MINUTES

October 14, 2019

The Advisory Fire Commission met at a regular meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019 at 7:03 p.m. Chair Galey called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Latonia Ellingberg led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Erel Betser – District I
Richard “Tom” Chapman – At Large #2
Michael Daugelli – District III
Walter Fields – At Large Alternate #2
Debra Galey – District IV
Matthew Guichard – District II

Fire Chief: Lewis T. Broschard III

Absent: Lisa Bartley – At Large Alternate #1
Mike Egan – At Large #1

Chair Galey introduced and welcomed Commissioner Michael Daugelli who was appointed to the District III seat effective October 8, 2019.

BADGE PINNING CEREMONY

Cancelled

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Chair Galey opened the public hearing on the October 9, 2019 Report on the Cost of Abatement. Hearing no objections or protests to the October 9, 2019 Abatement Report, the hearing was closed. Chair Galey then asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the October 9, 2019 Abatement Report in the amount of $49,205.65. Commissioner Chapman moved that the Commission adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the Abatement Report, seconded by Commissioner Daugelli. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Bartley, Egan).

Commissioner Chapman 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 Fields. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Bartley, Egan).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CONSENT ITEMS

A. August 12, 2019 Meeting Minutes

B. Accept and File Reports:
   1. Personnel Report
   2. Operating Budget
   3. Fire Prevention Reports
   4. Monthly Activity Reports
   5. Suppression Leave Summary – Pulled from Consent and moved to Discussion


DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Suppression Leave Summary

   In response to Commissioner Fields, Chief Broschard explained that AWOP (absent without pay) is not punitive but, rather, indicates that an absent employee has exhausted all accruals which would normally be used to cover regular salary during an absence.

   After discussion, Commissioner Fields made a motion to accept and file item B.5. Motion seconded by Commissioner Daugelli. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Bartley, Egan).

B. Declaration of Surplus Equipment – Report of September 19, 2019
In response to Commissioner Fields’ question about what happens to surplus equipment and whether or not the District is able to donate those items, Chief Broschard indicated that surplus items go to the County pool. The Fire Board of Directors would need to approve the donation of any surplus items. There are current discussions about changing our surplus process, particularly for our apparatus. Because of our new replacement program, our apparatus will be more valuable since they are being removed from service sooner than before.

Commissioner Fields made a motion to approve the surplus of equipment listed on the declaration report of September 19, 2019. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Bartley, Egan).

C. Discuss and Complete 2019-2021 Triennial Sunset Review Questionnaire

After discussion, Commissioner Daugelli made a motion to accept the Triennial Sunset Review Questionnaire for submission to the Clerk of the Board. Motion seconded by Commissioner Chapman. Motion passed (AYES: Betser, Chapman, Daugelli, Fields, Galey, Guichard; ABSENT: Bartley, Egan).

D. Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Update

The District has had many discussions with PG&E about our construction projects, and it has been difficult to work with them.

We have spent a considerable amount of time and resources preparing for and dealing with a significant amount of PSPS unknowns. We thought the biggest issue would be care facilities without emergency power systems in place. District staff went out to meet with care facilities and found that, in fact, they were not prepared in terms of plans and staffing. For this reason, the District staffed extra ambulances for which we had to cover the cost. The good news is that our call volume was normal in the PSPS window.

There were two staffed bulldozers – one paid for by the District and one by the State. All chief officers were at either the DOC or the County EOC when the Moraga fire broke out.

Sharing information with PG&E has been difficult. Information we received changed from hour to hour. Other information was never communicated. For months, PG&E said they could not tell us where power would be shut off. They said the CCRFCC would not have power from October 9 at midnight through October 10 at 10 p.m. so we utilized a mobile generator. We were on generator power when the Moraga fire broke out. While the CCRFCC had no power, the old administration building which is literally next door did not experience any power loss. It really made no sense. PG&E said they will try to do better next time.

All of our fire stations, except Station 17, have a backup generator so we rented one for that station. Station 70 currently has a minimal generator system but the new
station will have a full system. The CCRFCC has two generators. We have submitted a grant for two more generators.

The District did a phenomenal job preparing for this PSPS and will be even better prepared next time.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
Reviewed/discussed the October 14, 2019 Fire Chief's report.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS
Commissioner Daugelli would like to arrange to take a tour of the stations in the Fire District.

Commissioner Galey asked about the annual Open House scheduled for November 2 and also thanked Commissioner Guichard for making name tags for all of the commissioners.

Commissioner Fields offered accolades to District suppression staff and management for focusing on lessons learned.

Commissioner Chapman extended kudos to the District for a smooth Station 16 grand opening.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME
The next meeting is scheduled for December 9, 2019, 7:00 p.m.

Latonia Ellingberg, Recording Secretary