

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MONTECITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Held at Fire District Headquarters, 595 San Ysidro Road, September 28, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Sinser at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Secretary Sinser, Director van Duinwyk, Director Venable, Director Easton. Chief Hickman and District Counsel M. Manion were also present.

Absent: President Powell

1. Administer Oath of Office for Director Sylvia Easton.

Secretary Sinser administered the oath of office to newly appointed Director, Sylvia Easton. Director Easton took her seat at the dais.

2. Public comment: Any person may address the Board at this time on any non-agenda matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District. (30 minutes total time is allotted for this discussion.)

There were no public comments at this meeting.

3. Provide direction to Fire Chief regarding preparation of Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Station 3 Site Acquisition and Construction Project.

Secretary Sinser stepped down from the dais. Chief Hickman requested direction from the Board on how to move forward, specifically: consideration of the project scope identified in the DEIR. General Counsel, Mark Manion stated that generally speaking, reducing the scope of work should not impact the DEIR. Chief Hickman stated that any changes or re-scoping of the DEIR would require recirculation and would likely take another 6 months to process. He added that the additional costs associated with changes could be up to \$60,000.00.

Public Comment: Mr. Sinser asked “what would happen to those who have offered objections.” Dan Gira stated that there are two paths; the DEIR could be finalized and certified, but this may lead to litigation regarding the certification; or, the District could pause, consider negotiation with opponents, and then move forward.

The motion to form an Ad hoc Committee to meet and confer with those who submitted written responses to the DEIR was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Director Venable and unanimously passed. Directors van Duinwyck and Powell were appointed to the Ad hoc committee. Director Easton volunteered to sit on the committee if Director Powell is unable to do so.

Secretary Sinser returned to the dais.

4. Report from the Finance Committee:
 - a. Consider recommendation to approve August 2015 financial statements.

The motion to approve financial statements ending August 31, 2015 was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Secretary Sinser and unanimously passed.

- b. Consider recommendation to approve Resolution 2015-09, Adoption of the Final Budget for the Fiscal Year 2015-16.

The motion to approve Resolution 2015-09, Adoption of the Final Budget for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Director Venable passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: G. Sinser, J. Venable, P. van Duinwyck, S. Easton
Nays: None
Abstain None
Absent: J. A. Powell

- c. Consider recommendation to approve Annual Employee Reimbursement Disclosure report.

The motion to approve the Annual Employee Reimbursement Disclosure report was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Secretary Sinser and unanimously passed.

5. Report from Personnel Committee:

- a. Consider recommendation for process and timing of performance appraisal for Fire Chief.

After thorough discussion, it was determined that the Chief's Performance Review will be discussed in closed session at the Regular Board Meeting of October 26, 2015. The motion to approve the evaluation form submitted by the Personnel Committee was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Director Easton and unanimously passed. Mark Manion recommended that each Director prepare an individual evaluation for the Fire Chief, which will be presented in closed session.

6. Approval of Minutes of August 24, 2015 Regular Meeting.

The motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 24, 2015 was made by Director van Duinwyck, seconded by Secretary Sinser and passed. Director Easton abstained.

7. Fire Chief's report.

Chief Hickman reported that he, Division Chief Taylor and Araceli Gil attended the California Special Districts Association Conference and the District will receive a \$12,000.00 premium reduction of the workers compensation insurance as a result of their attendance. He also provided an update on the Community Wildfire Protection Plan,

reported on recent mutual aid responses throughout the state, and reviewed new wildland firefighting technology.

8. Board of Director's report.

There was no Director's report at this meeting.

9. Consider changing dates for November and December regular meetings.

The Board determined that the upcoming Regular Board Meetings will be held November 16th and December 14th.

10. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the October 26, 2015 Regular Board meeting.

The Board requested that a progress report from the ad hoc committee be placed on the agenda. Secretary Sinsler requested that a discussion item of Station 3 alternatives be placed on the agenda. His request failed for lack of a second.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.