

Newcastle Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 18, 2019
645 Kentucky Greens Wy.
Newcastle, CA 95658

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Chairman Bettencourt called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. Chief Kushen led the Flag Salute and a moment of silence in remembrance of all who lost their lives on 9/11/2001.
- c. All Directors were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Secretary Kahrl requested the following changes to the agenda:
 - i. Handle items 9. (A) and 11. (A) prior to item 3.
- b. Chairman Bettencourt suggested the following additional change:
 - i. Move item 11. (F) subsequent to item 11. (A).
- c. Director Enos made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Director Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. VC Elder made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 21st regular meeting as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries.

4. Bill Approval and Financial Report

- a. Chief Kushen reported the following:

Finance:

County Auditor-Controller has accepted our request to reallocate the \$44,469 from Cal Fire ABH revenue received in 2019/20 back into the 18/19 budget. I will need to submit a signed letter of request.

Gill is working on the removal of the old 1995 HME from our line item budget. If it is removed now, it will remove the balances from last year's budget for this line item.

Crews are submitting applications to Fire Recovery on all significant Hwy. incidents.

Budget:

The \$2,793 questioned last month from small equipment was for both Mako Compressor and SCBA annual maintenance.

Finance Meeting was held on Monday and we are voting for approval on the final budget tonight.

Secretary Kahrl made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries.

5. Correspondence

- a. Secretary Kahrl reported that he received a letter from Dane Wadlé, Public Affairs Field Coordinator for CSDA. Mr. Wadlé was asking for NFPD to write a letter to Governor Newsome urging him to veto SB 13, "An act to amend, repeal, and add Section 65852.2 of the Government Code, and to add and repeal Section 17980.12 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to land use."

6. Public Comment

- a. None

7. Fire Chief's Report

Responses: Total – 62

Struct. Fires –2; Veh. Fire – 7; Veg. Fire – 3; Medical Aid –29; Vehicle T/C's –7; Pub. Assist – 12;
 Fire Alarms - 2

Significant Incidents:

Assisted ABR on a Commercial Structure Fire on Sept. 7th. Our crews secured utilities, assisted with fire attack.

Apparatus:

E-41 has had the tank repaired and is back in service. B-41 will need some minor repairs for rebuilding the primer pump and replacing an engine sensor. The work can be completed at our shop in one day and should be scheduled soon. It is not out of service criteria.

Staffing:

We have completed the hiring process and have our new Engineer Trenton Knuckles here tonight for his swearing in ceremony. Congratulations to Eng. Knuckles.

Grants:

No word yet from FEMA on our AFG Grant application for a fire engine.

Admin.:

We have notified Capitol PFG that they were selected to prepare our Fire Facility Fee Study. We will begin working on the data submittal very soon.

EMS, Operations and Training – Slusher

All apparatus are in service.

NFPD can go out on a Strike Team if called.

Have been holding “multi-company drills” as well as implementing a Company Officer Development Plan.

Prevention

Grant funding ends at the end of next week for the Fire Marshal position. The original grant was written to provide funding for establishing a fiscally self-supporting Fire Prevention Division. Currently, there is significant permitting, plan check and inspection fees being generated by all 3 Fire District.

Our District Board committees from PHF, NEW & FHF are going to meet very soon to address this critical component of these recently added services we provide to our community. Placer Hills will be discussing this at their BOD Meeting next week and if we don't hear from FEMA on the grant, we will discuss the feasibility of continuing the position for an interim 90 days to allow time to meet with NEW & FHF for an operational plan for Fire Prevention Services.

Chief Brothers –Prevention

NFPD – Prevention Fees collected in August = \$3,625.00

We have added the links for both the Placer County OES and PG&E's PSPS to our website. PG&E will be having a private contractor inspecting natural gas meters in the Newcastle area in September.

Current Wildland Fire Stats from the State:

<u>1/1/2018 to 8/25/18</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Wildland Fires</u>
California	1,037,349	2,014
CAL FIRE NEU	2,224	273
<u>1/1/2019 to 8/25/19</u>		
California	13,247	1,712
CAL FIRE NEU	1,855	200

8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter's Association

- a. Engineer McCoy reported the Professional Association is working with IAFF L3800 to become adopted members.

9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee (Bettencourt/Elder): New Fire Station Update
 - i. Architect Ron Lichau was in attendance and reported the following:
 - 1) He is getting very close to having the required changes completed. What is left is minor.
 - 2) May have to make a few changes based on the findings of the Accessibility Specialist that is reviewing the plans.
 - 3) Should be ready to go to the County in two weeks.
 - ii. Chairman Bettencourt reported that once approved by the County, project will have to be out for bid for 30 days. Once contract is awarded, there may be a 60-90 day start time.
 - iii. Secretary Kahrl asked if the foundation can be in by the end of this year. Chairman Bettencourt said "probably not".
 - iv. Director Heisterkamp requested that a "timeline" be memorialized for the public.
 - v. Secretary Kahrl suggested there should be another public meeting once the plans are approved since the picture on the sign at the site is no longer the same station design that will be built.
 - 1) Chairman Bettencourt stated that he will bring the plans to the October meeting for the public to look at.
 - vi. Mike Antuzzi asked how much Measure B funding has been spent on the station project. Chairman Bettencourt stated that ~\$800K has been spent. Further, Placer County is still committed to lending the District \$2M and the UAIC has committed to a \$100K gift.

10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Discussion and direction on the Fire District's property at the Chantry Hill Baseball Field.
 - i. Chairman Bettencourt reported that a Non-Profit was established by Jim Cody in 1970. However, the disposition of that non-profit is not known at this time. Chairman Bettencourt would like to assign this to the Facilities Committee (Bettencourt/Elder) to research this item and report back at October meeting. Keep as Information Item for October.

11. Action Items

- a. Badge pinning and swearing in of Engineer Trenton Knuckles.
 - i. Chief Kushen administered the Oath of Office to Engineer Knuckles and his Mom pinned his badge on for him.
- b. Consider and approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 19-03, Hazard Abatement.
 - i. Fire Marshal Brothers gave a brief history to the Board and public about the history of the HVA program in Placer County. The proposed ordinance is designed to enable the fire district and the county to facilitate mitigation of hazardous fuels through tax liens against unwilling property owners.
 - ii. FM Brothers distributed the *Fire Hazard Reduction Program (FHRP)* to the Board. It was noticed that some of the fire district information was applicable to both PHF and FHF. Chairman

- Bettencourt suggested that all 3 department patches be placed on the cover of the document so one program guide can be utilized by all 3 districts.
- iii. Director Enos made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 19-03. Secretary Kahrl seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.
- c. Consider and approve the final budget for FY 2019-2020.
 - i. Director Heisterkamp reported that the proposed budget is tight and will require moving \$48K from reserves to balance it. If the first station payment of \$108K does not have to be paid this FY everything should even out.
 - ii. VC Elder hopes that the full \$65K allotted to Overtime is not needed, as that will help the bottom line.
 - iii. VC Elder made a motion to adopt the 2019/2020 budget as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.
 - d. Consider and approve Placer County's calculation of the district's Appropriation (GANN) Limit for FY 2019/2020.
 - i. Chairman Bettencourt explained what the GANN Limit is and the history behind its adoption by the State.
 - ii. VC Elder made a motion to approve the GANN Limit as calculated by Placer County. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously.
 - e. Consider and approve the Deferred Remedial Action Agreement with South Placer Municipal Utility District to repair the damaged sewer pipe.
 - i. SPMUD sent a letter to Gabe Mendes saying a portion of the sewer line, that he didn't touch, but was buried under an additional 25 feet of dirt, has a deflection in the pipe. SPMUD sent a camera down the line. The portion of the line which is affected is on the Cal Trans property.
 - ii. During a meeting with SPMUD, Chairman Bettencourt asked to defer the repair because once the new station is built, that section of pipe will be abandoned.
 - iii. SPMUD gave NFPD a resolution which states that the district is still liable for the repairs but they will hold off on forcing the issue since the line will be abandoned anyway. Chairman Bettencourt further explained to them (SPMUD) that it takes months to get an encroachment permit from Cal Trans to work anywhere near I-80. Project Manager, Brian Toppel brought up a good point during the meeting with SPMUD. If the sewer pipe gets worse or stops flowing, can the district move forward with the approved plans to do the sewer line improvements early? The resolution needs to be vetted by the district's counsel before it's voted on by the board. Place on October agenda for action.
 - f. Consider and approve the revision to the grant deed for the new fire station the condition to begin construction for an additional two years.
 - i. VC Elder reviewed the history of the land grant by Mr. Saladana. The terms of the grant stipulate that at a minimum, the foundation must be poured for the new station within 5 years of

the grant deed. The grant deed is due to expire on 10/21/2019.
Mrs. Elder spoke with Mr. Saladana who has agreed to a 2 year
extension or until 10/21/2021.

- ii. Because the paperwork is still with the district's counsel, the
item will be placed on the October agenda for action.

12. Directors Reports:

- a. None

13. Chairman Bettencourt adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By:



Patrice Metz, Recording Secretary

Approved: _____