



CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

MINUTES

October 9, 2023

The Advisory Fire Commission met at a regular meeting on Monday, October 9, 2023. Chair Nakano called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners: Susanna Thompson – District III
Don Mayo – District IV
Richard Nakano – District V
Mike Egan – At Large #1
Brian Oftedal – At Large #2
Mark DeMarce – At Large Alternate #1

Fire Chief: Lewis Broschard

Absent: Matthew Guichard – District II
Donn Walklet – At Large Alternate #2

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. October 4, 2023 Report on the Cost of Abatement

Chair Nakano opened the public hearing on the October 4, 2023 Report on the Cost of Abatement. Hearing no objections or protests to the October 4, 2023 Abatement Report, the hearing was closed. Chair Nakano then asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the October 4, 2023 Abatement Report in the amount of \$62,628.82. Commissioner Oftedal moved that the Commission adopt the Resolution of Confirmation confirming the Abatement Report, seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

Commissioner Thompson 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 Egan. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

B. Hearing on Abatement Orders

Chair Nakano opened the Hearing on Abatement Orders for all properties listed in Exhibit 1, dated October 9, 2023.

There were no property owners in attendance representing any of the 65 properties listed in Exhibit 1.

Chair Nakano closed the hearing and asked for a motion to uphold and enforce the 65 abatement orders listed in Exhibit 1. Commissioner Thompson made a motion to uphold and enforce all abatement orders listed in Exhibit 1. Motion seconded by Commissioner Egan. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

CONSENT ITEMS

A. August 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Egan made a motion to accept and file the August 14, 2023 minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Mayo. Motion passed AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet)

B. September 11, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Egan made a motion to accept and file the September 11, 2023 minutes. Motion seconded by Commissioner Mayo. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

C. Accept and File Reports:

1. Personnel Report
2. Fire Prevention Report
3. Monthly Activity Reports
4. Suppression Leave Summary
5. Correspondence

Commissioner Oftedal noted that the monthly activity reports can be confusing and questioned whether the Advisory Fire Commissioners need to receive these reports.

Chief Broschard referred to the recent changes to the Commission's bylaws and noted that not many subsequent changes were made to the contents of the Advisory Fire

Commission meeting packet. Further adjustments will be made beginning with the December 2023 meeting.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion to accept and file all reports. Motion seconded by Commissioner DeMarce. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Declaration of Surplus Equipment – Report of October 2, 2023

Commissioner Mayo made a motion to approve the surplus of equipment listed on the declaration report of October 2, 2023. Motion seconded by Commissioner Egan. Motion passed (AYES: DeMarce, Egan, Mayo, Nakano, Oftedal, Thompson; ABSENT: Guichard, Walklet).

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Reviewed/discussed the October 9, 2023 Fire Chief's report.

Commissioner Oftedal asked about FS 94 and the issue with the VFW. Chief Broschard said that the County actually owns the land, not the VFW. However, the VFW has challenges with the County granting the Fire District part of the land in order to widen the fire station.

Commissioner Thompson asked if the point of origin of the Martinez fire was found? Chief Broschard that the point of origin was identified but not the cause.

Commissioner Thompson commented that with regard to notification of fires, Pulse Point only provides so much, and CWS does not always kick in. She thinks it would be nice if there was something to fill in the gap.

Commissioner Egan asked how it is determined that a fire has really been extinguished. Chief Broschard replied that, basically, a fire is determined to be out if it has been properly wetted and there are no more hotspots.

Commissioner Egan asked if the contract with AMR is up for renegotiation or renewal. Chief Broschard said that the contract with AMR expires in December 2025. The District has recently interviewed other ambulance vendors.

Commissioner Egan asked if the District is partnering with anyone to increase the number of paramedics. Chief Broschard said that the District's paramedic school is in partnership with Contra Contra College. The District is also staffing ambulances with EMTs (BLS).

Chief Broschard provided the following in response to questions posed at previous meetings:

Lessons learned from Lahaina fires – In that type of situation, they can only get people evacuated as early as possible. In order to do that, they need the ability to provide notification. They had structure to structure ignition issues, and they don't have great roads. We have better systems here such as Zonehaven and CWS.

Plans we have in place – Our plans are the same as for any wildland fire – notification and evacuation facilitated by Zonehaven and CWS. We have less time wasted getting resources moving, and we have nearby counties that can provide aid.

Lessons learned from Oakland Hills/Berkeley fires – As a result of these fires, hose couplings were standardized; and EBRCS implemented a radio system that allows for interoperability.

Fire hydrant maintenance – The water purveyor will say hydrants are maintained by the Fire District, but that is not the case. We rely on electronic monitoring to know what is available in an area.

Zonehaven – Company was purchased by Genasys. We are entering the third year of use in Contra Costa County. The first year was paid for by a UASI grant. We paid for the second year and will soon pay for the third year as well. We are working to find a permanent funding solution.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS / ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Commissioner DeMarce expressed thanks for the opportunity to have a "sit-in" with our dispatchers at the CCRFCC. He said it was eye-opening as there is so much information for them to process and they are still able to pay attention to what is happening in the whole room and help each other out.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next Special meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

The next Regular meeting is scheduled for December 11, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.



Latonia Ellingberg, Recording Secretary