

# APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

November 15, 2016

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: President Leary 6:01 PM

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Leary

3.0 ROLL CALL:

Present: Director Savage, Director Karen, Director Tinsley, President Leary

Absent: Vice President Jeffs

4.0 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

.01 Employee of the Quarter – Fourth Quarter. Chief Hultquist began by reading from the nomination. Reading of the admiration of the nominee's peers for his work on the special tax measure along with that of Captain Buddy Peratt, the Fire Chief called Fire Marshal Jason Nailon forward to receive the award for Employee of the Quarter for the Fourth Quarter. Following photographs, the Fire Chief explained that Fire Marshal Nailon had asked before the meeting to address the Board.

Fire Marshal Nailon delivered a very personal speech about the District and its endeavors to get the special tax measure passed. Attached to these Minutes is a copy of Fire Marshal Nailon's speech.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:

Following Fire Marshal Nailon's comments President Leary called on Rob Qualls who had submitted a public comment card.

.01 Engineer Rob Qualls began his comments by congratulating Fire Marshal Nailon on his award. He went on to note that Mr. Nailon had highlighted in his speech the feelings that the Board, employees and 77% of the people in the community were feeling right now. Remarking on how it is still a little "surreal" knowing the Measure has passed and the District can now move on and get those two fire stations open he noted it will probably take some time for the reality to set in.

Stating that he wanted to formally congratulate the Board and his fellow employees on the Measure passing, he said he wanted to speak as a private citizen. He thanked the Board of Directors for "taking the path" they had.

6.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Personnel Report for October 2016
- .02 Operations Report for October 2016
- .03 Community Risk Reduction Report for October 2016
- .04 Fleet Services Program Report October 2016
- .05 Fiscal Report for October 2016 Year

President Leary asked if there were any questions or any items of the Consent Agenda they wanted to pull. Stating he would like to pull Item 7.05 for further comment President Leary called for a motion

to approve Items 7.01 to 7.04. M/S Karen/Tinsley to approve Consent Agenda items 7.01 through 7.04 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of Board members present.

With regard to Consent Agenda Item 7.05, President Leary wanted to point out the work the District had done on the workers' comp tail referencing the District had done well setting aside the money needed to fund the tail and are "well ahead" of where we need to be noting the District's liability to be approximately \$200,000 and the fund was funded well beyond that. M/S Tinsley/Savage to approve Consent Agenda item 7.05 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of Board members present.

**8.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

.01 Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 18, 2016. M/S Savage/Karen to approve minutes of the October 18, 2016 regular board meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of Board members present.

**9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:** President Leary reported on the letter from Church of the Valley expressing all the District does for them.

**10.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

.01 Information Only Items:

a) Quarterly Reports and Adjustments. President Leary announced there was no adjustment report as there were no adjustments or changes for the first quarter of the fiscal year. There was no further discussion.

.02 Discussion Items: None.

**11.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:** President Leary requested that the Special Tax Measure Committee go first. Director Tinsley began this portion of the meeting with the Special Tax Measure Committee report.

.01 Budget & Finance Committee. President Leary reported that the Budget & Finance Committee had met on November 14. Noting that "everything is looking good" President Leary went on to say that the committee had discussion about Measure A looking down the road on where there might be some funding that can be used now. The committee requested the Finance Officer do some cost analysis and went on to say that Finance Officer Brown would be doing some tweaking over the next month and then the committee would be reviewing those financials next month. The intent is to be sure the District isn't digging a hole for the next fiscal year by any decisions made right now. President Leary concluded his remarks by noting that the balance sheet looks good at a third of the way through the fiscal year stating "everything is coming in pretty much as expected".

.02 Special Tax Measure Committee. Remarking that "Jason stole his speech" Director Tinsley went on to say that everyone came together, the committee came together, that no one person made it happen it was everyone together. He expressed his thanks to Chief Hultquist, Captain Buddy Peratt, Fire Marshal Jason Nailon, Director Karen and former Director Cliff Earp, former Fire Chief Doug Qualls – everyone who helped.

President Leary asked if the Special Tax Committee would like this item to remain on the agenda and Director Tinsley requested it stay on for the next month or so. The intent is to follow up on the opening of the two fire stations and keep the public informed on what is happening.

Discussion followed on removing the item from the agenda as it is an ad hoc committee for the special tax measure and perhaps continuing the discussion under 'Discussion Items' on future agendas.

12.0 APPROVAL OF REPORTS: None.

13.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

14.0 ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Declaration of Surplus Equipment. Announcing this item was a list of miscellaneous surplus equipment that was presented by Engineer Matt Dowland, President Leary asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the matter. There was brief discussion between Staff and the Board regarding the disposition of the surplus equipment with the Board wondering where it was sold and how it was sold. Staff explained the items were primarily sold online and if unable to be sold then donated to VVC or another public agency who might benefit from the equipment noting request for this disposition is noted in the Staff Report. President Leary requested Staff pass along to Engineer Dowland his appreciation of the detail of his report referencing the pictures and explanation was very helpful on why the equipment is surplus. M/S Tinsley/Savage to approve the declaration of surplus equipment. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of Board members present.
- .02 Resolution 16-010 Amendment of the Conflict of Interest Code. Referencing the Resolution to amend the District's Conflict of Interest Code President Leary asked if there were any questions or comments. In a brief exchange between the Board and Staff it was reported by Staff that the changes were primarily due to changes in statutes, to make job title changes and to add District Program Manager positions that were now subject to the code. There was no further discussion. M/S Karen/Savage to approve and adopt Resolution 16-010. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of Board members present.
- .03 CAL Card Agreement. President Leary explained that Staff was presenting an Agreement between the District and US Bank for VISA credit card services. He asked if there were any questions or comments. Director Tinsley asked if all the other credit cards would be discontinued or cancelled when this went into effect. Finance Officer Brown explained this would be the goal noting the District had some specific accounts like Wal-Mart that would take some time to discontinue but only having the CAL cards was the intent of the agreement. There was no further discussion. M/S Savage/Karen to approve the CAL Card Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of Board members present.

15.0 STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 Fire Chief Hultquist:
  - a. Congratulated Fire Marshal Nailon on his Employee of the Quarter award noting it was "well deserved and well earned";
  - b. Recalling the evening of the election (November 8, 2016) the Chief shared that through 37 years in the fire service that moment will "stick with me for the rest of my life".
  - c. Explained to the Board that moment the night of the election how this was going to affect all the people gathered there, wives, children, employees, grandchildren knowing the group represented what makes Apple Valley special.
  - d. Remarked that the evening struck him on how this funding has been hanging over the head of these employees for years and how good it is to know there is secure funding for the District.
  - e. Spoke of his pride in the community for "backing us up".

- f. Stated how much he is looking forward to the future and seeing the District grow.
- g. Briefed there had already been conversations about the staffing and reported his intention to keep the Board well informed.
- h. Cited some of the steps the District would be taking in the coming months to hire possibly 15 firefighters noting "this is a huge undertaking" that would require the contributions and cooperation of everyone.
- i. Thanked Jason and Buddy for the leadership and mentioned that probably everyone in the room helped in one way or another making phone calls, putting up signs and walking precincts remarking it says volumes about the community and restores his faith in the community to know.
- j. Told the assembly he always says "respect, trust, relationships" and believes that is what contributed to the success of the measure.
- k. Wished everyone a great Thanksgiving.
- l. Concluded by acknowledging and thanking his wife Debi and explaining that "none of this would be possible without our family members backing us up".

16.0 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS:

.01 Director Karen:

- a. Said "we kind of had our own little Brexit here"
- b. Recalled they had all come together as a Board.
- c. Reviewed that when he came on the Board there was discussion on doing the measure for 20 years at time and he thought it was time to end that.
- d. Remarked a lot of things happened in the election that people thought could not happen.
- e. Congratulated Fire Marshal Nailon on his award.
- f. Thanked Jason and Buddy for their work on the Measure.
- g. Loved seeing the Budget figures (income) had been underestimated and that the District was in good shape.
- h. Thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve.

.02 Director Savage:

- a. Announced "we won and that's a big deal".
- b. Thanked and congratulated Buddy (Peratt) and Jason (Nailon) for all of their work noting it is a thankless job and expressed his gratitude for them "leading the charge".
- c. Congratulated Fire Marshal Nailon on his Employee of the Quarter award.
- d. Expressed how good it is to see the Fire District continue to grow and stay in the community.
- e. Thanked the Fire Chief.
- f. Thanked Finance Officer Brown for her reports.
- g. Remarked that it is the community that wins not the Fire District.
- h. Thanked everyone and said it's time "to hit the ground running" and stating he looks forward to the future.

.03 Director Tinsley:

- a. Stated he "was not worried" and was out of town when he heard the news and celebrated for two days.
- b. Congratulated everyone for their hard work noting it says "who we are".
- c. Said it's time to get on doing what the voters told us to do.

.04 President Leary:

- a. Echoed comments of thanks and congratulations of the other Board members.
- b. Congratulated Jason on the "hugely" deserved Employee of the Quarter award.

- c. Remarked he was thrilled the evening of November 8 noting there was no comparison to Measure G.
- d. Pointed out if there was a "grass roots effort" this was it.
- e. Congratulated everyone for "staying on topic" and getting the word out and those people exponentially also sharing the information really helped.
- f. Stated that he believed that the effort being so widespread this time contributed to the success.
- g. Expressed how proud he was to be a part of this effort and pride in "all of you".
- h. Concluded by saying it all goes back to the great work that is done every day stating "we appreciate you and so does the community".

17.0 CLOSED SESSION: None.

18.0 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: None.

19.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None.

20.0 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM M/S/P Tinsley/Savage.

ATTEST:

  
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ROSE MARIE GARRISON  
Recording Secretary

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
DAN LEARY  
President

FIRE MARSHAL JASON NAILON'S SPEECH FROM BOARD MEETING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Good Evening President Leary and Board of Directors.

I come to you this evening, not only as your Fire Marshal, but also as the President of the Apple Valley Fire Employees Association.

Exactly one week ago, the fate of our Fire District was at the heel of our voters in Apple Valley. Pass or Fail, the circumstances were unprecedented either way it went. I will remember that night as long as I live, it was electric, watching the District come together to celebrate history as the votes came in over 76%. It was simply epic.

If I may take you down a small trip to memory lane. During my first year at AVFPD, almost 17 years ago- I spent a lot of time in the Fire Chief's office. Let me mention, back then we had these black screen savers on our computers. Chief Qualls screen saver constantly scrolled reading "It's all about relationships". It took me a few years to understand what that meant and why was this scrolling on the Fire Chiefs screen saver? Soon enough, I realized that *this was--- and still is* the most important component of public service. RELATIONSHIPS.

Our team accomplishment reminds me of a quote from professor Biden from Syracuse University ..

***"Do nothing – Or, take history into our own hands, and like few generations are given the chance, bend it, bend it into the service of a better day"***

Through the years, the fire district administration and the PFA continues to place the community we serve first and foremost. During the 12 years I spent with Chief Qualls, I watched him establishing these community relationships that were later carried on by Art Bishop and now Chief Hultquist. I strongly believe, that our community outreach and the encounters and relationships of Apple Valley Fire personnel is what passed Measure A, along with the support and guidance from the following:

The CSAVES committee, the PFA, Chief Hultquist, and the BOD for their continued foresight, belief and initiative to not only bring this measure to victory, but to also lift the sunset! Where would we be today if Measure G would of Passed at 1.99? I'm a firm believer in whatever is meant to happen – does. By this, I believe we passed this measure with the quote unquote “ Dream team ” With community figures like Bob Tinsely , Cliff Earp and Dan Leary – To Brett Savage walking on the weekends going door to door. I can take up your whole night on ways YOUR employees , families, and business owners passed this measure.

Many conversations were had with Buddy, chief qualls, my staff, on have we done enough? – what else can we do?- daily we were brainstorming. –

Tonight, I think back to that screen saver- it is the **relationships** this fire district has been building over the many decades that helped this measure pass. Commitments like,

- On Fire for Literacy ( FF'S reading to the children in out elementary schools)
- Serving lunch to the Apple Valley Senior citizen center
- Santa visiting the elementary schools on the fire engine
- Community CPR
- Stewie the duck drowning prevention
- Car seat inspection programs
- Fire station tours
- Spark of love, feeding needy families over the holidays
- Career and Safety FAIRS-and many Town of Apple Valley events. , just to name a few.

Some of you might say .. oh, this is no big deal, lots of Fire Departments do these activities..well they don't and I challenge you to find one that does. That's ONE THING that sets us apart from others. I will put this Fire District up against anyone in the State of California, and our community commitment and the employees resolve is second to none. . Our commitment has never wavered. Through short staffing in suppression and the risk reduction division, to our stations being closed we have persevered. The PFA, CRRD, as well as the PCFs, we continued to staff the events, continued station tours, and maintained our community outreach. The personnel never said no we don't have the staffing or resources, instead we knew the show must go on while we hoped and prayed

for light at the end of the tunnel all while staying true to our motto “commitment to service excellence”

It has been over 7 years, since the stations closed, and guess who's hiring now? **The Apple Valley Fire Protection District!**

The culture of an organization is reflected through its members. Doing more with less over the years has become the culture of the Apple Valley Fire Protection District, and our members rose to the occasion every time.

Collectively as Fire District Personnel, as well as the board of directors we have set the bar high for standards in our teamwork, perseverance, and community outreach. Our jobs and families are secure, and to quote buddy the night of the measure ...” if our kids want to work for Apple Valley Fire... they now can! “

Finally, Thank you to everyone that helped measure A pass with an overwhelming 77 percent. Last Tues night we made history. The same history that formed this district in April of 1951, 65 years later we proved their hard work was not in vain.

So to our founding fathers of this District: Mr. Bertolotti, C.W. Harvey, James Goble, and Ben Bass, we will not expire! Our shelf life is now forever and we have just now begun to write history.