



# NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

~~March 17, 2022 AT 6:00 PM~~

APRIL 26

Pursuant to California Assembly Bill 361, the District is authorized to hold public meetings remotely and to make those meetings accessible to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the Board by remote means. This meeting was held in person and via Zoom.

### 1. OPENING GREETING:

- a. Meeting Called to Order by President Paul Bernier at 6:04 PM
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call: Directors Rob Stewart, Larry Heiges, Paul Bernier and Scott Newman attended the meeting in person. Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville, and Administrative Manager Anneke Turbeville were also present.
- d. Approval of the Agenda: **A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Heiges) to approve the agenda, with Item 4b moved up earlier in the meeting. All ayes.**

### 2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION: There was no public discussion.

Item 4b. Discussion of proposed Knights Valley firehouse lease and community: The Board would like to move forward with a lease for the use of the Spencer Lane firehouse, without providing insurance for the Knights Valley Fire Department Board (KVVFDB). Matt Dakin of the KVVFDB noted that if the fire district does not insure his board that cost will need to come out of the KVVFDB's budget; he will bring the matter to his board. The KVVFDB is having its annual meeting in June and the meeting will be open to the community. Community members present expressed their desire to see fire engines in the firehouse and have the building accessible to community groups like COPE. This discussion will be continued at next month's meeting after hearing back from the KVVFDB.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Resolution 21/22-0426-01: **A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Heiges) to adopt Resolution 21/22-0426-01, proclaiming a state of emergency exists due to COVID-19 and authorizing remote teleconference (Zoom) meetings of the District for the next 30 days pursuant to California Assembly Bill 361. All ayes.**
- b. Fire Station Updates and Discussion:
  - Preliminary firehouse design/rendering/pricing budget and process applicable to Chalk Hill, KV or other locations: On May 9<sup>th</sup> Rob Stewart is meeting with Supervisor Gore, PRMD and County Roads to discuss the Chalk Hill fire station. An architect is working on designs for a new Knights Valley firehouse. The designs will give us an idea of the expected cost of the project and how much land the facility will need.
  - Alexander Valley Fire Station: MAC is funding the updates to the Alexander Valley firehouse.

- c. Consolidation and Annexation: The annexation is in LAFCO's hands. We are hoping for the annexation to be complete by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- d. Special Tax Zone Billing: Larry Heiges reported that we have collected 98% of the total amount due.
- e. Community Outreach: Larry Heiges explained that once the annexation is complete, he wants to reach out to the community and explain the scope and area of the new fire department. The fire district will be protecting approximately 400 square miles once the annexation is complete. He emphasized that the fire department will focus on representation of rural areas and remain independent from surrounding cities. Chief Turbeville added that he would like to hire someone to assist with community outreach.
- f. Northeast Sonoma County Wildfire Mitigation Phase I: This grant has been submitted and the agreement has been signed. This item can be taken off the agenda.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Consolidated Election: **A motion was made and seconded (Heiges/Stewart) to approve the resolution ordering an election to be held and requesting consolidation with the November 8, 2022 general district election. All ayes.**
- b. Discussion of proposed KV firehouse lease and community: This was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- c. 2022/2023 Budget: Chief Turbeville will reach out to Rob Stewart and Scott Newman to schedule a meeting.

#### 5. MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Stewart) to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2022 Special Meeting and the March 17, 2022 Regular Meeting as written. All ayes.

#### 6. FINANCIAL REPORT: Review of current financial reports. Scott Newman wants to look into closing the Exchange Bank account.

#### 7. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- a. Warrants: **A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Heiges) to approve the March/April warrants. All ayes.**
- b. 2020/2021 Financial Statement and Independent Auditor's Report: **A motion was made and seconded (Stewart/Heiges) to approve the 20/21 audit. All ayes.**

#### 8. CHIEF'S REPORT: Fire Chief Marshall Turbeville reported that calls for service are below average for this time of year, though we have had more chimney fires than usual. We have not yet encountered issues with fentanyl in our district and we haven't been affected by new COVID-19 strands. The GVFA purchased a stake side pickup, but we suspect it was in a flood and we are working through those issues. All apparatus are in service. We are looking into hiring a mechanic to work on Cloverdale and Northern Sonoma County Fire apparatus. The Board of Supervisors allocated a second round of PG&E funds and we received three direct grants and one partial grant. The fuels crew is working on the 2018 Lake Sonoma Watershed grant and will be starting a project with Coverdale on May 9<sup>th</sup>. We are looking into hiring full-time fuels positions and recently advertised a Firefighter/EMT position. We are close to opening a fire prevention officer position and preparing to hire three new interns and seasonal firefighters. Beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> you will need a Cal Fire permit to burn.

#### 9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report.

10. **GEYSERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT:** Erik Padilla announced a blood drive on May 20<sup>th</sup>, CPR day on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and Wine Country to the Rescue on July 16<sup>th</sup> at Trentadue.
11. **NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE JPA COMMITTEE REPORT:** Paul Bernier reported that the mechanic position was discussed at the last JPA meeting. They also discussed the 5 year plan with Cloverdale and agreed that the vision does not include joining with Cloverdale, though the two districts will continue to work closely together.
12. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None
13. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Rob Stewart and Larry Heiges volunteered to work shifts at the Fire and Earthquake Safety Expo in Cloverdale on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup>. Larry Heiges reported that Supervisor Gore is running for re-election but announced that this will be his last term.
14. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING:** A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Stewart) to adjourn at 7:53 PM. All ayes.

Minutes approved <sup>with date change</sup> ~~as written~~ - Motion/Second: Scott Newman/ Larry Heiges

Clerk of the Board: Sheneke Turbeville Date: 5/19/2022

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.