

# 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 NOVEMBER 19, 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 7:03 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:** Joe Stewart apologized for inappropriate comments made on his social media page while on duty.

Larry Heiges provided an update on the Vineyard Valley View special fire zone. The purpose of this zone is to provide funds to the fire department. A discussion followed on the timeline for creating this fire zone. This will be an agenda item next month.

- 3. MINUTES: A motion was made and seconded (Bernier/Peterson) to approve the October 15, 2020 meeting minutes. All ayes.
- **4. FINANCIAL REPORT:** Tatsuo Okaya reviewed the financial report.
- 5. CONSENT CALENDAR: A motion was made and seconded (Peterson/Newman) to pay the bills. All ayes.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

e. Knights Valley Update: Chief Turbeville, Fred Peterson and Scott Newman attended a meeting with the KVVFC board in June 2020 to discuss transfer of control of the Knights Valley Station to the District. During the subject meeting we expressed the reasons the District feels strongly that transfer of title to the District was an imperative. We also listened to KVVFC reasoning to the contrary. In the end KVVFC impressed upon us a strong desire to make a final (the third) proposal of lease terms that may be acceptable to the District. On July 10, 2020 we received a "term sheet" from the KVVFC president. Upon review the ad hoc made the decision that the proposed terms continue (as with the prior two leases) to contain concepts that reflect a desire for this entity to have "influence" over matters that have been entrusted in the District. Accordingly, Scott Newman was instructed to send a written reply following our July 16, 2020 Board Meeting which he did on that date. In the reply another meeting was proposed to discuss the issue further. In particular we proposed a date of July 31. We have been following

up with the KVVFC board in the meantime. Given the time that has elapsed on this issue since annexation and since our June meeting to resolve this issue the ad hoc felt it appropriate to provide this update to the full board and public record. Currently the fire station is not in use because the lease has not been worked out. The Knights Valley Fire Association board is insuring the fire station. Firefighters have access.

Chief Turbeville noted that Calistoga continues to respond as it did before the annexation, Northern Sonoma County Fire continues to respond as before, and South Lake Fire is now coming to the top of Ida Clayton Road, which is an improvement in service.

- **6. CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Marshall Turbeville reported that the website is in the process of being updated to northernsonomacountyfire.com and emails have changed from geyservillefire.com to nosocofire.com. MAC has approved \$100,000 for fuels crew work in Geyserville MAC area. A prescribed burn was successfully completed on November 11<sup>th</sup>. A grant for emergency lighting was submitted to CalOES. Our original solar panels have been non-operational for at least six months. Funds will be needed to fix those panels.
- **7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** No report.
- **8. GEYSERVILLE FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION REPORT:** Board members will meet with the GFEA in January.
- **9. GEYSERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT:** Funding was approved for CWPP, water tender, 500 gallon water trailer, and a skid mounted pump for the fuels truck.
- **10. CORRESPONDENCE:** Fred Peterson announced that the letter referenced in Old Business has been sent.

#### 11. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Consolidation and Annexation: Fred Peterson gave an update on the LAFCO sphere of influence.
- b. Alexander Valley Fire Station: MAC is funding an architect to look at the Alexander Valley Fire Station. Though this station will likely never sustain long-term staffing, it can serve as an outpost for flooding and other events.
- c. 457 Administration Fees: No decision was made on this topic.
- d. Fuel Reduction Fee Schedule: No update.
- e. Social Media Policy: This was tabled until next month.
- f. Presentation of proposed letter to Sonoma LAFCO director and commissioners in support of prioritizing Northern Sonoma County proposed SOI application: This letter has been sent; this item can be removed from the agenda.

#### 12. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Strategic Planning: The strategic planning meeting will be held via Zoom at  $8:00\,\mathrm{AM}$  on Saturday, December  $12^{\mathrm{th}}$ .
- b. Conflict of Interest Resolution: The resolution will not be signed tonight. All Cal Card holders will be added to the list of people required to file.
- c. Community Wildfire Protection Plan discussion: The purpose of CWPPs is to prioritize projects. Since all projects are done on private land (there is very little public land in this District), this allows us to prioritize neighborhoods for community projects.
- d. FASIS Nominations: There were no nominations from this District.

- 13. GOOD OF THE ORDER: Proposition 19 passed, and the District wants to help ensure that these funds are held accountable.
- **14. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING:** Discussion and schedule of the next regular meeting to be held on December 17, 2020 at 7:00 P.M. A motion was made and seconded (Newman/Peterson) to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 PM. All ayes.

Minutes approved as written-Motion/Second: NewMan/Peterson

Clark of the Roard: Alle Sulleville

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.