously with all Directors present.

### (B) **Tentative MOU with NFPA**

- Chairman Jordan asked for a motion to approve the MOU. Director Enos made the motion approve the MOU and open up to comments; seconded by Vice Chairman Sprouse.
- Board members expressed their thoughts on the MOU as follows:
- Director Robinson
  - Thanked the Association for their patience and understanding. Funds are limited.
- Vice Chairman Sprouse: The conditions around the MOU...there was a lot of discussion that took place. The council bargained well, he believes a good agreement was made to support it.

- Brief comments and questions heard from the audience. Question regarding wage increase... Per Chair Jordan, yes there will be a small increase and it's planned into the budget.
- Having heard a motion to approve the MOU, Chairman Jordan asked for a **Roll Call Vote:** Chairman Jordan-Aye; Secretary Elder-Aye; Vice Chairman Sprouse-Aye; Director Robinson-Aye; Director Enos-Aye. **Vote Carries 5-0 all directors present.** MOU is approved.

**12. Board of Director Reports:**

(A) Secretary Elder is reviewing the process for accountability of funds generated by Measure B and will be assembling the reports required. She has asked Vicki for assistance with this task, and thanks her for her assistance.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM.**

**13. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Wednesday, December 16, 2015. Location: 461 Main Street.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gayle Capik, Recording Secretary