

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

Held at Fire District Headquarters, 595 San Ysidro Road, December 22, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Director Venable at 2:00 p.m.

Present: Director Sinser, Director Powell, Director Keller and Director van Duinwyk. Chief Hickman and District Counsel M. Manion were also present.

1. Administration of Oath of Office to Director John Venable and Director Peter van Duinwyk.

Director Powell administered the oath of office to Director John Venable and Director Peter van Duinwyk.

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.)

Sylvia Easton urged the Board to build the third station as recommended in the Citygate Study, adding that the east end of the District deserves equitable coverage and optimal response times.

3. Approve Resolution 2014-19, Commending Roland J. Jensen for his service to Montecito Fire Protection District.

On a motion made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Sinser, Resolution 2014-19, Commending Roland J. Jensen for his service to Montecito Fire Protection District was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

4. Election of Board officers (President, Vice President, Secretary) for 2015-16.

The Board discussed the length of term for holding office, as it was suggested last year that they consider 2 year terms for the next election of officers. On a motion made by Director Sinser, seconded by Director Powell, the Board unanimously approved a single year term for Board officers.

Director van Duinwyk nominated Director Venable as President.

Director Keller nominated Director Powell as President, seconded by Director Sinser.

Director Powell nominated Director Keller for Vice President, seconded by Director van Duinwyk.

Director Sinser nominated himself for secretary, seconded by Director Powell.

The Board unanimously approved appointing Director Powell as President, Director Keller as Vice President, and Director Sinser as Secretary for a one year term.

The Board agreed to address each other as Director (Last Name), and that new name plates should only have their names.

5. Appointment of Board Labor Negotiator for 2015-16.

Director Keller nominated Director Powell, seconded by Director Venable.

The Board unanimously approved appointing Director Powell as Board Labor Negotiator for 2015.

6. Appointment of Board Real Property Negotiator for 2015-16.

Directors Venable, Keller and Sinser each nominated themselves.

The Board approved appointing Director Keller and Director Venable as Real Property Negotiators for 2015 by the following vote:

Director van Duinwyk: Director Keller and Director Venable

Director Keller: Director Keller and Director Venable

Director Powell: Director Keller and Director Venable

Director Sinser: Director Sinser

Director Venable: Director Keller and Director Venable

7. Discuss current Committee's structures.

Director Powell stated that he would like to see a reduction of the burden placed on staff at Board meetings relating to committee presentations and recommendations. He feels that Staff should present to the committees at their meetings, and then the committee chair of each committee should be prepared to present and explain the topics and their recommendations to the Board. If the committee does not have a consensus, an enumerated explanation of the differences should be presented by each member.

The Board discussed concerns related to the various committees including lack of consensus, trust issues, duplication of effort by Staff, and scheduling of meetings.

Director Powell proposed dissolving the Community Outreach and the Personnel Committees and suggested they be made ad hoc committees as needed.

Mr. Manion explained that this is not on the agenda and could be brought back at the next meeting for consideration. He will review the resolutions that outline the responsibilities

of the Personnel Committee and the Community Outreach Committee and determine whether it would be appropriate to dissolve those standing committees and create ad hoc committees.

Public Comment:

Warner Owens suggested that committee members enter their meetings with a neutral position, and base their recommendations on factual information not personal opinion.

a. Appointment of Finance Committee Members.

Director Keller nominated Director van Duinwyk and Director Venable.

Director Sinsler nominated himself to the committee.

Director Venable declined the nomination.

The Board unanimously approved appointing Director van Duinwyk and Director Sinsler to the Finance Committee.

b. Appointment of Strategic Planning Committee Members.

Director Powell nominated Director Keller, and Director Keller nominated Director Powell.

The Board unanimously approved appointing Director Keller and Director Powell to the Strategic Planning Committee.

c. Appointment of Community Outreach Committee Members.

Director Sinsler nominated Director van Duinwyk. Director van Duinwyk declined the nomination. Director Powell nominated Director Keller. Director van Duinwyk stated that he would consider being on this committee if it were created as an ad hoc committee.

The Board took no action and directed staff to add this to the next meeting for consideration of dissolving the standing committee.

d. Appointment of Personnel Committee Members.

Director Venable and Director Sinsler nominated themselves. The Board unanimously approved appointing Director Venable and Director Sinsler to the Personnel Committee.

8. Adopt Resolution 2014-20 determining time and place of regular Board meetings.

On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director van Duinwyk, the Board approved Resolution 2014-20 determining time and place of regular Board meetings by the following roll call vote:

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

9. Adopt Resolution 2014-21 regarding inventory of District lands and air space.

On a motion made by Director Keller, seconded by Director Sinser, Resolution 2014-21 regarding inventory of District lands and air space was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

10. Consider increase in Director's Compensation, Resolution 2014-22.

On a motion made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Keller, the Board approved Resolution 2014-22 revising compensation for its Board of Directors by the following roll call vote:

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

Public comment:

Warner Owens suggested that the District consider keeping their compensation in line with other special Districts in the future. Mr. Manion explained that this would require an amendment to the original ordinance that governs the increase at a future meeting.

11. Consider request from Director Sinser to attend the CSDA Special District Leadership Academy from January 25-28, 2015 in Napa, California.

Public Comment:

Warner Owens stated that the training at this conference is well worth the investment and recommended approval.

On a motion made by Director Powell, seconded by Director Keller, the Board approved Director Sinser's request to attend the CSDA Special District Leadership Academy from January 25-28, 2015 in Napa, California by the following vote: Ayes: Director Venable, Director Powell, Director Keller and Director van Duinwyk. Director Sinser abstained.

12. Consider request from Director Sinser to change the date of the January regular meeting.

Director Sinser asked for the January meeting date to be changed because he would be at the CSDA conference.

On a motion made by Director Powell, seconded by Director Sinser, the Board approved changing the January regular meeting to January 21, 2015 at 2:00 p.m., by the following aye votes: Director Sinser, Director Powell, Director Keller and Director van Duinwyk. Director Venable abstained.

The Board took a recess at 3:34 p.m. and returned at 3:40 p.m.

13. Report from the Finance Committee

Director Venable provided an overview of the 12/11/14 Finance Committee meeting.

a. Consider Committee's recommendation to approve November 2014 financial statements.

After a brief review of the content in the November 2014 financial statements, the Board unanimously approved the November 2014 financial statements on a motion made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Venable.

b. Consider Committee's recommendation to approve Resolution 2014-17 for the Exception to the 180-day wait period Govt. Code sections 7522.56 & 21224 for post retirement annuitant employment of Terry McElwee.

After a review of the staff report prepared by Chief Hickman, a motion was made by Director Keller, seconded by Director Venable to approve Resolution 2014-17 for the Exception to the 180-day wait period Govt. Code sections 7522.56 & 21224 for post retirement annuitant employment of Terry McElwee.

The resolution was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

c. Consider Committee's recommendation to approve Resolution 2014-18, identifying certain District owned properties as surplus and donating the surplus property to the Allan Hancock Community College Fire Technology Program.

Chief Hickman reviewed the staff report and recommendation to donate the surplus radios. Director Powell suggested keeping 5 radios for directors to use. Chief Hickman felt this would not be appropriate, explaining that the platform is not supported, batteries are costly, and there would be a high possibility of accidental transmission.

On a motion made by Director Sinser, seconded by Director van Duinwyk,

Resolution 2014-18, identifying certain District owned properties as surplus and donating the surplus property to the Allan Hancock Community College Fire Technology Program was approved by the following roll call vote:

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

d. Consider Committee's recommendation to approve purchase of replacement vehicle for Division Chief of Operations. (Approved in FY 2014/15 Budget.)

Chief Hickman reviewed the staff report on the replacement vehicle for the Division Chief of Operations and the recommendation to purchase it from Paradise Chevrolet.

The Board unanimously approved the purchase of a vehicle for Division Chief of Operations from Paradise Chevrolet on a motion by Director Venable, seconded by Director van Duinwyk.

14. Approval to close District Fund 3654 (Upper Hyde Road Mello-Roos).

Araceli Gil reported that the Mello-Roos fund account is no longer necessary now that the Mello-Roos has been dissolved and recommended that the Board approve closing Fund 3654.

The Board unanimously approved closing District Fund 3654 on a motion by Director Venable, seconded by Sinser.

15. Report from Community Outreach Committee.

Director Keller reported that the new website will be going live on January 1, 2015.

a. Consider notification/advertising methods for future Director Elections.

Director Keller suggested that the Board approve a policy to advertise open positions on the Board prior to an election; she recommended that the policy include the size of the advertisement, and a timeline of when the advertisements should be placed. She explained that the Community Outreach Committee was unable to reach agreement on this recommendation.

Director Sinser felt that this should be left up to the Board to decide what size and how much to spend when the time comes.

Public Comment:

Warner Owens stated that the need for this policy has not been well defined.

A motion was made by Director Keller, seconded by Director Powell to have staff prepare a half page advertisement for the Montecito Journal announcing any Board vacancy elections, one week prior to the filing date, and published again one week before the close of filing. The motion failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Director Keller and Director Powell.

Nays: Director Sinsler, Director Venable, and Director van Duinwyk.

16. Approval of Minutes of November 17 Special Meeting.

The minutes of the November 17, 2014 Special meeting were unanimously approved on a motion by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Director Sinsler.

17. Fire Chief's report.

The Fire Chief reported that Staff has been extremely busy with new hires and internal promotions, and there was a Level 2 MERRAG activation on December 11, 2014 due to a predicted winter weather event.

18. Board of Director's report.

Director Sinsler reported that he attended the Montecito Water and Sanitary meetings.

19. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the January Regular Board meeting.

There were not requests.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.