

APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 16, 2013

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER: President Barnes at 6:00 p.m.
- 2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Director Leary
- 3.0 ROLL CALL:
Present: Director Earp, Director Leary, Vice President Hanson, President Barnes
Absent: Director Tinsley
- 4.0 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:
 - .01 Presentation of newly promoted Engineer/Paramedic Shaun Grover. Chief Hultquist called Engineer/Paramedic Shaun Grover forward and introduced him to the Board. The Fire Chief gave a brief history of Shaun's career with the Fire District noting Shaun was a local Apple Valley boy who had worked hard to excel and promote. At the conclusion of his remarks Chief Hultquist did the formal pinning of Mr. Grover's Engineer badge.
 - .02 Certificate of Excellence Presentation. Chief Hultquist called Fleet Services Manager John Ryan forward to make the presentations of the Certificates of Excellence. FSM Ryan introduced Bryce and Blake Ackerman to the Board. Mr. Ryan went on to explain that the Ackerman brothers had both achieved the status of Eagle Scout with the Boy Scouts of America. As a part of this process they had volunteered to take on the special project of testing all the fire hydrants in the Golden State Water District. Under the guidance of the Districts Fire Mechanic, Kendel Phillips this project was completed. FSM Ryan concluded his remarks by thanking Bryce and Blake for their hard work and service to the community.
 - .03 CERT Presentation. Disaster Service Worker (DSW) Coordinator and Commander Dawn Harrison was called forward to give the Board a presentation on what CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) does for the Town of Apple Valley. Beginning with the CERT motto of "The greatest good for the greatest number" Ms. Harrison made a Power Point presentation that explained the training volunteers, or DSWs (Disaster Service Workers), receive. She went on to list some of the functions the DSWs provide in an emergency and/or disaster. Among them were the sandbag team, help with shelters, serving food and refreshments to safety personnel and animal rescue. Commander Harrison concluded her remarks by noting the partnership CERT had with the Town, the Fire District and the School District for community emergency and disaster preparedness and training.
 - .04 Award Presentation to Fire District. The Fire Chief called CERT Co-Commander Erin Fox forward. Ms. Fox introduced Mr. John Tucker of the LDS Church. Mr. Tucker thanked the Board and the Fire District for their support of the *Shake, Rattle and Roll* event that had been chaired by Paula Chambers and Erin Fox. He went on to explain that this event helps the community be educated and prepared in the event of a disaster. Mr. Tucker concluded his remarks by presenting an award of appreciation to the Fire Chief.
- 5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- 6.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT: None

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

01. Personnel Report for March 2013
02. Operations Report for March 2013
03. Fire and Life Safety Report for March 2013
04. Community CPR & First Aid Training Report for March 2013
05. Emergency Management Program Report for March 2013: None
06. Fleet Services Program Report for March 2013
07. Hazard Abatement Report for March 2013
08. Fiscal Report for March 2013
09. EMS Report for March 2013

M/S Earp/Leary to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the Board members present.

8.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- .01 Minutes of Regular Meeting March 19, 2013

M/S Earp/Hanson to approve minutes of the regular meeting of March 19, 2013 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the Board members present.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

President Barnes noted the correspondence was in the notebook.

10.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- .01 Information Only Items: No discussion.

- a) Proposed and Current Development within the District.
- b) Changes to Consent Agenda.

- .02 Discussion Items:

- a) Meeting Schedule & Staff Reports. ASM Garrison gave the bullet points from the Staff Report explaining the option to have quarterly Staff Reports and curtailing some of the monthly Board meetings. The Board of Directors went on to discuss the merits of whether it was necessary to meet twelve times a year with Director Earp noting some concerns about disrupting continuity and the District's business by doing so. By consensus the Board agreed to postpone further discussion until the May Board meeting and requested Staff to present a revised policy as an Action Item.
- b) Changes to CalPERS Retirement Calculations. Finance Director Reynolds explained he had submitted the Staff Report to update the Board on the process CalPERS was using to "smooth" the rate increases for employers over the next several years. Mr. Reynolds outlined the process CalPERS used, hiring an outside actuarial, that would provide information and make recommendations that would assist PERS with the decision regarding these changes. He went on to report that approval of this smoothing process and rate schedule was due to be approved by the CalPERS Board imminently.
- c) Regional Fire Protection Authority (RFPA). Chief Hultquist gave a brief history of the RFPA that was created in 1981 by several agencies to share costs for dispatch and fleet maintenance. The Fire Chief went on to explain that the remainder agencies, primarily Apple Valley and Victorville, decided to put the RFPA in abeyance when it was no longer

financially feasible for it to continue. He further informed the Board that the San Bernardino County Auditor/Controller had contacted the District requesting the RFPA be dissolved. His recommendation to the Board was to not dissolve the RFPA and for the District to continue to keep the RFPA in a dormant state. Chief Hultquist advised that he had directed Finance Director Mark Reynolds to prepare and file the necessary documents on behalf of the RFPA with the County Auditor's office to bring them up-to-date.

President Barnes made a brief statement of his recollection of the former Board's intention to keep the RFPA in hibernation and not disband it. By consensus the Board agreed that Staff should proceed with filing the necessary documentation with the County Auditor to keep the RFPA dormant but viable should the need arise.

- d) **Measure V Overview.** With the absence of Director Tinsley, President Barnes requested this presentation be tabled until the May Board meeting. President Barnes received an affirmative consensus from the other Board members to table this item.

11.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- .01 **Budget Committee Report.** Director Earp began by noting the Budget Committee had met the previous Monday, April 8, 2013, and had a very good discussion. He added that the Budget Committee was working very hard to have a balanced budget while not delaying maintenance and other services. He remarked on his confidence that the group of Chief Hultquist, Finance Director Reynolds, President Barnes and the rest of the District Staff were all working to see that happen.

President Barnes went on to add that he "feels good" about where the District is currently heading with the FY 2013/2014 budget. He did remind Staff that the Budget Committee had requested Staff prepare a two to three year projection in the Fall to see what lies ahead.

12.0 APPROVAL OF REPORTS: None

13.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

14.0 ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 **Resolution 13-002.** Finance Director Reynolds explained to the Board that this was the yearly Resolution establishing the annual consumer price index (CPI) adjustments to the Fire District's special tax noting the special tax is often referred to as the "Measure V" tax. Mr. Reynolds continued by explaining that there is a two percent cap for this increase and that the cap minimum had been met. Discussion followed between Staff and the Board regarding the history of the Measure V tax and CPI increases since its inception. M/S Earp/Leary to adopt Resolution 13-002. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of the Board members present.

15.0 STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 **Fire Chief Hultquist:**
a. Briefed on the Dominic Cumo mattress donation event noting it was well attended and that the 140 beds had been distributed.

- b. Pointed out the ripple effect of the mattress donation with District beds being donated to domestic violence shelters.
 - c. Updated the Board on legislative items:
 - (1) AB 468 – repeals the SRA fee and creates the Disaster Management Preparedness and Assistance Fund.
 - (2) SCA 11 – lowers the voter approval threshold from 2/3 to 55% for local tax measures.
 - (3) ACA 8 – makes electoral reforms allowing communities to pass local infrastructure bond measures for special districts and other local agencies with the same 55% majority that applies to school bonds.
 - (4) AB 23 – introduced by Assembly Member Tim Donnelly repeals the SRA fee.
 - (5) AB 124 – Repeals the SRA fee.
 - d. Informed the Board that the biggest issue facing the County Chiefs currently is the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, otherwise known as Obamacare. He went on to brief the Board on the urgency for the Fire District and other fire service agencies to protect their right to be a first responder. He listed the three main issues as:
 - (1) Community Para-Medicine – noting the necessity to expand skills and services into the domain of preventative, and primary care.
 - (2) Importance of an integrated data system announcing the Fire District was currently in the process of updating its system to better integrate with other agencies and hospitals.
 - (3) Preservation of 201 rights (agency ambulance transportation rights) and Exclusive Operating Area (EOA) contracts up for bid – pointing out the importance of these significant contracts coming up for bid in the very near future.
 - e. Updated the Board on the Fire District's dispatch announcing the bid from ConFire came in flat with basically no increase.
 - f. Reported he met with Chief Ross from Barstow Fire and was told that Barstow Fire was at least a year or more out before they could consider bringing the Fire District into their system.
 - g. Advised the Board that due to present circumstances he had approved the Fire District to contract with ConFire for dispatch services for FY 2013/2014.
 - h. Thanked all the District's employee groups for unanimously agreeing to extend their current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and/or Summary Agreements for the period of one year.
 - i. Told the Board that former Board President and staunch supporter of the Fire District, Dick Allen, had been hospitalized at St. Mary's. The Fire Chief extended the good wishes and prayers of the Fire District and its employees to the Allen family.
- .02 EMS Manager Guarrera:
- a. Directed the Board to page two of the EMS Report (7.09) noting the patient resident status information that will be assisting the Fire District on some of the issues the Fire Chief mentioned with regard to Obamacare and EMS (emergency medical services).

- b. Informed the Board that the Fire District had been invited to participate in a Mayors' Forum with the Cities of Victorville, Hesperia, Adelanto and Apple Valley regarding the issues and problems with synthetic drugs pointing out the significance of the District's involvement with those communities.

.03 Captain Peratt:

- a. Expressed his appreciation to the Fire Chief and the Board for allowing the PFA to be able to work side by side in some of the operations and decisions that govern the Fire District.
- b. Congratulated Shaun Grover on his promotion.
- c. Noted District firefighters had been busy over the last couple of months itemizing the following events:
 - (1) Fly fishing with the veterans with the Sheriff's department.
 - (2) Participation in the annual *Shake, Rattle & Roll* event.
 - (3) The Dominic Cumo mattress donation event – thanking the Board members who attended.
 - (4) Employee potluck earlier in the day which Dominic Cumo attended.
- d. Announced there will be more community type events the PFA will be participating in and looking for Board support.
- e. Offered the support of the PFA to the Board for Measure V finishing by stating "you can count on us to help".

.04 Fleet Services Manager Ryan:

- a. Expressed his appreciation to the Board for their recognition of the Ackerman brothers.

16.0 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS:

.01 Director Earp:

- a. Echoed earlier comments of Director Leary regarding his appreciation of the effort and time Staff put into the monthly reports and added his appreciation of Staff's help.
- b. Thanked President Barnes and Vice President Hanson for their leadership and patience with answering questions and providing important information to new Board members.
- c. Expressed his enjoyment being a part of the Board and the positive impact it has on the community.

.02 Director Leary:

- a. Professed his appreciation of the Acronym & Rank sheet from ASM Garrison & the Fire Chief.
- b. Congratulated Engineer Shaun Grover on his promotion and was happy Shaun's Mom could be present.
- c. Voiced his admiration of the Ackerman brothers on their Eagle Scout achievement and their contributions to the Fire District hydrant program.
- d. Directed comments to Capt Peratt noting what the firefighters do well each day will sell Measure V (to the District constituency).

.03 Vice President Hanson:

- a. Congratulated Shaun Grover on his promotion.
- b. Acknowledged the Ackerman brothers expressing what a daunting job it is to work on the hydrants in the Golden State Water District.
- c. Thanked Dawn Harrison for her CERT presentation.
- d. Thanked Erin Fox for her good work on the *Shake, Rattle & Roll* event.

e. Thanked Capt Peratt and Chief Hultquist for their collaborative efforts.

.04 President Barnes:

- a. Extended his congratulations as well to Shaun Grover.
- b. Also echoed earlier comments thanking the Ackerman brothers.
- c. Stated his appreciation for Dawn Harrison and Erin Fox and how engaged the volunteers are in the community.

17.0 CLOSED SESSION: None.

18.0 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: None.

19.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None.

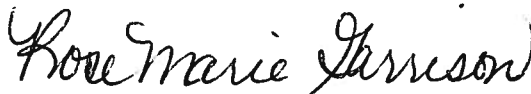
20.0 Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m. M/S/P Earp/Hanson.

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Virgil D. Barnes', written over a horizontal line.

VIRGIL D. BARNES
President



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rose Marie Garrison', written over a horizontal line.

ROSE MARIE GARRISON
Recording Secretary