



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

APPROVED MINUTES

Regular Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 2020
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 4:02 pm

Present:

Volunteer Firefighters Representative/Chair:	Doug Aumack
First District Representative:	Alex Leman
Second District Representative:	Carey Pico
Third District Representative:	Janet Webb
Fifth District Representative/Co-Chair:	Arnie Wernick
Office of Emergency Services Manager:	Rosemary Anderson

Absent:

Fourth District Representative:	John Walker
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II. ADDITIONS/CHANGES TO AGENDA:

A. Ground rules pulled from agenda pending further review by County Counsel.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES NOVEMBER 20, 2019

A. **Motion:** Pico

Motion Seconded: Aumack, Webb

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: John Walker

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

A. Ms. Steinbruner stated that FireSafe/FireWise members are seeking funding for a new position of a coordinator, funding which will be requested from the Board of Supervisors (BOS) in the near future. Ms. Steinbruner asked for FDAC to encourage the BOS to support the request.

V. PUBLIC INPUT/ORAL COMMUNICATION: (Items on the agenda, 3 minutes/person)

A. Comments made by Ms. Steinbruner:

- i. Casting ballots was confusing for some voters.
- ii. Some property owners will now struggle to pay new assessment.
- iii. Ballot counting process was done very well.
- iv. Commissioners advised that it is not an FDAC function to provide appeal guidance for the recently passed ballot measure, Director of General Services advised that information about the appeals process will be made available to the public shortly.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. None

VII. BUSINESS MATTERS:

A. Pulled from agenda

- i. Director of General Services introduced County Counsel Assistant Justin Graham and explained that Brown Act training for the FDAC is being made a priority.

B. Review and approval of the 2019 attendance report

Motion: Anderson

Motion Seconded: Leman, Aumack, Webb

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: John Walker

C. Election of 2020 FDAC Officers

Motion: Wernick nominated Aumack as FDAC Chairman

Motion Seconded: Pico

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: John Walker

Motion: Pico nominated Wernick as Co-Chair

Motion Seconded: Aumack

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: John Walker

D. Ballot Measure Subcommittee Update (Aumack, Pico, Wernick)

- i. If successful, discuss how funds will reflect in our budget (Aumack, Wernick).
 - a) Funds will not become available for another year (Wernick).
 - b) One goal of the commissioners is to use some of the assessment funds for personal protective equipment, mobile equipment, and strive for 3-person staffing (Wernick).
 - c) The new California State budget is allocating additional funding for facilitation of additional staffing for incidents and will supplement County Fire operations (Larkin).
- ii. Voting process explained (Pico, Aumack)
 - a) There was a 27% return on 10,000 ballots sent.
 - b) The results mixed for both heavy weighted ballots and individual ones.
 - c) Some commissioners expressed interest in finding out more information as to the demographics for voters per district.

E. Updates from Commissioners

i. Recruitment Subcommittee (Aumack)

- a) Discuss any potential community events where volunteer recruitment may be an option

- 1) Ideas being explored, Wernick and Leman are taking a more active role.

- 2) Focus on recruits who already have a separate career for long term service.
- 3) Community preparedness at Twin Lakes forum may be an option (Anderson)
- ii. Volunteer Company Officers' Representative (Aumack):
 - a) Continues to receive questions on online volunteer inquiry page.

F. Santa Cruz County Fire Chief's Report (Sherman)

- i. CAL FIRE/County Fire are in the Amador period now and focusing on fuel reduction work.
- ii. Housing crew located at Jamison currently.
- iii. San Mateo funded another engine and there are four total working on fuel reduction.
- iv. Academy started last Saturday
 - b) Used to be taught over the course of a year but now lessons are concentrated into 3.5 months.

G. Announcements

None

VII. ADJOURNMENT AT 4:47 PM

Motion: Pico

Motion Seconded: Anderson

In Favor: All

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Absent: Walker

Next regular meeting – TBD

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