

APPLE VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

December 21, 2021

- 1.0 CALL TO ORDER: Vice President Conley 6:04 PM.
- 2.0 INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
 - .01 Invocation: District Chaplain Joel Brantner. Prior to the invocation the Fire Chief gave a brief introduction of Joel Brantner as the newest member to the District's Chaplain Staff
 - .02 Pledge of Allegiance: Director Leary
- 3.0 ROLL CALL:

Present: Vice President Conley, Director Hernandez, Director Hultquist, Director Leary
Absent: President Kuhn
- 4.0 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:
 - .01 Promoted Employees Badge Pinning. Fire Chief Harrison individually called Manuel Lafarga and Robert Simpson forward giving a brief summary of their employment with the Fire District. He noted the promotions that they had recently achieved; Manuel Lafarga from Firefighter/Paramedic to Engineer/Paramedic and Robert Simpson from Engineer to Captain. Engineer/Paramedic Lafarga had his badge pinned by his Father, Manuel Lafarga Sr. and Captain Simpson had his badge pinned by his wife Jessica.
 - .02 Retirement Proclamations. Fire Chief Harrison individually called Engineer Philip Underwood and Captain Carlos Marino forward. He presented each of them with a proclamation and plaque which he read for the assembly, flat badges and their duty helmets. After the Fire Chief's presentation to the retirees Professional Firefighters Association President Mark Milson gave each of them a presentation helmet thanking them both for their years of service, contributions and examples set.
 - .03 Employee of the Year. Chief Harrison announced that Gerry Longnecker is Employee of the Year 2021 and asked him to come forward to receive the award. The Chief noted that Gerry was Employee of the Quarter First Quarter and then voted as Employee of the Year by the employees of the District.
 - .04 Unit Commendations.
 - a. Chief Harrison called upon the crews of 331B and 337B consisting of Captain Salgado, Engineer Northey, Firefighter Ibarra, Captain Simpson and Firefighter Horne to come forward. He gave the assembly a brief overview of a CPR save and the crew's involvement on that call. He then called forward a family friend and the Dispatcher on the call noting their involvement in the save and that all of these individuals working together are what saved the patient's life. The patient and family was also present and thanked all involved in the call.
 - b. Chief Harrison called forward crew 336B consisting of Captain Qualls, Engineer Malloy and Firefighter Embleton to receive a commendation for a lifesaving call. He noted that the patient was a Sheriff Sergeant who came forward with representatives from the Sheriff's Department to thank the crew.
- 5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT: None
- 6.0 DIRECTORS' RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT: None

- 7.0 CONSENT AGENDA: Vice President Conley asked if everyone had a chance to review the reports presented and if anyone had questions or comments. The Board requested year to date numbers on future Fleet Services reports to have a clearer understanding of the numbers presented. There was a short discussion about Measure A funding and the income received from mobile home parks.

M/S Hultquist/Leary to accept Consent Agenda items as presented.
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist and Leary voted aye by voice vote.
Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

8.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- .01 Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on November 5, 2021. Vice President Conley asked if everyone had a chance to go over the minutes presented and if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or comments.

M/S Leary/Hernandez to approve minutes of the November 5, 2021 special board meeting.
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist and Leary voted aye by voice vote.
Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

- .02 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 16, 2021. Vice President Conley asked if everyone had a chance to go over the minutes presented and if there were any questions or discussion. There were no questions or comments.

M/S Leary/Hernandez to approve minutes of the November 16, 2021 regular board meeting.
Directors Conley, Hernandez, Hultquist and Leary voted aye by voice vote.
Ayes: 4 Noes: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

9.0 CORRESPONDENCE:

- .01 Vice President Conley mentioned that there was some nice correspondence in the board packet adding that District personnel are out doing good things in the community.

10.0 INFORMATION & DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

- .01 Information Only Items:

a. Disposition of Surplus. The Fire Chief noted that this was a report on items already approved by the Board for surplus and was an update on where those items were in the surplus process.

- .02 Discussion Items: None

11.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Finance Committee. Directors Leary and Hernandez briefed that the Finance Committee did not meet however they intend on meeting in January. Finance Officer Shaker briefed that the District had been awarded 1.1 Million dollars from the COVID Relief Funding grant. He added that Staff would bring appropriate budget adjustments forward at the next board meeting.

- b. Director Leary requested that the Board nominate an alternate for the ConFire Board as he is the only Board member currently on the committee and if he cannot attend a meeting the District is not represented. Director Hultquist was nominated and the Board agreed by consensus that he will be the alternate ConFire Board member for the Fire District.

12.0 APPROVAL OF REPORTS: None.

13.0 PUBLIC HEARINGS: None.

14.0 ACTION ITEMS: None

15.0 STAFF COMMENTS:

.01 Fire Chief Harrison:

- a. Updated the Board on recent meetings and discussions about the ongoing ambulance/AMR situation including meetings with AMR's CEO, ICEMA and County Chiefs
- b. Gave some examples of calls where long ambulance times or out of state AMR medics have been a problem
- c. Briefed that he is still involved with talks regarding the concerns about a closure of Saint Mary's hospital adding that there are funding options being discussed
- d. Asked Fire Marshal Pachman to give a briefing on recent fires. Fire Marshal Pachman reviewed several fires including structure fires, a fatal fire, arson and illegal burning
- e. Noted that the District had send out several conditional employment offer letters in the process for hiring Firefighters
- f. Commended the crew that was honored at the High Desert Chamber meeting
- g. Listed several community events the District has participated in including serve seniors, spark of love toy drive, rotary food bank, stairclimb fundraiser and the Explorer Post fundraiser

16.0 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS:

Chief Harrison announced that President Kuhn had sent him an email and asked him to read it to the Board. The email expressed her intent to attend the December Board meeting but that she had been unable to do so. She announced that she would be stepping down from her seat as of December 31, 2021 and gave her thanks to the District, Board and Staff. She concluded by saying how proud she is of the District and what a privilege it has been for her to serve on the Board.

.01 Director Hernandez:

- a. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas
- b. Thanked District personnel for their willingness to help Barstow Fire during the difficult time they are going through

.02 Director Hultquist:

- a. Added his thanks for the assistance given to Barstow Fire noting one of their Firefighters had been involved in a very bad accident
- b. Remarked how great it was that the District had received COVID funding
- c. Announced he was retiring from Barstow Fire on December 31st
- d. Thanked the District employees for their service and the outstanding job they are doing

.03 Vice President Conley:

- a. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas
- b. Emphasized how great the awards and presentations at the beginning of the meeting were noting the PFA presentation helmets and presentation by Mark Milson was nicely done
- c. Applauded the Chief's briefing and a good job to Fire Marshal Pachman and his staff
- d. Commended all involved with the Stairclimb fundraiser

.04 Director Leary

- a. Remarked that the great thing about the Fire District is dedication to the work adding "people don't just sit on their hands they get out there and do great things"
- b. Stated that everyone should be very proud of what they have done here at the District and that the community showed that they agree with the passing of Measure A adding his thanks for letting him be a part of it
- c. Wished everyone a Merry Christmas

17.0 CLOSED SESSION: None

18.0 REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION: None.

19.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Director Hernandez asked to have the reorganization of Board seats added to the next meeting agenda

20.0 ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM M/S/P Leary/Hernandez

ATTEST:

Signed Original on File
KIMBERLY LOPEZ
Recording Secretary

Signed Original on File
AARON CONLEY
Board Vice President