



NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING JULY 15, 2021 AT 7:00 PM

1. OPENING GREETING:

- a. Meeting Called to Order by President Paul Bernier at 7:01 PM
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call: Directors Rob Stewart, Scott Newman, Fred Peterson, and Paul Bernier; Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville, Treasurer Michael Pigoni and Administrative Manager Anneke Turbeville were also present.
- d. Approval of the Agenda: Item C of New Business will be moved up to Public Discussion. **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Stewart) to approve the agenda with that change. All ayes.**

2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION:

Larry Heiges noted that the Press Democrat stated that we are consolidating with Sonoma County for 1.2 million dollars. Bob Taylor explained that the paper is referencing the CSA 40 annexation.

Cossette thanked us for the control burn and asked the District to open its restroom to the customers of downtown businesses between the hours of 11 AM to 5 PM every day. A discussion followed about some of the issues, such as maintenance, liability, security, cost and who will open and close the restroom each day. Cossette will put together a written proposal.

3. MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Newman) to approve the June 17, 2021 minutes. All ayes.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Fred Peterson presented the financials.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR: A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Peterson) to pay the bills. All ayes.

6. CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Marshall Turbeville presented his chief's report. He gave updates on the Geyserville Roadside Clearance Grant and the Lake Sonoma Watershed Grant. He should know if we received the latest grant by August 1st. The \$145,000 settlement fund was received. The West Geyserville Avenue project was contracted to Circuit Riders. We hired three Firefighter Interns and will not be using seasonal firefighters anymore. The Wildland Firefighter position was approved last month.

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

During the ad hoc committee meeting, Paul Bernier learned that property tax money will not be part of the county's proposed agreement. Bernier believes that approving this agreement would be a disservice to our community and no bargain to us.

8. GEYSERVILLE FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORT:

There is no longer a GFEA; this can be removed from the agenda.

9. GEYSERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT:

Fred Peterson announced that Wine Country to the Rescue is Saturday night; he encourages everyone to attend. WCTTR funded a new truck for Healdsburg Fire, wildland firefighter gear, and a UTV. This year's WCTTR will be very simple, with 250-

300 people attending. It will be held at Trentadue from 5-10 PM. Funds raised will go toward fuel reduction efforts. Larry Heiges gave a shout out to Joe Stewart for putting this on. Michael Pigoni hopes the water tender will be here by the end of August.

10. CORRESPONDENCE: Paul Bernier reported that he received a letter from Liebert Cassidy Whitmore announcing that Anneke Turbeville completed the Public Sector Employment Relations Certificate Program.

11. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Consolidation and Annexation: Marshall Turbeville explained that in 2019 we annexed Knights Valley and since then have worked with LAFCO to annex Geysers, Mill Creek, Sotoyome, Fitch Mountain and the Cedars. The draft maps are done, and once we get the Tax Exchange Agreement we are ready to go. The Board agreed that only public pressure can persuade the Board of Supervisors to do the right thing. The proposed annexation is not fiscally responsible. A discussion followed on when to begin the public relations effort to educate the public.
- b. Alexander Valley Fire Station: No report.
- c. Knights Valley Update (by Scott Newman): Director Newman says he no longer needs this item on the agenda. A special meeting will be held in September in Knights Valley. He noted that broadband is a utility and should be available to all. The Franz Valley meeting is tomorrow night at the Pepperwood Preserve.
- d. Chalk Hill Property Update: No report.
- e. Firefighter Funding: **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Stewart) to approve the agreement with the County of Sonoma for 2.0 staffing. All ayes.**

12. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. FMAG 5295: The FMAG was approved and just needs additional documentation.
- b. Fire Department Water: Anneke Turbeville explained that a local resident asked to buy water from the fire department after her well went dry. The Board agreed that the fire department will not be selling water to anyone.
- c. Public Restrooms: This was discussed after Public Discussion.
- d. Cell Phone Shadows: This was mentioned in the Knights Valley Update.

13. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: Employee performance evaluation & review, Fire Chief and Administrative Manager, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.

14. RECONVENE TO REGULAR MEETING: **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Stewart) to approve the pay and benefits requested by Anneke Turbeville, except for the 457 contribution, and a \$10,000 annual raise to the Fire Chief, to be part of either salary or retirement or any combination of the two. All ayes.** Anneke Turbeville will contact Cloverdale Fire to determine the administrative employer contribution amount to PERS and use that amount for the employer contribution portion of her 457.

15. GOOD OF THE ORDER: Anneke and Marshall Turbeville will be out of the area during the next board meeting. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

Paul Bernier announced that he has a blue dot on his driveway.

16. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING: A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Newman) to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 PM. All ayes.

Minutes approved as written- Motion/Second: Fred Peterson/Scott Newman

Clerk of the Board: Annika Lurbeville Date: 8/19/21

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