



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

## FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

**LOCATION: CAL FIRE Headquarters**  
Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018

**DATE: October 8, 2008**

**TIME: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM**

### MINUTES for October 8, 2008

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order
  - Call to order at 3:57pm.
  - Members present: Nancy Carr-Gordon, Alex Leman, Kathleen Lineberry, and Donita Springmeyer. Present by phone: Ian Larkin, Arnie Wernick, and Mike Coryell. Staff present: Chief John Ferreira, Steve Woodill, Rob Sherman, Enrique Sahagun, Denise Muir and Beth Snyder.
- 2.0 Approval of minutes (July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008)
  - **Motion** made by Donita Springmeyer to approve minutes from previous meeting  
**Motion seconded** by Kathleen Lineberry  
**All in favor**
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda)
  - None
- 4.0 Correspondence
  - Response to Grand Jury Report by FDAC, the county, and CAL FIRE are all imbedded in the county's response. Copy available online.
- 5.0 Business
  - 5.1 Old Business
    - 5.1.1 LAFCO Hearing Outcome and Options
      - LAFCO denied Bonny Doon's petition
      - LAFCO has not finalized action by resolution yet (Campos could not be present to finalize).
      - 3 recommendations in LAFCO report for County Fire; move engine to Bonny Doon, divide existing County Fire into zones of service, and attempt another effort to increase funding (tax or Prop 218).
    - 5.1.2 County Fire Budget Update – Chief Lineberry
      - 5.1.2.1 Status
        - Budget approved
        - Revenue of \$23,000 coming in from out of county responses and another \$25,000 may come in before January
        - Fund balance is at \$700,000 and \$300,000 in contingencies
      - 5.1.2.2 Utilities and Fuel Costs
        - Prices going up and hope to accurately project costs
      - 5.1.2.3 Health Insurance Update

- Price of volunteer physicals going up \$200-\$300 per volunteer annually.
- Volunteer physicals not meeting criteria of insurance group.
- Volunteers are also not doing blood tests which would be an additional \$500 per person annually.
- VO2 would cost \$700 per volunteer per year and has 90% failure rate (VO2 would be for new recruits only). Recommendation by Kathleen Lineberry not to do VO2.
- Will do evaluation of all departments, get all contracts and have open discussion in December.
- Suggestion of doing CPAT which would only cost \$150 per person with much higher success rate.

#### 5.1.2.4 Fire Engine/Water Tender Purchase

- Did not get grant for engine purchase
- \$180,000 in budget for purchase of water tender, will have to explain to BOS the reason for switching to Type 1 engine
  - **Motion** made by Arnie Wernick to proceed with recommending an engine in the price range of \$300,000 and reevaluate budget accordingly.
  - Motion seconded** by Nancy Carr – Gordon
  - All in favor**

#### 5.1.3 Website Discussion

- Domain name purchased through CAL STAR; [santacruzcountyfire.org](http://santacruzcountyfire.org)
- Passed out printed example of what website will look like
- Subcommittee will meet and review (Subcommittee members: Arnie Wernick, Ginny Petras, Kathleen Lineberry, Alex Leman and Bill Tomkovic)
- Software is approved by state and state IT person is able to deal with IT issues

### 5.2 New Business

#### 5.2.1 Communications Task Team formation

- Group consisting of Alex Leman, Kathleen Lineberry, Nancy Carr-Gordon, Enrique Sahagun, and Pat Bush to meet and with Netcom and explore Bonny Doon dispatch issue as well as all issues system wide. No scheduled meeting at this time, but will occur after the election.

#### 5.2.2 Reorganization/ballot measure

- Waiting until LAFCO vote, committee to discuss
- Not sure which method to use, Prop. 218 process or ballot measure for tax
- Enrique to research pros and cons of each method and make a recommendation.

#### 5.2.3 CAL Fire engine deployment – assignment to Bonny Doon

- Discussion of moving CAL FIRE Felton station/engine to Bonny Doon
- Would be Amador station so engine would be staffed year round
- Would need 20 Firefighter I personnel in the off season
- Would have 5/2 person engines
- Need to explore possibility of getting back to 2.5 and then back to 3-person staffing as soon as possible.

- Will need to gain BOS support and funding to return to 3 person staffing
- Labor Union will only support 2 person staffing temporarily, then will go back to four; five year transition acceptable
- Discussion of using McDermott Station temporarily
- Volunteers to cover station when Amador engine is out on incidents
  - **Motion** made by Mike Coryell to recommend to Board of Supervisors that county establish fifth fire station at Bonny Doon and that it be housed at McDermott Station.
  - Motion seconded** by Arnie Wernick. Motion followed by discussion that this recommendation to BOS includes all other things discussed previously and the different steps that would need to be taken.
  - In favor:** Kathleen Lineberry, Alex Leman, Ian Larkin, Mike Coryell, and Nancy Carr-Gordon
  - Abstain:** Donita Springmeyer
  - None opposed**

#### 5.2.4 Annual Operational Agreement Report – Chief Kathleen Lineberry

- Presentation of 4<sup>th</sup> & 1<sup>st</sup> quarter reports
- Annual report will be at next meeting
- Can revisit notion of Planning Dept. taking more from Fire Marshal’s Office
- Updated fees were included in final budget hearing for 08/09 fiscal year.
- Need to evaluate County Analyst’s hours
- Need to work on auto aid agreement with Paradise Park

#### 5.2.5 Target Safety

- Web based training, can get reduced rate
- Cost is \$60-\$65 per volunteer per year with Gold Package
- Money available in Training Fund to use for Target Safety, can also use grant money
- Computers will be available for volunteers to use at stations and at headquarters
- Program allows volunteers to do classroom part online but still do hands on drills

### 6.0 Information Reports

#### 6.1 Fire Chief’s Report- Chief John Ferreira

- None

#### 6.2 Volunteer Company Officers - Mike Coryell

- Covered behind CAL FIRE engines, staffing stations
- Companies provided equipment and support for various fires
- Need more volunteers
- Loma Prieta has been successful in recruiting volunteers as well as other areas where there have been fires.

#### 6.3 County Fire Response Statistics – Chief Kathleen Lineberry

- Would be nice to see the percentage of “no shows”
- Someone from FDAC should sit down with someone from ECC and go over/verify numbers/information
- County would like to have accurate numbers
- Will provide update at next meeting on improved presentation of statistics

#### 6.4 Matching Funds Update – Denise Muir

- Sent out three reminders and have not received anything for this year. New deadline of 11/1, but will not accept anything after then.

7 Roundtable

- Donita Springmeyer – Has insurance finished paying on Martin Rd. damage? Yes.
- Steve Woodill – cost increase and new recruits, try to invest in long term volunteers. Need to look and make sure that volunteers are still active, and to put them on inactive list if they're not. Need to make sure that volunteers are keeping up with training and going to calls.
- Nancy Carr-Gordon – Red Fire wind and weather watch for 10/9. Need to have resources available; EOC in standby mode.

8 Adjournment and set next regular meeting

- **Motion** to adjourn made by Mike Coryell  
**Motion seconded** by Alex Leman  
**All in favor**, meeting adjourned at 6pm

**Next Meeting is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.**

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*If you are unable to attend please call Beth Snyder at (831) 335-5353 ext. 0.*