MINUTES
October 13, 2014

The Advisory Fire Commission met at a regular meeting on Monday, October 13, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Tom Chapman called the meeting to order and led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners:
Richard "Tom" Chapman – At Large #2
Mike Egan – At Large #1
Bill Granados – District II
Ed Haynes – District III
Randall Henderson – District I
Nat Rojanasathira – District V
Melvin Chappel (Alternate – District III)
Dylan Reinhold (Alternate – District IV)
Jeff Carman

Fire Chief:

Absent:
Barry Cunningham – District IV
Erling Horn (Alternate – District II)

BADGE PINNING CEREMONY

The following personnel were present for the badge pinning ceremony: Fire Engineers Frank Elston and Andrew Jones (promoted October 1).

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Chairman Chapman opened the public hearing on the October 8, 2014 Report on the Cost of Abatement. Hearing no objections or protests to the October 8, 2014 Abatement Report, the hearing was closed. He then asked for a motion to adopt the "Resolution of Confirmation" confirming the October 8, 2014 Abatement Report in the amount of $48,988.15. Commissioner Granados moved that the Commission adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the Abatement Report, seconded by Commissioner Egan. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

Commissioner Haynes made an additional motion to have District staff adjust or modify any charges found to be incorrect because the charge was entered:

a) more than once,
b) through clerical error,
c) through the error or mistake of a material fact, or
d) illegally

Motion seconded by Commissioner Granados. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Rojanasathira).

B. Chairman Chapman opened the public hearing on the October 8, 2014 Report on the Cost of Abatement for Real Property located at 175 Hillcrest Avenue, Pittsburg. Hearing no objections or protests to the October 8, 2014 Abatement Report, the hearing was closed. He then asked for a motion to adopt the “Resolution of Confirmation” confirming the October 8, 2014 Abatement Report in the amount of $13,099.34. Commissioner Granados moved that the Commission adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the Abatement Report, seconded by Commissioner Rojanasathira. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

Commissioner Rojanasathira made an additional motion to have District staff adjust or modify any charges found to be incorrect because the charge was entered:

a) more than once,
b) through clerical error,
c) through the error or mistake of a material fact, or
d) illegally

Motion seconded by Commissioner Granados. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

CONSENT ITEMS:

August 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes:

Commissioner Egan made a motion to approve the August 11, 2014 meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Henderson. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

ACCEPT AND FILE REPORTS:

After review, the reports listed below were accepted and filed.


Incident Summary Reports – Reviewed/discussed August/September 2014 reports.

Commissioner Haynes continues to be concerned about the response times in Station 4’s area.

Suppression Leave Summary – Reviewed/discussed August/September 2014 reports.

Correspondence – Reviewed.

- Commissioner Rojanasathira expressed his appreciation for the District’s participation in National Night Out. Acting Assistant Chief Goetsch added that the District participates with law enforcement at locations throughout the county.

Commissioner Egan made a motion to accept and file reports as written, seconded by Commissioner Granados. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).


UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Response to David Fowler’s August 11, 2014 letter regarding weed abate on Howe Road in Martinez: Commissioner Granados made a motion to uphold Fire Marshall Marshal’s findings in response to Mr. Fowler’s request for relief from the requirement to abate his property and relief from charges and penalties for the years 2009, 2011, and 2012. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Rojanasathira. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

Additionally, direction was given to the Secretary to compose a letter notifying Mr. Fowler of the Commission’s findings.


C. Amendments to Bylaws:

Commissioner Haynes expressed his concern that the Advisory Fire Commission has not been involved in the screening process of new at large candidates as stated
Commissioner Granados added that when an at-large vacancy occurs, they should make it known to the Internal Operations Committee that the Commission would like to “screen, interview, rank the applicants, and make its nomination to the Internal Operations Committee” as stated in the bylaws.

Commissioner Reinhold made a motion to forward the Commission’s proposed amendments to the bylaws to County Counsel for review and then to the Fire District Board of Directors for ratification of the amended bylaws. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Granados. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

D. Meeting frequency: Commissioner Haynes clarified that his concern regarding meeting frequency relates to the length of time that passes (two months) before being able to review the meeting minutes. He suggested that draft meeting minutes be issued in advance of the next meeting. After some discussion and concern that the Brown Act not be violated, it was decided that this question will be presented to County Counsel for advice.

COMMISSIONERS’ COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Rojanasathira recognized the passing of Bill McCammon, Executive Director of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority and retired Alameda County Fire Chief. He offered his thoughts and prayers to the McCammon family.

- Commissioner Rojanasathira asked that any information regarding the Ebola epidemic be passed along.

- Commissioner Granados asked that the following topics be agendized for the December 8, 2014 Advisory Fire Commission Meeting: Ambulance, squads, and Station 46. He would like to discuss and receive feedback so that he, as liaison, can report the Commission’s position on these topics to the Board of Directors.

Commissioner Granados made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Egan. Said motion carried by a unanimous vote (AYES: Chapman, Egan, Granados, Haynes, Henderson, Reinhold, Rojanasathira).

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME:

December 8, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

[Signature]
Shawn de Leuze, Recording Secretary