

Newcastle Fire Protection District
Minutes of Special Board of Directors Meeting
June 29, 2023
Held via teleconference and in-person at:
Long Valley Community Hall
2005 Rattlesnake Rd., Newcastle, CA 95658

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Vice Chairman Elder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. Director Enos led the flag salute.
- c. VC Elder, Secretary Heisterkamp and Director Enos were present. Chairman Kahrl and Director Bettencourt were absent.
- d. Chief D’Ambrogi, BC Slusher, BC Williamson and DM Lofrano were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (3/0).

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Director Enos made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries. Enos/Heisterkamp – Aye. Elder – Abstain.

4. Approval of Financial Report

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the financial report as presented by Chief D’Ambrogi. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (3/0).

5. Correspondence

- a. None

6. Public Comment

- a. John Costa (lives on Plum Ln.) was concerned about the water pressure in town. He thanked the duty crew for coming out and performing a flow test on the hydrant near his home. Mr. Costa also has county code enforcement involved with a dilapidated house next door to his property.
- b. Jon Anacker – Spoke to Fire Wise community requirements and insurance issues.

7. Chief’s Report

- a. Chief D’Ambrogi reporting:
 - i. Cal Fire is at peak staffing.
 - ii. A burn ban is in effect.
 - iii. Dennis Martin has been appointed interim fire chief at Foresthill.
 - iv. Frank Udvarhely has taken a job as District Representative for Placer County District 4.
 - v. Whittington Hill has submitted an application to become a Fire Wise Community.
- b. BC Williamson Reporting:
 - i. He and the crews are currently working on completing business inspections.
- c. BC Slusher Reporting:
 - i. 52 Calls for May.
 1. Provided mutual aid 13 times
 2. Received mutual aid 3 times.

8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter’s Association

- i. No report

9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee report on the new fire station.
 1. Nothing to report
- b. Ad-hoc Committee report on selling the existing station and dedication of the new fire station.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp reporting:
 1. This will be discussed in the upcoming closed session.

- c. Inter-district Cooperation Ad-hoc Committee.
 - i. No report.

10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Discuss an annual cost of living increase for the Fire Facility Fees.
 - i. The following information was provided:

Inflation Adjustment

The Fire District should adjust the fee annually for inflation in the cost of projects to be funded by the fee. A construction cost index should be based on a reputable and easily identifiable source such as the Engineering News Record. Any inflationary adjustment must first be authorized in the enacting resolution or ordinance approved by the County.

Reporting Requirements

The district should comply with the annual and five-year reporting requirements of Government Code section 66000 et. seq. Annually, the District must identify the fee revenues received and for what purposes they were expended.

- ii. There is the possibility of a 9% increase in fees.
 - iii. Chief D'Ambrogi hopes to have a resolution ready for the board by the July meeting.
- b. Review the Brown Act Changes that went into effect January 1, 2023.
 - i. DM Lofrano reviewed the updates that were published in the board document package.

11. Action Items

- a. Consider and approve the new Joint Operations Agreement for shared staffing to include Auburn City Fire Department to the original agreement between Newcastle, Penryn, Placer Hills and Foresthill Fire Protection Districts.
 - i. Chief D'Ambrogi stated that by including Auburn City in the JOA, it broadens the pool of employees to keep the stations fully staffed.
 - ii. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the new JOA document as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (3/0).
- b. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2023-07 authorizing Chair Kahrl and/or Director Heisterkamp to sign documents pertaining to the sale of the old fire station.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-07 with the following amendment: Vice-Chair Elder is substituted for Chairman Kahrl and is able to sign documents pertaining to the sale of the old fire station. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (3/0).
- c. Consider and adopt Resolution No. 2023-08 approving the Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp summarized the budget.
 - ii. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-08 as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (3/0).
- d. **Closed Session: The board adjourned to closed session at 6:47 p.m.**
 - i. Pursuant to California Government Code § 54956.8 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS: Directors Enos and Heisterkamp Property: 9211 Cypress Street, Newcastle CA 95658 APN: 040-175-006-000.
 - ii. The board reconvened open session at 6:59 p.m. Secretary Heisterkamp reported that the Board approved the addendums #2, #3 and #4 to the purchase agreement dated May 18, 2023.

12. Director's Reports


- a. Secretary Heisterkamp reported that the Board could not consider the MOU at a Special meeting but it will be considered at the July meeting and will be retroactive to the beginning of July.

- 13. VC Elder adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Patrice Metz, Recording Secretary



Approved