

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, October 26, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Powell at 2:02 p.m.

**Present:** President Powell, Secretary Sinser, Director van Duinwyk, Director Venable, Director Easton. 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.)**

Chief Hickman introduced the new Administrative Assistant, Joyce Reed.

- 2. Appointment of Vice President.**

The motion to appoint Director Venable as Vice President was made by President Powell, seconded by Director van Duinwyk and unanimously passed.

- 3. Appointment of Strategic Planning Committee Member.**

The motion to appoint Director Easton to the Strategic Planning Committee was made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Secretary Sinser and unanimously passed.

- 4. Appointment of Real Property Negotiator.**

Secretary Sinser volunteered, and was unanimously appointed as a Real Property Negotiator.

- 5. Present Dispatcher, Scott Edwards with service pin for 5 years.**

Chief Hickman stated that Scott Edwards has been an employee for 15 years, and transitioned to non-safety for 5 years.

- 6. Motion to authorize Fire Chief to enter into an annual contract for computer network services.**

- a. Staff report presented by Division Chief Taylor.**

Division Chief Taylor provided a staff report regarding the annual contract for computer network services. The motion to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into an annual contract for computer network services was made by Secretary Sinser, seconded by Director van Duinwyk and unanimously passed.

- 7. Progress report from the ad hoc committee appointed to meet and confer with representatives of those who submitted written responses to the DEIR.**

President Powell stated that the ad hoc committee met and stated that the other parties were unable to meet at that time. He stated that they also discussed their interest in moving forward with the EIR. Chief Hickman provided additional insight regarding possible scheduling dates for the ad hoc committee.

**8. Report from the Finance Committee:**

**a. Consider recommendation to approve September 2015 financial statements.**

Director van Duinwyk presented the financial report. He mentioned that Chief Hickman is developing a policy to eliminate excess property. Chief Hickman stated that the policy will be ready next month. Secretary Sinsler commended the accountant on the financial reporting. The motion to approve financial statements ending September 30, 2015 was made by Vice President Venable, seconded by Director van Duinwyk and unanimously passed.

**9. Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2015 Special Meeting.**

The motion to approve the minutes of the Special Board Meeting of September 17, 2015 was made by Director van Duinwyk, seconded by Secretary Sinsler and passed. Director Easton abstained.

**10. Approval of Minutes of September 28, 2015 Regular Meeting.**

The motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 28, 2015 was made by Director Easton, seconded by Director van Duinwyk and unanimously passed.

**11. Fire Chief's report.**

Chief Hickman provided an update regarding the Mello Roos easement transfer to the Upper Hyde Road Homeowners. The Chief stated that the Montecito Planning Commission met last week, and the Fire District was mentioned throughout the meeting regarding the Casa Dorinda construction project. Chief Hickman indicated that a meeting has been scheduled on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and the District will have representation at this meeting to answer questions. The Chief stated that the District has selected a candidate for the Dispatcher position, and the individual is still in the background process. Division Chief Taylor indicated that the District is in the process of developing a hiring list for future firefighter and firefighter/paramedic positions. He added that the recruitment process opens Wednesday and closes Friday, accepting the first 500 applications. Division Chief Taylor noted that the District is utilizing a national testing network to cast a wider net. Chief Hickman provided an update regarding three significant calls during the month of September.

**12. Board of Director's report.**

Director Sinsler stated that he attended the Montecito Association Meeting. Director

Easton stated that she reached out to her Broker of Record, Caldwell Banker, who wanted to make sure that the District had the correct title for the department that holds her license, "Caldwell Banker's Residential Referral Network." President Powell stated that he was approached by a community member regarding trash clean-up around water sheds near the beach that is often used for warming fires, and they asked how the Fire District might interface with this issue. He also received a comment from a member who lives in the middle of the community who stated that they had received the benefit of improved insurability from the change in classifications of the fire hazard severity zones.

The Board adjourned at 2:57 p.m., and entered into closed session at 3:07 p.m. The Board reported out of closed session at 4:22 p.m.

**13. CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Government Code Sec. 54956.8)**

- a. Property: portions of APN 009-203-011, 1510 San Leandro Road, Montecito.**
- b. Agency Negotiators: John Venable and Director to be designated by Board (see Item 4 above)**
- c. Negotiating Party: John Bochino**
- d. Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment.**

Mark Manion reported that the Board provided instructions to the Real Property negotiators.

**14. CLOSED SESSION. Performance evaluation of a public employee pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957(b):**

- a. Employee: Fire Chief Chip Hickman**

Mark Manion reported that there were no actions taken.

**15. Suggestions from Directors for items other than regular agenda items to be included for the November 16, 2015 Regular Board meeting.**

Secretary Sinsler requested that a discussion item of Station 3 alternatives be placed on the next agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

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Director Abe Powell

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Secretary Gene Sinsler