

Newcastle Fire Protection District
Minutes of Regular Board of Directors Meeting
August 16, 2023
Held via teleconference and in-person at:
Long Valley Community Hall
2005 Rattlesnake Rd., Newcastle, CA 95658

1. Call Meeting to Order

- a. Chairman Kahrl called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- b. Secretary Heisterkamp led the flag salute.
- c. All Directors were present.
- d. Chief Gow, Chief D'Ambrogi, District Manager Lofrano and BC Williamson were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Secretary Heisterkamp amended Item 11B, the District Audit, to first reading and changed it to an information item - 10B.
- b. Director Bettencourt made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. VC Elder made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 19th regular meeting as presented. Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

4. Approval of Financial Report

- a. VC Elder made a motion to approve the financial report as presented by Chief Gow. Secretary Heisterkamp seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0). The Board welcomed Chief Gow back to his duties.

5. Correspondence

- a. None

6. Public Comment

- a. Jon Anacker
 - i. Thanked Chief D'Ambrogi for his time as acting Chief and welcomed Chief Gow back.
 - ii. Mr. Anacker is back on his feet and managed to weed eat his property.
 - iii. His son is Assistant General Manager at the Roseville Costco.

7. Chief's Report

- a. Chief Gow reporting:
 - i. Things have been hectic getting caught up. He appreciated staff for stepping up in his absence.
 - ii. District Manager Lofrano is retiring at the end of the year.
 - iii. Placer Hills Fire Board will be discussing Chief Gow's position at their next board meeting.
 - iv. Auburn City signed the Joint Operations Agreement for shared staffing. Auburn City's Fire Chief is on administrative leave. An Auburn City Battalion Chief has accepted a position with Rocklin leaving only 2 Battalion Chiefs. Chief Gow has offered them any assistance they may need.
 - v. Chiefs Gow and D'ambrogi met with Chief Duerr from South Placer, Sheriff Woo and Undersheriff Wright to discuss the Tablet Command system. Rocklin Fire Chief Williams is working on a CAD to CAD connection.
 - vi. South Placer has a committee working on funding opportunities from the County and State. LAFCO is looking at the consolidation process between South Placer and Loomis. The Municipal Services Review will hopefully be completed by the end of the year.
 - vii. Dennis Martin is the new Fire Chief for Foresthill. He is in favor of consolidations. He is concerned about Battalion Chief Coverage.
- b. Chief D'Ambrogi reporting:

- i. Inspected 1 single family dwelling and 2 rough hydros. Working on a lot split on Ralston Lane. Residents on Whittington Dr. are working towards becoming a “Firewise Community”.
- ii. The Board of Supervisors approved the Project 8 Winery. The winery is moving forward quickly and is putting in a water system.
- iii. Chair Kahrl attended the County’s presentation on the rezoning program to allow higher residential densities for parcels.
- c. Battalion Chief Williamson reporting:
 - i. Finished inspecting the educational facilities and most of the commercials.
 - ii. 57 calls for the month, 12 mutual aids given, 3 mutual aids received. Many of the mutual aid calls were to assist Calfire.
 - iii. Engine 41 is back in service.
 - iv. The irrigation system at the station has been repaired.
 - v. Staff is looking into lithium battery training.

8. Newcastle Professional Firefighter’s Association

- i. Captain Shaw and Engineer Knuckles assisted Local 3800’s soda booth at the fair in Grass Valley.

9. Board Committee Reports

- a. Building Committee report on the new fire station.
 - i. Director Bettencourt reporting:
 - 1. Chief Nelson got the parking lot at Monroe Transmission sealed and striped for \$1,400.
 - 2. The transformer is scheduled to be removed in September and then we can fill the hole.
- b. Inter-district Cooperation Ad-hoc Committee.
 - i. No movement is anticipated until the MSR is complete.

10. Informational/Non-Action Items

- a. Review the Brown Act Changes that went into effect January 1, 2023.
 - i. Chairman Kahrl reported that no board member was in violation of the Brown Act.
 - ii. Director Enos is resigning from the Board. His last meeting will be in September.
- b. First reading of the Audit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp reported that staff requested clarification on the construction expenditures on page 8. He requested that the revenues for the measures be broken out. The audit will be an action item next month.

11. Action Items

- a. Public Hearing to consider updating the Fire Facility Impact and Mitigation Fee Schedule and to adopt Resolution No. 2023-09 increasing the fee to from \$1.21 to \$1.32 per square foot.
 - i. The district has the ability to increase the Mitigation fees annually. Chief D’Ambrogi recommended starting this process in February or March so that new fees would go into effect in July for the new fiscal year.
 - ii. Chair Kahrl opened the Public Hearing to consider the study and fee schedule. There were no comments and the Public Hearing was closed.
 - iii. Director Bettencourt made a motion to approve the Fire Facility Impact Study and Fee schedule. VC Elder seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

The open meeting was adjourned and the Board went into Closed Session at 7:13 pm.

- b. **CLOSED SESSION:** Pursuant to California Government Code § 54957.6(a) LABOR NEGOTIATIONS; Discussion of a side letter to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Nevada County Professional Firefighters, Local 3800. District negotiators: Directors Enos and Heisterkamp;
 - i. The open meeting was reconvened at 7:22 pm.

- ii. Director Heisterkamp reported that the Board reviewed the side letter to the MOU regarding a paramedic stipend for qualified Newcastle staff when working at an ALS agency.
- c. Consider and approve a side letter to the MOU with Nevada County Professional Firefighters, Local 3800 for the term of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 approving a paramedic stipend for qualified employees working through the Joint Operations Agreement at an Agency that provides Advanced Life Support services.
 - i. Secretary Heisterkamp made a motion to approve the side letter to the MOU with L3800 as presented. Director Enos seconds the motion. Motion carries unanimously via roll call vote (5/0).

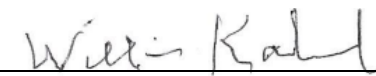
12. Director's Reports – no report

13. Chairman Kahrl adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Gillian Lofrano, Recording Secretary



Approved