



NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

March 16, 2023 AT 6:00 PM

Geyserville Fire Station - 20975 Geyserville Avenue, Geyserville, CA 95541

This meeting will also be available at the following teleconference location:

The American Colony Hotel Jerusalem, Business Center, 1 Louis Vincent Street, Jerusalem, 97200, Israel

Telephone: **669-900-6833**

Meeting ID: **894 4342 4190**

Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89443424190?pwd=Z1RUeWo0dXQrZUZ3QmlGVUJLNkxJxdz09>

1. OPENING GREETING:

- a. Meeting Called to Order by President Paul Bernier
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call: Rob Stewart [] Fred Peterson [] Larry Heiges [] Paul Bernier [] Scott Newman []
- d. Approval of the Agenda

2. PUBLIC DISCUSSION: The public is welcomed and encouraged to address the Board at this time on matters not on the Agenda. Please be advised that pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2, the Board is not permitted to take action on any matter not on the Agenda unless it determines that an emergency exists or the need to take action arose after the posting of the Agenda. This period will be limited to thirty minutes and individual speakers will be limited to five minutes.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Strategic Planning Updates: Report plan updates and progress.
- b. Update on City and Service Zone Outreach Efforts: Board members and Chief will report on any meetings or contacts during the past month and plans for upcoming meetings.
- c. Consideration of Approval to Create a District-Wide Service Zone: The Board will consider approval to create a Service Zone to make vegetation management a responsibility of the Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District.
- d. Discussion of Fire Sales Tax Measure: The Board will discuss the potential fire sales tax measure, including where it currently sits, and begin formulating questions about the proposed tax.
 - i. Countywide Sales Tax Update: Sonoma County Fire Chief's Association correspondence dated January 26, 2026.
 - ii. Special Assessment Fee (\$2,500) from Sonoma County Fire Chief's Association: Decision whether to pay the assessment fee.
- e. Fire Station Updates: Discuss any updates on potential and existing sites and facilities.
- f. Consideration of Approval to Hire Bookkeeper: The Board will consider approval to hire a bookkeeper or accountant for financial assistance with grants and other financial matters.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Geyserville Town Meeting: Request speaker for April 26th Geyserville Town Meeting.

- b. Director Appointment: Due to the resignation of Director Paul Bernier, effective after the March 16, 2022 regular board meeting, the Board will decide the following-
 - i. Where to post vacancy (which newspaper/s)
 - ii. How to fill vacancy (appointment or election)
 - iii. Deadline to receive letters of interest
 - iv. How letters of interest will be reviewed
 - v. When appointment will be made/election held
 - c. FY 23/24 Budget Preparation: Set committee members and dates for budget preparation.
 - d. Vineyard View Statement of Support: Review presentation by representatives of Vineyard Valley View Property Owners and request for Board statement of support for comment letter to be submitted to the State Fire Marshal and other public officials regarding the proposed revisions to the Fire Hazard Severity Zone Designations. The comment letter addresses community concerns over possible adverse effects of the designations, including on the availability and cost of property insurance.
 - e. Purchase Request: Request to spend more than \$1,500 on legal fees.
5. **MINUTES:** Review and approval of the minutes from the February 16, 2023 Meeting and the February 25, 2023 Special Meeting.
6. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Review of current financial reports.
7. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**
- a. Warrants: Review and approval of February/March warrants to be paid.
8. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Review and questions regarding the Chief's monthly report and any verbal updates on the status of the District and matters pertaining to the operation of the Department.
9. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Report from the Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District Board President
10. **GEYSERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION REPORT:** Report from the GVFA Liaison
11. **NORTHERN SONOMA COUNTY FIRE JPA COMMITTEE REPORT:** Report from the Northern Sonoma County Fire JPA Committee
12. **CORRESPONDENCE:** This time is set aside to read any letters or related correspondence to the Fire Department.
- a. Notification letter that Camp Meeker Recreation and Park District has adopted a resolution to move to even-numbered elections in November 2024, thereby extending the terms of office of all current Board members by one year.
13. **GOOD OF THE ORDER:** This time is set aside for comments from the Board members and the public regarding general interest such as special events, parties, announcements, fundraisers, etc.
14. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING:** Discussion and schedule of the next regular meeting to be held on April 20, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.

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.