

# APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October 19, 2021

1.0 CALL TO ORDER: President Kuhn 6:05 PM.

2.0 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

- .01 Invocation: District Chaplain Nate Garn
- .02 Pledge of Allegiance: Director Hernandez

3.0 ROLL CALL:

Present: Vice President Conley, Director Hernandez, Director Hultquist, President Kuhn, Director Leary  
Absent: None

4.0 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

- .01 Introduction of Chaplains. Fire Chief Harrison introduced three Chaplains; Nate Garn, Paul Gostanian and Firefighter Paramedic Peter Horne noting they are the first in the new program. The Fire Chief thanked them for joining the program and welcomed them.
- .02 Unit Commendations. Fire Chief Harrison briefed the Board on a large-scale fire that had taken place at the Cemex plant. He called forward the members present from each Fire Station that had been a part of that incident and presented them with unit commendations.  
The commendation recipients are: Battalion Chief Peratt, FS 331 (Captain Salgado, Engineer Dillow, Firefighter Ibarra), FS 332 (Captain Watterson, Engineer Martinez, Firefighter Baeskens), FS 334 (Captain Johnson, Engineer Young, Firefighter Franco), FS 336 (Captain Mejia, Engineer Simpson, Firefighter Lafarga) and FS 337 (Captain Ho, Firefighter Drozd).

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT:

- .01 Shannon Dunkle from Congressman Jay Olberholte's office spoke about an upcoming event called Every Day Heroes. She noted that the Congressman would be recognizing individuals from Fire, Police and local Emergency Services at the event. She gave the information on how to nominate individuals and requested the Fire District participate.
- .02 Professional Firefighters Association (PFA) President Mark Milson introduces himself as the new PFA President noting that he would be bringing reports to the Board in the future on what the local PFA members have been doing in the community and on the job. He noted the Ryan Cambridge golf tournament, the unit commendations that had just been presented and involvement in recent strike teams.

6.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT: None

7.0 CONSENT AGENDA: President Kuhn asked if everyone had a chance to go over the reports presented and if anyone had questions or comments. Vice President Conley asked to pull Staff Report 7.04 before approval.

M/S Leary/Hernandez to accept Consent Agenda items 7.01, 7.02, 7.03 and 7.05 as presented.  
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist, Kuhn and Leary voted aye by voice vote.  
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Discussion between Staff and Board followed regarding Staff report 7.04, Fleet Services Program Report, specifically the increase in parts costs. After some discussion, Fire Chief Harrison noted that there had been an increase in maintenance affecting the parts costs such as a pump issue, body work and a transmission replacement along with outside agency repair work. The Fire Chief noted that these costs had increased the numbers however, the costs were still falling within budget.

M/S Conley/Hernandez to accept Consent Agenda item 7.04 as presented.  
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist, Kuhn and Leary voted aye by voice vote.  
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

8.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

.01 Minutes of Regular Meeting held on September 21, 2021. President Kuhn asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or discussion.

M/S Conley/Hernandez to approve minutes of the September 21, 2021 regular board meeting.  
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist, Kuhn and Leary voted aye by voice vote.  
Ayes: 5 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

.01 President Kuhn mentioned the thank you note to crews that had been at the Caldor Fire noting that the citizens were very thankful for the hard work put in at the fire.

10.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS:

.01 Information Only Items: Disposition of Surplus. Chief Harrison briefed that this report is to inform the Board that both the ladder truck and Pub Ed trailer had been sold. There was no further discussion.

.02 Discussion Items: Ambulance Service Options Presentation. Fire Chief Harrison gave a PowerPoint presentation (A copy of the slides from the PowerPoint presentation are attached hereto and made apart hereof) and briefing on Ambulance Services. He discussed such items as current issues happening in all of San Bernardino, 201 rights, BLS ambulance responses and the current AMR contract. He also spoke about several meetings he had attended with local and regional Fire Chiefs where solutions are being discussed. Lengthy discussion followed between Board and Staff regarding the options discussed, possible Board workshop in the future to discuss further, cost of ambulance services, advice from the District's legal counsel BB&K and flying an interest flyer for Ambulance Operator positions. Board and Staff agreed that this would be an ongoing discussion item and the Board asked Fire Chief Harrison to continue to brief them as the situation evolves. Board members thanked the Fire Chief for his presentation.

At this time in the meeting Director Hultquist had to leave the meeting and was no longer present for voting purposes.

11.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Finance Committee. Director Hernandez briefed that she and Vice President Conley had met with Fire Chief Harrison and had discussed in more detail the merit increase program. She noted that due to the uncertainty of the MOU contract along with several other financial unknowns, it had been decided to table the merit increase program for now and revisit it at a later date.

12.0 APPROVAL OF REPORTS: None.

13.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

14.0 ACTION ITEMS:

- .01 Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) Third Party Administrator Contract. Fire Chief Harrison asked ASM Lopez to brief the Board on this item. ASM Lopez gave a brief overview of the third party administrator that the District is currently using and the issues that have occurred. She noted that the District is requesting a change in third-party administration to a new vendor, MidAmerica. It was also noted that the District would only change vendors if and when the early contract termination fees would be waived.

M/S Leary/Conley to approve change in third-party administrator for Other Post Employment Benefits Directors Conley, Hernandez, Kuhn and Leary voted aye by roll call vote.

Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

15.0 STAFF COMMENTS:

- .01 Fire Chief Harrison gave a PowerPoint presentation (A copy of the slides from the PowerPoint presentation are attached hereto and made apart hereof) to the Board giving them an update on items such as:
- a. Current hiring process for Firefighter Paramedics and Firefighter EMTs
  - b. In-house Engineer and Captain promotional testing
  - c. There are ongoing discussions regarding the possible closure of Saint Mary's hospital
  - d. Announced that the District is working on re-staffing the Honor Guard program and thanked Captain Devin Johnson for his work on this program
  - e. Thanked Staff for all their hard work specifically Finance Officer Shaker, ASM Lopez, Fire Marshal Pachman and his staff, Apple Valley Professional Firefighters (PFA) and Fleet Services Manager Phillips
  - f. Made special mention of all the great things happening in both the training and EMS divisions
  - g. Called on Fire Marshall Pachman who briefed the Board on several fires that had happened in the last month
  - h. Reviewed several events the District had participated in to include the Happy Trails Parade, various school programs, High Desert Chamber meetings and community service programs

16.0 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS:

- .01 Director Hernandez:
- a. Thanked everyone for their hard work
- .02 Vice President Conley:
- a. Congratulated the recipients of the unit commendations for the Cemex fire incident
  - b. Thanked Captain Mark Milson for his well-spoken comments
  - c. Thanked Nate, Paul and Peter for becoming part of the Chaplain program
  - d. Noted his appreciation to Captain Clemmer and his crew for helping out on a wind call and noted that they went the extra mile to stay and assist
- .03 Director Leary
- a. Echoed the thanks to everyone for all the hard work going on at the District
  - b. Thanked Captain Mark Milson for stepping up to the plate to be the PFA President
- .04 President Kuhn
- a. Stated what a job-well-done the recipients of the unit commendations had done
  - b. Remarked on the great heart, attitude and family atmosphere the Fire District has
  - c. Thanked the employees for all their hard work

- d. Thanked Fire Marshal Pachman for his briefings on recent fires adding that it is nice to hear the reports
- e. Reiterated that there is much discussion needed on the ambulance issues adding that there are good people working on the problem in order to help our community
- f. Thanked Finance Officer Shaker and ASM Lopez

17.0 CLOSED SESSION:

President Kuhn announced the closed session agenda items and requested a motion to go to closed session.

.01 Labor Negotiations (Gov't Code §54957.6 (a))

M/S/P Conley/Leary to adjourn to closed session at 7:38 PM.

The Board returned into Open Session at 7:54 PM.

18.0 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: President Kuhn briefed that the Board had spoken with the Fire Chief about the ongoing labor negotiations and that the Chief would brief the Board again at the next board meeting.

19.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

20.0 ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM M/S/P Leary/Conley

ATTEST:

Signed Original on File  
COLLEEN KUHN  
Board President

Signed Original on File  
KIMBERLY LOPEZ  
Recording Secretary