



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

LOCATION: CAL FIRE Headquarters

Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018

DATE: November 18th, 2009

TIME: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

MINUTES for November 18th, 2009

FDAC Members in Attendance:

Kathleen Lineberry	Deputy Chief CAL FIRE / County
Tom Scully	District 3 Representative
Mike Coryell	Volunteer Company Officers Representative / Vice Chair of FDAC
Arnie Wernick	District 5 Representative
Alex Leman	District 1 Representative / FDAC Chair
John Willett	District 2 Representative
Ian Larkin	Fire Labor Organization Representative

Others in Attendance:

Denise Muir	County Fire Analyst
Michael Borelli	CAL FIRE ECC Chief
David Samaniego	CAL FIRE Division Chief
John Ferreira	CAL FIRE / County Fire Unit Chief
Russ Mackey	Visitor
Steve Homan	Visitor
Paul Horvat	Director Office of Emergency Services
Beth Snyder	Note-taker

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order
 - No introductions needed
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes from 9/16/09
 - **Motion** made by Mike Coryell to approve minutes, motion seconded by Tom Scully, all in favor, motion passed.
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda)
 - None
- 4.0 Correspondence
 - Revised auto aide agreement sent to Santa Clara
 - Board of Supervisors to decide whether or not County Fire should still respond to Summit Road area and north end of Saratoga.
 - Request for correspondences to be sent to FDAC members prior to meetings.
- 5.0 Business
 - 5.1 Old Business
 - 5.1.1 County Fire Budget Update – Chief Lineberry
 - County Fire will be able to maintain 2-person staffing level for two years without any changes.
 - Fund balance has 2 million dollars, but will be depleted within 2 years.
 - Formation of Budget Subcommittee; members are Mike Coryell, Kathleen Lineberry and John Willett.

- 5.1.2 Santa Cruz County Master Plan
 - No work on the Master Plan yet
 - Discussion of how completion of the Master Plan is critical in being able to move forward with ballot measure.
 - Discussion of completing Master Plan in four months.
 - Formation of Master Plan Subcommittee; members are Tom Scully, David Samaniego and Arnie Wernick.
- 5.1.3 Re-organization / Makeup of FDAC
 - Discussion of reducing committee from 10 members to 5 members. CAL FIRE staff would attend and could be subcommittee members, but would not be voting members.
 - Board of Supervisors could appoint representatives from each area to serve as the five members.
 - Idea has already been brought before Board of Supervisors.
 - Discussion of removing CAL FIRE from commission but keep as staff and Board of Supervisors could serve as governing body.
 - Purpose for possible reduction would be to streamline the committee and make it more like the other county commissions.
 - Loss of commission members could significantly increase the workload for remaining members.
 - Discussion of whether to keep to keep volunteer and labor reps as voting members.
 - Concerns expressed over the need for the chosen members to be from CSA 48, the need for geographic representation, the need to monitor the number of representatives so that there is no more than one from each district, the affect on the accessibility and availability of CAL FIRE staff, the possible dilution of the volunteer voice, interference with the progress and effectiveness of the commission, and apprehension at reducing the committee to just five members.
 - Discussion of looking into eliminating the positions of people who are not participating/attending, which would take the commission down to seven.
 - Decision was made to take more time to think about this and vote in January.
- 5.1.4 Status of Prop. 1A Securitization Program
 - The county as a whole decided to participate in the program so County Fire will be participating as well.
- 5.1.5 Public Education Effort for CSA 48
 - Kathleen Lineberry met with John Leopold to discuss continuing the work on public education for CSA 48; John Leopold and Supervisor Coonerty will provide further recommendations on how to go about doing public education.
 - Display boards with pictures and descriptions of CAL FIRE/County Fire were put together and displayed for an event at the Watsonville Airport. Boards are also available for volunteers to use for CSA 48 education purposes.
- 5.1.6 Update on Fall Creek apparatus shelter project
 - Moving ahead with building new apparatus shelter; cost will be about sixty thousand dollars. Waiting on plans, sure vey should be done by next week (4th week of November). Job will go out to bid in one month.
- 5.1.7 Availability of computers and internet connections for computer training now offered/required

- Not all stations are connected yet. The county will reimburse up to \$39.99/mo. Reimbursement requests should be made to Battalion Chief.
- 5.1.8 Matching Funds Program
- The Matching Funds Committee met and the funds have been distributed. Bonny Doon's request was denied (request was not in accordance with rules for Matching Funds program) and their money was redistributed to the other companies that participated in the program.
 - Recommendation from committee to do rewrite of Matching Funds Standards in order to make sure that the use for received funds is clearly stated.
 - Policy on Approval of Committee membership
 - Committee members are voted on at the Company Officers Meeting.
 - Policy on rollover of unused money
 - Unused money does not rollover, it is distributed to other applicants if not used.
- 5.2 New Business
- 5.2.1 FDAC Annual Report to Board of Supervisors
- Report should be done and put before the board in January. Annual Report Subcommittee members are: Kathleen Lineberry, Tom Scully and Arnie Wernick.
- 5.2.2 Automotive/Fleet
- 5.2.2.1 New Engine
- Cost for purchasing a new engine will be \$379,130.00
 - Staff Report was done by Greg Estrada outlining why this would be a beneficial purchase.
 - Board of Supervisors will have final decision on purchase of engine.
 - **Motion** made by Mike Coryell to recommend that County Fire move forward with purchase of new engine. Motion seconded by Tom Scully, all in favor except for one abstention from Labor Representative. Motion passed.
- 5.2.2.2 Fleet Reduction
- Fleet will be reduced by two engines
 - Engine 4151 will be moving to Las Cumbres; situation to be reassessed when new engines arrive.
- 5.2.3 County Fire Sign
- Discussion of sign deferred until funds for sign are available.
- 5.2.4 CAL FIRE – SRA Fires – County Response
- 5.2.4.1 Policy on Assignment of Apparatus
- During non-SRA fire times
 - During SRA fires
 - Discussed rules and regulations regarding time and equipment used for state fires.
- 5.2.4.2 Policy on using a volunteer company to cover another during SRA fires
- Discussed the state's procedures in covering behind at stations.
- 5.2.4.3 Use of CAL FIRE employees as drivers within volunteer companies
- 5.2.4.4 Policy on CAL FIRE payments for volunteer time at SRA fires
- 5.2.4.5 Policy on CAL FIRE payments for use of apparatus at SRA fires
- 5.2.4.6 Use of volunteers for staffing Amador engines with 3rd person

- (5.2.4.3 – 5.2.4.6) Rules and regulations of all above points were discussed.

5.2.5 Pay Call for Volunteers

- Discussion of payment for volunteers responding to calls.
- Discussion of having a training stipend and paid calls to compensate for individual's time and service.
- \$64,000.00 is a high estimate of what would be budgeted; payment would be as follows:
\$10/hr daytime, \$15/hr past 11pm, \$15/drill attendance.
- With a 52% turnover rate, this would provide a benefit/compensation to volunteers who do respond.
- Discussion of whether or not the money would be better used for new recruits since the volunteers, themselves, don't need the money but the volunteer companies do need more volunteers.
- Decision to discuss further at next meeting in January.

5.2.6 Communication – ECC

5.2.6.1 Communication Issues

- Dead zones in north coast area
 - Jerry Young was contacted concerning lack of service; he suggested doing a survey of service loss areas and then forwarding that information to Mike Borelli who will collaborate with Jerry Young and they will work to figure out a solution.

5.2.6.2 Status of fire response maps throughout County Fire

- Possible use of GIS maps
- Bill Tomkovic put out a product while ago and was awaiting feedback from the Amador Stations; it has been put aside for the moment.
- Each company can download current maps from the ECC webpage.
- Let ECC know what to put on maps for better efficiency.

5.2.6.3 Local Tone 13 Status

- 5.2.6.3.1 Tone 13 has been worked on, in process of replacing tower. Need to workout land use agreement with state parks.

5.2.6.4 Cell coverage throughout County Fire as an operational and a safety issue.

- 5.2.6.4.1 No discussion

6.0 Information Reports

6.1 Fire Chief's Association – Chief Ferreira

- Nothing new except retirement of Santa Cruz Central Chief, Bruce Clark.

6.2 Volunteer Company Officers – Mike Coryell

- Difficulties in recruiting new volunteers due to all the hoops they must jump through. Would be good to streamline the process for new hires.

6.3 Incident Statistics

- Information available on ECC website.

7.0 Roundtable

John Willett – Have good holidays

Arnie Wernick – Successful completion of remodel with twelve foot doors. The county waived building fees and help was received from County Fire on ventilation. Received donations from people in the area and also received two new volunteers.

Tom Scully – would like to throw out for discussion and make agenda item to run the way the paperwork is done similar to the Board of Supervisors and give out packets three days before the meetings which should include correspondences, also for public to view on the website. Davenport volunteers are struggling and could use some help.

- 8.0 Adjournment and set next regular meeting – Wednesday, January 20th, 2010
- **Motion** to adjourn made by Alex Leman, motion seconded by John Willet, all were in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

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