



Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District
Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors' Meeting
Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM
Geyserville Fire Station – 20975 Geyserville Ave, Geyserville, CA

1. Opening Greeting

- a. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Rob Stewart at 6:01 PM.
- b. Roll Call: Directors Rob Stewart, Pat Abercrombie, Fred Peterson, and Scott Newman were present. Director Larry Heiges was absent. Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville, Administrative Manager Anneke Turbeville, and District Treasurer Michael Pigoni were also present.
- c. Pledge of Allegiance
- d. Approval or Amendment of the Agenda: **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Newman) to approve the agenda. All ayes.**

2. Public Discussion

None.

3. Old Business

- a. Cloverdale/Northern Sonoma County Fire JPA

Director Peterson said the March 27th Special Meeting with Cloverdale Fire went well and the discussion between boards was good. Director Newman said there was a lot of discussion of the past, but he would like more focus on going forward.

Director Stewart announced that there was also a JPA meeting today. The meeting went well and they agreed to evergreen the current JPA for one more year, giving them time to conduct the merging of the two districts. He was encouraged by the meeting and feels that the labor group has made great strides.

Director Newman agrees with what Director Heiges wrote in his letter about it not being a good match.

Fred Peterson announced that he is stepping down from the JPA committee and hopes that Larry Heiges will step in to take his place. If Heiges cannot do it, he recommends Pat Abercrombie for the position.

Director Abercrombie pointed out the need for an organizational chart, emphasizing Heiges' point that a merger of equals is doomed. Abercrombie asked if there would be one chief and one board, and Director Stewart replied yes. Director Abercrombie

wondered if the JPA committee can come up with the plan, or if a facilitator is needed. A discussion followed about the benefits and drawbacks of a facilitator and it was decided that first we need a plan. Members of the public suggested we come up with our own vision and present it to Cloverdale, since our needs are different and progress has been slow.

Michael Pigoni pointed out that Cloverdale Fire has a parcel tax that would go away if we took them over.

The Board agreed that they want to look into bringing the employees back to this District. The Board directed staff to look into PERS.

b. City and Planning Unit Outreach Committee

Director Peterson reported that this committee will no longer hold quarterly meetings. Instead, they will meet as issues arise. Chief Turbeville reported on vegetation management on Fitch Mountain and city properties.

c. Policies

Director Peterson noted that the policies presented tonight are meaty policies and should be reviewed closely.

4. New Business

a. Facilities Needs Assessment

Martin Dreiling of DTA gave a presentation on the progress of the facilities assessment process, including maps of existing and potential locations and considerations for facilities. The Board agreed to direct Dreiling to move the Geyserville Fire Station into the schematic design phase. A facilities workshop will be held immediately before the June board meeting.

a. Purchase Request: Helicopter Dip Tank

The dip tank under consideration will be part of a network of dip sites. Calpine will do the plumbing and hookup. **A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Peterson) to authorize \$40,000 from fiscal year 2024/2025 for the partial funding of a helicopter dip tank to be placed in The Geysers. All ayes.**

5. Minutes

a. March 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes: **A motion was made and seconded (Abercrombie/Peterson) to approve the March 20, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. All ayes.**

b. March 27, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes: **A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Abercrombie) to approve the March 27, 2025 Special Meeting Minutes. All ayes.**

6. Financial Report

There were no questions for staff or the Board Treasurer on the past month's income and expenditures.

7. Consent Calendar

A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Newman) to approve the March checks issued. All ayes.

8. Chief's Report

There were no questions for the Fire Chief regarding the Chief's monthly report.

9. Correspondence

Scott Newman's letter regarding the Spencer Lane property was not included in the agenda packet, so it will be included next month.

10. Good of the Order

Pat Abercrombie reported that there has been good vegetation work on Fitch Mountain.

11. Adjourn to Closed Session

The regular meeting was adjourned to a closed session at 8:02 PM for employee performance evaluation and review, Fire Chief, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.

12. Reconvene to Regular Meeting

A thoughtful performance evaluation of the Chief was conducted and salary was discussed. No action was taken. The closed session was reconvened to the regular meeting at 9:15 PM.

13. Adjournment of the Meeting

The regular meeting was adjourned immediately after the closed session ended. **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Newman) to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. All ayes.**

Approval of Minutes:

Peterson/Newman

Motion Made/Seconded

Anneke Turbeville

Anneke Turbeville - Clerk of the Board