



# NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

20975 Geyserville Avenue • PO Box 217 • Geyserville • California • 95441 • (707) 857-4373 • geyservillefire.com

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2020 AT 7:00 PM

This meeting was held via teleconference, pursuant to the Governor of California's Executive Order N-29-20 dated March 17, 2020.

### 1. OPENING GREETING:

- a. Meeting Called to Order by President Rob Stewart at 7:01 PM
- b. Pledge of Allegiance.
- c. Roll Call: Directors Rob Stewart, Fred Peterson, Scott Newman, Tatsuo Okaya and Paul Bernier were participating. Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville, Administrative Manager Anneke Turbeville and District Treasurer Michael Pigoni were also participating.
- d. Approval of the Agenda: **A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Okaya) to approve the agenda. All ayes.**

2. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** Sarah Hafner reported that the Alexander Valley/Geyserville MAC has proposed to set aside money from the River Rock Casino fund for the modernization of the Alexander Valley Fire Station. The firehouse would be turned into a useable facility during floods, fires, power outages and other events for the sheriffs and highway patrol. Hafner noted that additional funds may be needed beyond what MAC can provide. She suggested asking constituents for a donation equal to what would have been collected from the failed tax measure.

3. **MINUTES:** Tatsuo Okaya noted that he was not present at the last meeting, but his name appears under Item #3 from the September minutes. **A motion was made and seconded (Bernier/Newman) to approve the September 17, 2020 meeting minutes. All ayes.**

4. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Tatsuo Okaya reviewed the financial report.

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

6. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Marshall Turbeville reported that no one has had Covid-19 and employees are doing a good job of taking precautions. The District currently has several outstanding invoices due to the fires- approximately \$650,000. A second chipper has been ordered. Chief Turbeville reviewed some of the current fuel management projects. He hopes to burn this winter and spring. Scott Newman noted that he drove the Walbridge Fire with Marshall Turbeville and feels the rest of the board members would benefit from a similar tour. Fred Peterson suggested having an informal brainstorm during a special meeting. Chief Turbeville added that the strategic plan needs updating. Tatsuo Okaya offered to put together a plan of what we need to allow video access. It was decided to hold a special meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup>. This meeting will be a board brainstorm about strategic planning.

7. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report.

8. **GEYSERVILLE FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORT:** No report.

**9. GEYSERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT:** No report.

**10. CORRESPONDENCE:** Rob Stewart reported that the Board received a letter from a concerned citizen and 17 signees regarding a social media post made by a Cloverdale Fire employee. He noted that the letter was also sent to Chief Jenkins; any disciplinary action will be the responsibility of Chief Jenkins. Rob Stewart thanked the citizens for their concern but noted that personnel matters are not discussed by the Board.

**11. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Consolidation and Annexation: Fred Peterson gave an update on this topic. He noted that a tax exchange agreement is still needed. When the annexations are complete there will no longer be a CSA#40. The Geysers area is included in the sphere of influence application.
- b. Alexander Valley Fire Station: Sarah Hafner addressed this topic during public discussion.
- c. (Proposed) Chalk Hill Fire Station: No report
- d. 457 Administration Fees: Anneke Turbeville will put something together on the current fees.
- e. Fuel Reduction Fee Schedule: No updates.
- f. Discussion regarding legal representation for reimbursement for losses during the Kincade Fire: Scott Newman reported that the Skikos law firm is working with us to help us think through our losses.
- g. Social Media Policy: Michael Pigoni presented a draft social media policy, which will be more complete next month. The policy will apply to anyone who represents the District, including contract employees.

**12. NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Presentation of proposed letter to Sonoma LAFCO director and commissioners in support of prioritizing Northern Sonoma County proposed SOI application: Fred Peterson wondered if the board was comfortable with him writing a letter to the LAFCO commission. Peterson and Rob Stewart will work together on this.

**13. GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Fred Peterson announced that there will not be a pancake breakfast. This Saturday on Mountain View Ranch Road, Fire Forward is cutting handline for a prescribed burn. Scott Newman reported that COPE made a request for the Knights Valley fire department non-profit to fund a CWPP for Knights Valley. If the request is denied, there will need to be a fundraising effort, and he is hoping the GVFA will help. Scott Newman asked to add discussion of cell phone shadows to next month's agenda. Newman suggested that the District should increase awareness of the possible loss of enhanced services funding for next year.

**14. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING:** Discussion and schedule of the next regular meeting to be held on November 19, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. **A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Peterson) to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM. All ayes.**

Minutes approved as written- Motion/Second: Paul Bernier/ Fred Peterson

Clerk of the Board: Anneke Turbeville

Date: 11/19/2020

The District does not transcribe its proceedings. Anyone who desires a verbatim record of this meeting should arrange for attendance by a court reporter or for other acceptable means of recordation. The public is allowed to use any form of audio or video recording, absent a reasonable finding by the Board that this action will disrupt proceedings. Such arrangements will be at the sole expense of the individual requesting the recordation. Questions about this agenda – call the Fire District's Office at 707/857-4373.