

# NEWCASTLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**November 19, 2014, 6:00 P.M.**

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

## MEETING MINUTES

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

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

Chairman called meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board member not present - Isaak Egge, Director. Chief Higgins was also in attendance. Pledge of Allegiance.

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

(A) November 19, 2014 Meeting Agenda. After reviewing the posted agenda, Vice Chairman Sprouse moved to approve the agenda as posted; seconded by Dir. Enos. Motion carried out unanimously with Directors present.

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

- (A) Secretary Elder made the motion to approve the submitted minutes for the board meeting of October 15, 2014 regular meeting; seconded by Vice Chairman Sprouse. Motion carried out unanimously with Directors present.
- (B) Vice Chair Sprouse made the motion to approve the meeting minutes for Special Meeting of October 31, 2014; seconded by Chair Jordan. Motion carried out unanimously with Directors present.

### **4. FINANCIAL REPORT & BILL APPROVAL:**

(A) Monthly Expense Report – Month of November, 2014. Spreadsheet presented and reviewed by Chief Higgins and board. Two additional bills came in after the initial report was printed. Items read out loud to the group. The new total is \$10,815.73. Secretary Elder made the motion to approve the monthly expense report as submitted; seconded by Vice Chairman Sprouse. Motion carried out unanimously with Directors present.

### **5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

(A) none

### **6. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

- (A) Resident asks if we've been contacted about the dirt pile in Loomis at Horseshoe Bar. Potential of free dirt. Per Chair Jordan, this resource may be utilized by contractors at the time of bidding for fill dirt.
- (B) Mandarin festival Friday-Saturday-Sunday – could use more volunteers.

## 7. INFORMATIONAL/NON-ACTION ITEMS

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

- Training: month of September = 99.5 personnel hours.
- Emergency Response for the month of August - EMS: 15 Auto: 7 Fire: 5 Public Assist: 5. Total of 32 responses.
- General Information: 1) Burn permits are now being issued at the station; 2) Make sure that you always call the Burn Information number prior to burning to make sure that it is a valid burn day. 3) Keep your piles to a 4'x4' in size, only burn natural vegetation from your property and attend your pile until it is completely extinguished. Cannot bring in material from others' properties.

### (B) New Fire Station Update.

- Design team is starting to do detailed plans for permits. Working with the County to get the grating and fill permit. Unfortunately the weather is going to delay the process so probably will not be done until sometime in Spring.
- Chair Jordan had discussions regarding available dirt for fill. Positive discussions however can't commit to anything until after permits and bid process take place.
- Working on loan process – meeting next week.
- Issue with sewer district – working to resolve and meet with SPMUD.
- Special meeting in October was held on environmental package. Posted on State Clearinghouse. Allows for a 30 day review period. By early December should find out more and address any new issues.
- Geotechnical soil survey is complete, samples were taken. Soil types analyzed as part of the permit process.

## 8. ACTION ITEMS:

(A) Property Tax Review. Presented by Neil Anderson. On the special tax exemption list there are two groups – 2-parcel properties purchased with a boundary that the County assigns two parcel numbers because of a map page, school district or other kind of boundary. Properties can't be sold separately for the most part. One group on the special tax exemption list has a minimum of 4.6 acre parcels and the other group has minimum of 20 acre parcels.

Mr. Anderson is asking the board to provide direction as to how to approach or handle the taxation of these groups of properties. Is it appropriate to tax as a single unit? Do this for only those residents that come forward? Taking a complete effort to look at all parcel maps in the County would be a huge effort. General recommendation by Mr. Anderson would be to combine those properties that have these boundary issues and tax under measure F and measure B. Based on the language of the measure B – a 'taxable parcel' there is some confusion. The County does treat it as a single parcel when taxing the property owners.

The motion on tax exemptions will be postponed until we can consult with the County to identify their format for taxing, and will be deferred until the next board meeting after the proper language has been identified. Mr. Anderson will draft the language regarding recommendation to treat parcels that are separated by boundaries a certain way, such as how the County treats them.

**9. Board of Director Reports:**

- Mr. Sprouse shared information about the Newcastle Elementary History Club tonight with proceeds going to a Washington DC trip.
- There is a Christmas Event on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm
- In the December meeting we will be swearing in three new board members. Supervisor Holmes will be present
- The Saldana property now officially belongs to the District.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM

**10. NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Wednesday, December 17, 2014. Location: 461 Main Street.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Capik, Recording Secretary