

APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 15, 2015

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: President Leary at 6:00 PM.

2.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Director Tinsley

3.0 ROLL CALL:

Present: Director Alaniz, Director Tinsley, Director Earp, Vice President Jeffs,
President Leary

Absent: None.

4.0 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

.01 Employee Service Awards. Chief Hultquist began by announcing the types of awards that were to be given. He then called each of the honorees forward and gave them their service award as they were called. The presentations were as follows:

a) Service Pins

5-Year Pins: Reserve Training Specialists Brian Hendrickson and David Oleson; and Fire Inspector Gerry Longnecker

10-Year Pin: Firefighter/Paramedic Darin Patterson. The Fire Chief explained that Firefighter Paramedic Darin Patterson was unable to attend.

b) 30-Year Service Rings: Division Chief Mike Parsons and Captain James Hulbert.

c) The Fire Chief recalled the Employee of the Year Nominees to the assembly, Captain Carlos Marino, Finance Director Mark Reynolds, Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Dowland and Training Specialist Wes Mulder. He followed this by announcing Firefighter/Paramedic Matt Dowland as the Employee of the Year.

.02 Presentation by Lew Edwards Group. The Fire Chief requested this item be deferred until later in the meeting due to technical issues with the use of the electronic equipment in the MWA Boardroom. By consensus the Board agreed to proceed with the agenda until the technological issues could be resolved.

Immediately following agenda item 15.0 Staff Comments, it was announced that the presentation was ready for the Board. The Fire Chief began by introducing Rick Sklarz from FM3. FM3 is the company who conducted the survey for the District's special tax measure. Rick began by thanking the Board for the opportunity to make the presentation and invited them to ask questions as the presentation proceeded.

The PowerPoint presentation was a slide by slide breakdown of the survey results. The results of the survey were favorable for the District to proceed with a special tax measure. The findings also indicated a favorable opinion overall for a renewal of the existing special tax measure, however, the results were not favorable for the cost of living increase as it exists in the currently in place voter approved tax measure (Measure V). The survey results also indicated an acceptable approval score (more than the 66% needed to pass a tax measure) for a \$1.99 increase that was the amount requested in the 2014 tax measure.

Specific demographics were presented by age, gender, ethnicity and geographical location within the District and how these groups responded to the questions of the survey. Additionally the survey provided information on issues regarding public safety that were of concern to the District. Rick explained that the first part of the survey and questions were to get a feel for where the participants were without any additional education. Following those questions, there is a series of comments and questions that gave the survey participant information about the District and its services. The results of those questions showed an improved favorable response to the tax measure with the additional education.

Additionally, throughout the presentation there were many positives stated such as the approval rating for the District as an organization as well as specifically noting the very positive 87% approval rating for the District's firefighters.

There were questions, discussion and interaction between the Board and FM3 representative, Rick Sklarz throughout the 40-minute presentation. Many of these interactions were for clarifications on the questions asked in the survey and an explanation of the data derived from the questions.

At the conclusion of the presentation President Leary thanked Rick for the information and moved to Director Comments, agenda item 16.0.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

6.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA:

- .01 Personnel Report for November 2015
- .02 Operations Report for November 2015
- .03 Community Risk Reduction Report for November 2015
- .04 Fleet Services Program Report November 2015
- .05 Fiscal Report for November 2015

President Leary called for any questions or discussion regarding the Consent Agenda. There was no discussion. M/S Earp/Tinsley to approve Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the Board members present.

8.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- .01 Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, November 17, 2015. M/S Earp/Jeffer to approve minutes of the November 17, 2015 regular meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote of the Board members present.

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE: President Leary reported there was no correspondence for the month of November.

10.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- .01 Information Only Items:
 - a. 48/96 Work Schedule and Overtime Update. President Leary thanked Staff for the report and asked if there were any questions or comment from the Board. There was no further discussion.
- .02 Discussion Items: None.

11.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- .01 Budget & Finance Committee. President Leary requested that a Budget/Finance Committee meeting be scheduled in the near future and asked that a date be decided within the following week.
- .02 Special Tax Measure Committee. Immediately following his comments regarding the Budget/Finance committee, President Leary asked the Special Tax Committee, Directors Tinsley and Alaniz, if they wanted to give their report or if they wanted to wait until after the Lew Edwards Group presentation. The Committee opted to wait for further discuss until after the Lew Edwards Group presentation.

At this point in the meeting there was a brief exchange between Staff and the Board about whether to wait a few additional minutes for the presentation or to proceed with the Action Items. The Board again agreed by consensus to proceed with hearing the Action Items.

12.0 APPROVAL OF REPORTS: None.

13.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

14.0 ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Proposed Wage Schedule. President Leary requested any questions or comments from the Board regarding the information contained in the Staff Report. There was no further discussion except to clarify that the Board would be proposing approval of Proposed Wage Schedule 1. M/S Jeffs/Earp to approve Proposed Wage Schedule 1. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of the Board members present.
- .02 Resolution 15-008. President Leary announced the Agenda item noting this item is the annual approval of the Gann limit appropriations. There was no further discussion. M/S Alaniz/Jeffs to adopt Resolution 15-008 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote of the Board members present.

15.0 STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 Fire Chief Hultquist:
 - a) Wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
 - b) Recognized and thanked Captain Kenny Sanders for his 30 plus years of service. The Chief noted Captain Sanders will be retiring from the District at the end of the year.
 - c) Invited the Board to Captain Sanders' retirement party on Sunday, December 20, at Mama Carpinos restaurant.

16.0 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS: President Leary deferred the Directors' comments until after the Lew Edwards Group presentation. It was at this point in the meeting that the presentation was conducted. Please refer back to agenda item 4.02 for Minutes on the presentation.

Following the presentation.

- .01 Director Alaniz:
 - a) Referenced a meeting earlier in the day with Staff, Lew Edwards Group and FM3 that was very productive and was a start regarding the education and messaging the District will have to do with regard to the measure.
 - b) Noted she came out of the meeting (earlier) feeling the team had two strong talking points for the measure, however, she voiced her concerns on knowing the "horizon amount" for the measure before beginning with the message.
 - c) Expressed her appreciation for the 30-years of service for Chief Parsons and Captain Hulbert citing what a milestone it is.
 - d) Thanked the other service award recipients for their work and service.
- .02 Director Tinsley:
 - a) Reported the meeting (earlier) was very informative pointing out it wasn't necessarily new information but was valuable to help hone skills and get better at getting the message out.
 - b) Remarked the talking points were good, but would like the entire Board's input on the message before the District goes forward with the measure.
 - c) Noted the importance of the entire community being aware of what the District is doing and why.
 - d) Added his congratulations to Director Alaniz' comments to the service award recipients thanking them for their hard work and service.
- .03 Director Earp:
 - a) Congratulated each of the service award recipients by name Brian, David, Gerry, Darin, Mike, James and Matt noting what an accomplishment 30 years of service is.
 - b) Expressed his appreciation of the presentation.
 - c) Suggested the Board continue with the same Board officers and committees. An exchange between Director Earp and Staff followed whereby there was a consensus that the officers, President and Vice President continue in the coming calendar year for continuity. It was noted that the Board officers' seats usually change in the December of an election (even numbered) year.

d) Stated his belief the District has the best firefighters in San Bernardino County and could not appreciate more what they do – what our District does.

.04 Vice President Jeffs:

- a) Congratulated the five-year, ten-year and 30-year service award recipients expressing his appreciation for their service and hard work.
- b) Congratulated Matt Dowland on his Employee of the Year award expressing his thanks to the other three nominees for their efforts as well.

.05 President Leary:

- a) Joined in congratulations of the service award recipients and thanked everyone for all the work they have been doing.
- b) Cited the importance of getting all of the Board members involved with the message (special tax measure) and the parameters of the measure.
- c) Requested copies of the survey and message materials.
- d) Suggested a Board workshop be scheduled for further discussion on the measure asserting the sooner this happens the better.
- e) Voiced his concerns regarding the costs for doing another survey later this year as was suggested during the presentation.
- f) Noted the importance of the Board meeting to discuss the specifics of the measure as the principles originally voted on and approved by the Board previously may be changing based on the survey.
- g) Stressed the importance of defining the tax measure so everyone can get on the same page with the same message.
- h) Reiterated his request that there be a Budget Committee meeting scheduled within the next week.

17.0 CLOSED SESSION: None.

18.0 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: None.

19.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- .01 Director Earp reminded Staff about the special tax measure workshop.

20.0 ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM M/S/P Earp/Jeffs.

ATTEST:


ROSE MARIE GARRISON
Recording Secretary


DAN LEARY
President