



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

APPROVED MINUTES

Regular Meeting: Wednesday, May 15, 2019
CAL FIRE-CZU HQ CONFERENCE ROOM
6059 HIGHWAY 9, FELTON, CA 95018
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

I. ROLL/CALL TO ORDER/INTRODUCTIONS:

Meeting called to order at 4:01 pm

Present:

Volunteer Firefighters Representative/Chair:	Doug Aumack
First District Representative:	Alex Leman
Second District Representative:	Carey Pico
Third District Representative:	Janet Webb
Fourth District Representative:	John Walker
Fifth District Representative/Co-Chair:	Arnie Wernick

Absent:

Office of Emergency Services Manager:	Rosemary Anderson
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II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

A. None

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES MARCH 20, 2019

A. **Motion:** Aumack to approve draft minutes.

Motion Seconded: Webb

In Favor: Leman, Walker, Wernick

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Anderson, Pico (arrived later)

IV. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION: (Items not on agenda, 3 minutes/person)

A. Becky Steinbruner requested the following:

- i. Any information provided during the 6/11/19 public hearing for the annual CSA 4 and CSA 48 Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase.
- ii. That evacuation plans recently discussed in local media be put on the next agenda.

V. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Email dated 04/24/19 from Becky Steinbruner regarding CSA 48 increase proposal and associated public meetings. It was decided to discuss in later items under business matters.

VI. BUSINESS MATTERS:

A. 2018 Santa Cruz County Firefighters of the Year (Aumack)

- i. Congratulations to Career Firefighter Michael Urbani and Volunteer Engineer Doug Aumack

B. Presentation regarding Fire Wise Community summer calendar and coordination with Fire Safe Council (B. Steinbruner, J. Christy)

- i. Community commitment is required for a new program addressing fire safety.
 - a. Comprised of a risk assessment that could impact fire insurance favorably including possible discounts and grants.
 - b. A single point of contact is needed to coordinate.
- ii. The next Fire Safe meeting will be June 6, 2019 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., located at the Santa Cruz County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).
 - a. The Executive Steering Committee meetings take place in odd months.
 - b. The next outreach meeting will be held July 23-24, 2019.
 - i. Mr. Peter Meza from the California Department of Insurance will be guest speaker.
 - ii. Location and time to be announced.

C. Updates from Subcommittees

i. Ballot Measure Subcommittee Update (Wernick, Pico)

- 1) Polling was conducted in April and the 385 respondents, mostly residential, were supportive. Support decreased somewhat with increasing fee levels.
 - a. County management and the Ballot Measure Subcommittee desire a clear majority support from the public before proceeding.
 - b. The new tentative date for a weighted ballot measure would be sometime in the Fall.
- 2) Public meeting presentation and fact sheet review (Wernick)
 - a. Public education and branding Santa Cruz County Fire Department is critical to the success of this ballot measure.
 - b. A new method is being used to determine fees based on "benefit" received, which considers the nature of the property, distance from the nearest fire station, staffing and equipment at that fire station and other factors.
 - c. Measure G, Measure K, and Prop 172 funds would not be consistent and are not likely. A new fee would be a reliable, permanent source of funding.
- 3) Supervisors and staff will continue conducting public education through one-on-one and town hall meetings. Future dates are pending.
- 4) Pictures for new website are needed. A comprehensive Frequently Asked Questions page will be included.

ii. Volunteer Recruitment Subcommittee update (Aumack, Leman)

- 1) Annual recruitment event to be announced in June/July.
- 2) Suggestion given to add stars to sleeves in recognition of volunteer years of service. Chief Sherman will discuss with Chief Larkin.
- 3) Multiple breakfast events happening the following weekend.

- D. Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report (Sherman)
 - i. Governor Newsome has authorized 13 new engines in service for CAL FIRE. CZU will receive one of them and it will be staffed at Belmont Station.
 - ii. Staffing levels changing earlier than expected. Peak fire season dates may begin sooner than planned.
 - iii. A Budget Change Proposal (BCP) has been submitted at the state level for additional dozer operators.
 - iv. Ballistic vests need stitching.
- E. Announcements
 - i. None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT AT 5:17 PM

Motion: Pico.

Motion Seconded: Aumack

In Favor: Leman, Walker, Webb, Wernick

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Anderson

Next regular meeting – July 17, 2019 at 4:00 pm, located at CAL FIRE CZU HQ Conference Room, 6059 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018

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