

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

Held at Fire District Headquarters, 595 San Ysidro Road, April 27, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Powell at 2:03 p.m.

Present: Director Powell, Director Keller, Director Sinsler, and Director van Duinwyk. Director Venable was absent. Fire Chief Hickman, and District Counsel M. Manion were also present.

- 1. 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.)**

Director Powell expressed condolences regarding the loss of a community member at the recent structure fire, and asked for a moment of silence.

Dan Eidelson introduced himself and stated that he has lived in the District for 27 years. He stated that will not move because he doesn't want to leave the outstanding services provided by Montecito Fire Protection District. He thanked and encouraged the Board to continue supporting staff with excellent equipment and training.

The Board took no action.

- 2. Recognition of Dispatcher Scott Edwards as Employee of the Year, and recipient of the Montecito Rotary Club's 2015 Vocational Public Safety Service Award.**

Chief Hickman asked to table this item until the next regular Board meeting, as Scott Edwards is assisting on the fire investigation of the Loureyro incident.

- 3. Report from the Finance Committee (copy of Agenda for Finance Committee Meeting attached).**

Director Sinsler reported on the Finance Committee meeting, adding that the audit report suggested an additional level of review for payroll processing.

- a. TIME CERTAIN: 2:05 p.m.: Conference call with Craig Fechter of Fechter & Company regarding Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014.**

The Board discussed the recommendations and net results.

Mr. Fechter reviewed the audit report, including revenue sources and issues related to determining property tax revenues.

The Board took no action.

b. Consider recommendation for acceptance of Fechter & Company's Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014.

On a motion made by Director Sinser, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board unanimously approved the Finance Committee's recommendation to accept Fechter & Company's Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2014.

c. Consider recommendation to approve the District's March 2015 financial statements.

After an explanation of payments made for computer service, phone charges, and preplans, the Board unanimously approved the District's March 2015 financial statements on a motion made by Director Sinser, seconded by Director van Duinwyk.

d. Consider recommendation to approve the purchase of replacement vehicle for Medic 91 Ambulance, per Resolution 2013-18. (Approved in Fund 3652 FY 2014-15 Budget.)

Chief Hickman reported that the proposed replacement vehicle for the Medic 91 Ambulance will serve as a backup unit to transport patients when AMR is delayed or when Squad 91 is out of service. On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board unanimously approved the purchase of a replacement vehicle for Medic 91 Ambulance and authorized the old Medic 91 to be used as a trade in.

e. Consider recommendation to approve Resolution 2015-03, amending Resolution 2013-18 regarding the rules and regulations for the purchasing of supplies and equipment, special services, and contractors for public improvement projects.

Chief Hickman explained that the proposed changes would empower the Fire Chief to make purchases that have already been approved in the budget, without having to get secondary approval of the Board. The Directors suggested minor adjustments to the language and punctuation.

On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board approved Resolution 2015-03 as amended by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:	P. van Duinwyk, G.B. Sinser, J.A. Powell, S. Keller
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	J. Venable

The Board took a recess at 3:16 p.m. and returned at 3:25 p.m.

4. Consider renewal of contract with Sullivan Curtis Monroe for District's Broker of Record for Worker's Compensation Claims Administration.

Chief Hickman reviewed staff's recommendation to renew the contract with Sullivan Curtis Monroe for District's Broker of Record for Worker's Compensation Claims Administration.

On a motion made by Director Sinsler, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board unanimously approved renewal of the contract with Sullivan Curtis Monroe for District's Broker of Record for Worker's Compensation Claims Administration for one year.

5. Consider award of contract for construction/repair work at District's rental property located at 1257 East Valley Road.

Chief Taylor explained staff's recommendation to award the contract for construction/repair work at District's rental property located at 1257 East Valley Road to Paragon Builders.

The Board discussed determination of rental rates, and utility payments. The Board was advised that tenants pay possessory taxes, gas and electric.

On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director Powell, the Board unanimously approved awarding the contract for construction/repair work at District's rental property located at 1257 East Valley Road to Paragon Builders.

6. Consider declaring 2005 CAE Medical Meti-Man Patient Simulator as excess property in order to allow for disposal.

Chief Taylor explained that the CAE Medical Meti-Man Patient Simulator has been fully depreciated, and has been determined to have no negligible dollar value. Allan Hancock has stated that they will negotiate training hours in exchange for the District transferring ownership of the CAE Medical Meti-Man Patient Simulator to their program.

On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director van Duinwyk , the Board unanimously approved declaring the 2005 CAE Medical Meti-Man Patient Simulator as excess property in order to allow for disposal and transfer of ownership to Allan Hancock.

7. Report on responses from property owners of sites identified in Station 3 Site Identification Study regarding property availability.

Chief Hickman reported that the District has received responses from seven of the fourteen properties identified in the Site Identification Study. Mr. Davity, a representative of the Archdiocese, indicated that they would investigate the inquiry and get back to the District. Chief Hickman stated that he has reached out after their reply and received no response back from them. None of the others who responded were willing to sell their property.

The Board directed the Fire Chief to follow up with Mr. Davity regarding availability and potential costs for the property owned by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles.

Public comment – Nancy Patterson advised that the bridge and access to East Valley Road may be considered a hazard. She also stated that there are old tombstones located on the property which have not been maintained.

8. Discussion on imposing a fire protection mitigation fee upon new development within the jurisdiction of the Montecito Fire Protection District.

Director Keller expressed concern with the impacts to fire protection service due to increased new construction projects being completed by non-profits in the community (YMCA, Montecito Union School, Casa Dorinda, Westmont) who do not pay property tax. Mr. Manion explained that some of these locations pay a possessory interest tax.

The Board discussed issues and potential impacts related to implementing a fire protection mitigation fee upon new development, and whether there is even a demonstrated need to pursue this.

The Board directed the Fire Chief to identify the top ten non-profits and schools in the District and determine what the estimated property tax would be if they actually paid property tax, versus the possessory taxes they pay.

9. Discussion of recent court of appeal decision regarding the confidentiality of attorney billing invoices provided to public agencies.

Mr. Manion reported that new court rulings determined that billing statements of public agencies are confidential under the evidence code and do not have to be disclosed under the Public Records Act, but it is the privilege of the Board to decide.

After a poll of the Board, Staff was directed to exclude detailed reports for legal billing.

10. Approval of Minutes of March 23, 2015 Regular Meeting.

On a motion by Director Keller, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes of March 23, 2015 Regular Meeting.

11. Fire Chief's report.

Chief Hickman reported on the delays relating to the completion of the draft EIR; mandatory AB 1234 training; Dispatcher Recognition Week from April 12-18; Administrative Professional's Day on April 22, 2015; pre-hazard abatement notices; High Fire Season beginning on April 13; Director Venable and Director Keller's absence at the May Regular meeting; helicopter presentation by Mr. Thompson at the Montecito Association meeting; and structure fire responses on Picacho and Loureyro.

The Board took no action.

12. Board of Director's report.

Director Sinsler reported that he attended the April Montecito Sanitary District Regular Board Meeting.

a. Report from Director Powell on attendance at FDAC conference April 8- April 10, 2015 in Napa, CA.

Director Powell reported that the conference covered current events in fire fighting and fire district management: financing options for equipment and facilities; importance of having a social media policy for staff; medical marijuana policy; and using modern sports medicine metrics to look for indicators of injury, increase functional mobility and use for testing of new hires.

He and Director Venable attended the interagency "Staff Ride". Participants included public safety and public officials. He recommends that other Board members attend if it is done again.

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

Director van Duinwyk asked to bring back information on the Archdiocese property.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 p.m.