



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

LOCATION: CAL FIRE Headquarters
Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018
DATE: March 20, 2013
TIME: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

APPROVED Minutes for March 20, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT:

First District Representative/FDAC Chair: Alex Leman
Second District Representative: John Willett
Third District Representative: Tom Scully
Fifth District Representative: Arnie Wernick (*arrived at 4:12 p.m.*)
Office of Emergency Services Manager: Paul Horvat
Volunteer Firefighters Representative: Doug Aumack

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Fourth District Representative: Bob Stokes

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order
Meeting began at 4:00 pm
- 2.0 Approval of draft minutes from January 16, 2013
 - **Motion:** John Willett to approve draft minutes
Motion Seconded: Tom Scully
In Favor: Alex Leman, Paul Horvat, Doug Aumack
Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Bob Stokes, Arnie Wernick
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda, 3 minutes per person)
 - 3.1 Russ Mackey submitted a copy of California Code Section 54952 to FDAC members and requested that future standing subcommittees post their scheduled meetings per the Brown Act and that he receive notification.
- 4.0 Correspondence
 - 4.1 Board of Supervisor letters dated 3/19/13 were received re-appointing Alex Leman, Arnie Wernick, and John Willett to the FDAC.

Arnie Wernick arrived at 4:12

- 5.0 Business
 - 5.1 New Business
 - A. Officer Elections for 2013.
 - 1) Tom Scully nominated alternate Chairperson candidates in order to provide a rotation in duties. All declined. Paul Horvat called for a volunteer, none volunteered.

- 2) **Motion:** John Willett to re-elect Alex Leman as 2013 FDAC Chairperson.
Motion Seconded: Paul Horvat
In Favor: Alex Leman, Tom Scully, Arnie Wernick, Doug Aumack
Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Bob Stokes
- 3) **Motion:** John Willett to elect Doug Aumack as 2013 FDAC Vice-Chairperson
Motion Seconded: Arnie Wernick
In Favor: Alex Leman, Tom Scully, Paul Horvat, Doug Aumack
Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Bob Stokes

B. Draft Proposed 2013-14 Budget

- 1) Increased benefit rate of 3%, decrease of .02% admin fee, removal of .33 Fire Marshal position in the Cal Fire contract.
- 2) Increased expenditures due to necessary mobile equipment purchases.
- 3) Increases to County charges and one time Planning Dept. contribution added for Street Addressing clerk position.
- 4) CSA fees will increase by 2012 CPI of 2.7%.
- 5) The Budget Subcommittee will work on scheduling a time to meet in mid-April.

C. Fire Engine Purchase Discussion

- 1) Chief Larkin has made an offer for the used Felton FPD engine. No reply yet. This equipment purchase would be considered a stop-gap measure. Cost could be somewhat offset by the reserve engine rental to Morgan Hill Fire Dept.
- 2) Due to the imminent need for replacement engines, the commission will continue to work on drafting a recommendation letter for a bond proposal.
- 3) Discussed the need for a Mobile Equipment Subcommittee.

5.2 Old Business
None

6.0 Informational Reports

6.1 Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report

- A. Several personnel transactions have occurred within the unit recently.
- 1) Scott Jalbert has been named Unit and County Fire Chief.
 - 2) Ian Larkin is now Deputy Chief presiding over Santa Cruz County Operations.
 - 3) Rob Sherman is now Assistant Chief at Ben Lomond Camp and oversees the unit's fleet.

6.2 Updates:

- A. County Fire's ISO rating has improved from 6/8B to 5/8B.
- 1) The final report has been corrected and was submitted to the Board of Supervisors as Item #11 on March 5, 2013.
- B. Incidents
- 1) No significant incidents to report, however record dry weather is causing concern for the upcoming fire season.
- C. Training /Academies
- 1) The Basic Volunteer Firefighter Academy is currently underway. Structure training using live fire was conducted last week.

D. Volunteer Handbook

- 1) No Update

6.3 FDAC Reports

A. Updates:

- 1) Master Plan Subcommittee

(Members: Paul Horvat, Arnie Wernick, Tom Scully)

- a) No update.

- 2) Recruitment Subcommittee

(Members: Scott Jalbert, Alex Leman, Doug Aumack)

- a) No update.

- 3) County Fire Reorganization Committee

(Members: Tom Scully, Paul Horvat, Bob Stokes)

- a) No update

- 4) Budget Subcommittee

(Members: Arnie Wernick, John Willett, Scott Jalbert, Ginny Petras)

- a) No update

- 5) Volunteer Company Officers'

(Douglass Aumack)

- a) Met with Susan at Bonny Doon. Stressed that training is of paramount importance to the volunteers.
- b) Trained with Company 29 at Saratoga Summit.
 - i. Continuing to face challenges with recruitment and retention.
 - ii. Recommended more "face to face" interaction with residents.
- c) Development of a group training calendar and cross-training with other companies is encouraged.

7.0 Roundtable

- 7.1 Paul Horvat clarified that "Roundtables" have the potential to violate the Brown Act per County Counsel. This agenda item will now be titled "Announcements".
- 7.2 OES has obtained two major UASI grants to improve communications.
- 7.3 Felton Fire is in the process of obtaining a new breathing support vehicle.
- 7.4 The Santa Cruz County Communications Vehicle is almost complete.
- 7.5 Verizon has proposed a new cell tower close to Bonny Doon's school.
- 7.6 Bonny Doon Fire Safe Council has been very active, has completed several projects, and has done an excellent job this past year.

8.0 Adjournment at 5:40 pm.

- **Motion:** John Willet to adjourn.
Motion Seconded: Doug Aumack
In Favor: Alex Leman, Tom Scully, Arnie Wernick, Paul Horvat
Opposed: None
Abstained: None
Absent: Bob Stokes

9.0

Next regular meeting – Wednesday May 15, 2013 at 4:00 pm

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