



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

## FIRE DEPARTMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

---

**LOCATION: CAL FIRE Headquarters**

Highway 9 in Felton, CA 95018

**DATE: May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

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

**Minutes for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**FDAC Members in Attendance:**

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
Paul Horvat	Director Office of Emergency Services

**Others in Attendance:**

Kathleen Lineberry	Deputy Chief CAL FIRE / County
Denise Muir	County Fire Analyst
Michael Borelli	CAL FIRE Battalion Chief, ECC
Steve Homan	Visitor
Russ Mackey	Visitor
Beth Snyder	Note-taker

- 1.0 Introductions/Call to Order
  - Meeting began at 4:10pm.
- 2.0 Approval of Minutes from 3/17/10
  - **Motion** to approve minutes made by Tom Scully.  
***Motion seconded by: John Willett.***  
***All were in favor, motion passed.***
- 3.0 Oral Communications (items not on agenda, 3 minutes per person)
  - Review of FDAC compliance with rules and regulations by member of the public.
- 4.0 Correspondence
  - 4.1 Report on County Fire Public Opinion Survey with Letters from the Public (Exhibit A)
    - Exhibit viewed – no discussion
- 5.0 Business
  - 5.1 New Business
    - 5.1.1 Gene Bregman & Associates – Presentation on Public Opinion Survey
      - Presentation given by Gene Bregman
      - County Registrar provided information on voters in the area and then stratified random sample was selected for interviewing.
      - FDAC members express strong opinions regarding the firm that was used in the last public education effort. The members felt that this should be a grassroots effort with total involvement from the FDAC and County Fire representatives.
      - Recommendation made that FDAC members contact their district's supervisor and express concerns.

- ***Motion*** made by Arnie Wernick, that FDAC members write a letter to all five supervisors requesting that TBW not be involved in the next poll/election and that another firm be selected instead. The letter will detail interactions with the firm to the extent that the history of the previous experience and results are reconstructed for the board.

***Motion seconded by:*** Mike Coryell

***In favor:*** Alex Leman, Tom Scully, and John Willett

***Abstained:*** Paul Horvat

***Opposed:*** None

***Motion passed*** (letter to be done by next week)

- Request made by staff for recommendations of other firms that may be available to conduct poll/election.
- County Staff and private firm recommend that a May election would be better than a general election and would give more time for public education.

5.1.2 County Fire Funding Board Letter and Proposal for Public Opinion Survey (Exhibit B)

- Suggestion made that anything concerning County Fire which is presented to the Board be brought before FDAC first.
- Letter should have been reviewed with FDAC as it pertains to funding and FDAC makes recommendations on funding.
- ***Motion*** made by Tom Scully that any correspondence to the Board of Supervisors which falls within the purview of the FDAC be reviewed at least by the chairman of the FDAC, the vice chair, or any member of the FDAC.

***Motion seconded by:*** John Willett

***In favor:*** Alex Leman, Arnie Wernick, Mike Coryell and Paul Horvat

***Opposed:*** None

***Motion passed.***

5.1.3 Options for Dollar Amounts for the Special Election and Their Ramifications for County Fire

- Three different dollar amounts presented: \$60 option, \$90-\$96 option, and \$120 option as directed by county staff and private firm.
- \$60 Option
  - 2-person staffing at 4 stations (this option would mean that in the next few years one station would close and one engine would not be covered)
  - No budget for vehicle replacement
  - Contingency fund would drop to \$80,000.00 by the third year. Funding could last until 2011/2012.
- \$90-\$96 Option
  - 2-person staffed engines at five stations
  - \$50,000.00 for vehicle replacement budget
  - \$100,000.00 for contingency fund
- \$120 Option
  - 2-person staffing at five stations
  - \$100,000.00 for vehicle replacement
  - \$150,000.00 for contingency fund.
- Another scenario would be to end the contract with CAL FIRE; without contract there is still not enough money to fully fund/support County Fire.
- There are 8,330 taxable parcels.
- Total cost of election is estimated to be around \$140,000.00 – \$160,000.00.

5.1.4 Pending Supplemental Budget Request (Exhibit C)

- These are things that have been added on or happened after the first draft was submitted.
- 5.1.5 Sending Out Draft Minutes to Commissioners – Decision on Timing
- Having draft minutes to remind people of action items is helpful. Three week turn around time is new timeframe.

## 5.2 Old Business

### 5.2.1 Public Education Update – Pamphlet

- First draft of pamphlet was too detailed and confusing for people.
- One page flyer seems to work better since it is more simplified. One page flyer can be customized with pictures from each of the companies. One page flyer still explains who we are, what we do and the cooperative relationship between county and state.
- Important to have a phone number on the flyer that the public can call for additional information, otherwise public may be calling the station phone numbers listed on the flyer.
- It is critical to have the same message going out to the public from all of CSA 48.
- Small pamphlet is good to use internally or for more detailed discussions with public regarding County Fire and CAL FIRE relationship and one page flyer is good to hand out to the general public. Both are very necessary and useful.
- One page flyer is appropriate to share in the community if an event is going on.
- Send pictures of your company to be used in one page flyer.

### 5.2.2 Netcom Contract Reduction – Pending

- Looking at renewing contract for pre-alert with no paging, this will reduce contract down to \$5,000 instead of \$11,000.
- Pre-alert is done over the radio in conjunction with ECC; it is redundant but needed.
- Pagers have been streamlined and some have been returned.
- Netcom is now Santa Cruz Regional 911.

### 5.2.3 Vehicle Replacement Plan (Exhibit D)

- Staff has been working on a spreadsheet which details the equipment located at each station as well as the mileage on those pieces of equipment.
- Recommendation from Chief Lineberry to look at history, level of service, cost effectiveness and which type of vehicles are needed at each location. The Type I engine going to Bonny Doon should be part of the in depth look at fleet placement. The five year vehicle replacement plan should be reevaluated based on our current budget situation.
- Suggestion made to get Mobile Replacement Plan Subcommittee back together and make a presentation in September to the commission on recommendations.

## 6.0 Information Reports

### 6.1 Chief's Report, Santa Cruz County

- AMGEN ride was successful, Bonny Doon and Davenport volunteers helped out that day, no bad events; it was a nice day.
- State has hired 24 firefighters and an additional 4 or 5 will be hired next week.
- Starting on Monday, five stations will be staffed with three-person staffing.
- Looking to increase to staffing to ten engines prior to the end of June.

### 6.2 Emergency Command Center – Chief Borelli

### 6.2.1 Incident Statistics

- Statistical information was sent out with agenda.
- Note made that Davenport was not included in May 2010 statistical response.

### 7.0 Santa Cruz County Master Plan – Tom Scully

- Still working on Master Plan, great progress is being made. Presentation of plan will be in September; there will be a whole new master plan to look at then.

### 8.0 Roundtable

- Paul Horvat – Coordinating lots of training, would this group like to hear about trainings? Information could be provided to Mike Coryell for training opportunities.
- Alex Lemar – Volunteer Firefighter Academy was a positive experience for the firefighters. The instructors did an incredible job, saved some money and the diversity was good. Volunteers felt like they graduated from something worthwhile.
- Tom Scully – AMGEN, emergency services and organizing groups all ran very well and everyone was very pleased. There were no medical emergencies.

### 9.0 Adjournment and set next regular meeting – Wednesday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010

- **Motion** to adjourn made by Tom Scully.  
***Motion seconded by:*** John Willett.  
***All were in favor, motion passed.***  
Meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

*The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. This meeting is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you will require assistance in order to participate, please contact the ADA coordinator at 831-454-2210 (TDD number is 831-454-2123 or 831-763-8123 from Watsonville area phones) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting, to make arrangements. As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.*