



Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

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Steve Leighton, CHIEF

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Edward I. Miller

Korie Kromydas

Louie Fielding

Bob Millslagle

Board of Directors Meeting Wednesday, April 19, 2023 ❖ 3:30 p.m.

Minutes

Directors Present: Director Fielding, Vice President Kromydas, President Miller, and Director Millslagle a quorum is established.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District Board of Directors for the month of April was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Miller.

2. Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the agenda. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Director Fielding to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

3. Approval of Past Minutes

There were no additions or changes to the minutes from the February 15, 2023 meeting. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Millslagle and seconded by Director Fielding to approve the Board Minutes dated February 15, 2023, as submitted and posted. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

4. Financial

There was a discussion between Board and staff.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to accept the financial reports, Items 4.A-E, as presented. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5. Public Input

There was none.

6. Business Requiring Action

A. Presentation by Independent Auditor(s) and Acceptance of the 2021/2022 Financial Audit

Zach Pehling of Pehling & Pehling oversaw the audit for Meeks Bay Fire. He conducted the annual audit report and the 26-page financial statement dated June 30, 2022. Mr. Pehling



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reported an unqualified or clean opinion on the financial statements, which means the documents provided in the packet are true and without misstatements.

Mr. Pehling went page by page of the audit discussing the information with the Board and answering any questions that came up.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to accept the audits for fiscal year 2021/2022 as presented. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

B. [Consider Resolution 2023-02 Requesting the Board to Rescind Resolution 2020-04, Authorizing Emergency Spending Due to COVID-19](#)

Chief Leighton presented this housekeeping item to the Board. On February 28, 2023, California's Governor Newsom ended the State of Emergency for conditions caused by COVID-19. As a result of this, there is no longer a need for Resolution 2020-04 authorizing the Fire Chief (or his designee) to take any action necessary and appropriate to respond to the Local Emergency including the procurement of any necessary equipment, services, and supplies, waiving the requirement in the Purchasing policy (#233) as necessary. It is now time for the Board to rescind Resolution 2020-04.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Director Fielding to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-02 rescinding Resolution 2020-04. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

C. [Consider Resolution 2023-03 Requesting the Board to Rescind Resolution 2021-05, Authorizing Emergency Spending Due to the Caldor Fire and the Threats Posed by the 2021-2022 Fire Season](#)

Chief Leighton presented this housekeeping item to the Board. Back in August 2021, the Caldor Fire and the threats posed by the 2021-2022 Fire Season to the District prompted the Board to pass Resolution 2021-05 invoking a Local Emergency and authorizing the Fire Chief (or his designee) to take any action necessary and appropriate to respond to the Local Emergency including the procurement of any necessary equipment, services and supplies, waiving the requirement in the Purchasing Policy (#233) as necessary. It is time for the Board to terminate the Local Emergency by rescinding Resolution 2021-05 as the 2021-2022 Fire season has passed and the threats are no longer posed to the District.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Insurance Moratorium and the importance of not excluding any zip codes affected by possible fires.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.



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It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-03 rescinding Resolution 2021-05. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

D. [Consider Resolution 2023-04 Authorizing Participation in and Approving the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement of the Fire Risk Management Services \(FRMS\) Joint Powers Authority](#)

The District Clerk presented this item to the Board. The Fire Agencies Self Insurance System (FASIS) and Fire Districts Association of California Employment Benefits Association (FDAC EBA) will consolidate, effective July 1, 2023, as Fire Risk Management Services (FRMS). FRMS is a newly rebranded multi-line sharing program providing workers' compensation and employee benefits coverage to eligible fire districts in California.

FASIS is for workers' compensation and FDAC EBA provides employee benefits. Both FASIS and FDAC EBA are providers for Meeks Bay Fire.

There will be no changes for Meeks Bay Fire if we participate in FRMS, but these two companies have decided to merge to offer an extended range of services.

In order to participate in FMRS, the Board will need to approve Resolution 2023-04 and authorize the Fire Chief to sign the Amended and Restated Joint Powers Agreement of the Fire Risk Management Services.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Feilding and seconded by Director Kromydas to waive the reading and adopt Resolution 2023-04 and authorize the Fire Chief to sign the Amended and Restated Joint Exercise of Powers Agreements of the Fire and Risk Management Services Joint Powers Authority. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

E. [Consider Approving the District to Overspend the Budget for the Station 67 Storm Damage Repairs](#)

Chief Armstrong presented this item to the Board. Station 67 has sustained damage due to the large winter storms. The powerlines charged and fried the circuit boards on the generator and the fire alarm system causing damage that required the need for repair.

The District's lead Mechanic Joe Parel and Facilities Coordinator Bjorn Beckman brought in a portal generator to energize the Station for all the storm events following the damage to the original generator. They have worked diligently trying to fix the repairs but hit full roadblocks and came to the conclusion that there needs to be a full upgrade on all the paneling on the generator, as well as the transfer switch from the generator to the Station. It has come to the point of having to order a special part for the generator that has taken a couple of months for the District to get, but it has come with an additional price tag that was not anticipated. So, there is an overage in the 67 Maintenance account, and the District is seeking approval to overspend for that account. Chief Armstrong anticipates the overage to be around \$8,700 for



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materials and labor.

However, there were two declarations to these storms, the January-December storm cycle and the rest of the winter, which allows FEMA to enact federal dollars to go back to the State OES to then come back to the District for possible reimbursement for damages caused by the winter storms if granted by CAL OES. District staff is actively pursuing this and is in the process of completing the necessary applications.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Fielding and seconded by Director Kromydas to approve the District to overspend the budget for the Station 67 storm damage repairs. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

F. Consider Electing the Candidates for the Regular and Alternate Special District Representatives to LAFCO

The El Dorado County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has closed the nomination period for a regular Special District representative seat to serve a four-year term, beginning no sooner than May 2023, and ending May 2027. The following nominations have been received for the following candidates:

- 1) Michael Saunders, Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
- 2) Tim White, El Dorado Hills County Water District (EDH Fire)

The Directors are to rank each nominee in the order of preference using “1” for your first preference, and “2” for the second. There are two seats that are up for election and two nominees, therefore, whoever receives the highest number of votes in this election will serve as the Regular member, and the second candidate will serve as the Alternate member.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

It was moved by Director Feilding and seconded by Director Kromydas to elect Tim White as the Regular candidate and Michael Saunders as the Alternate candidate for the Special District representative to serve on the El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

G. Future Planning with North Tahoe Fire

Chief Leighton presented this item to the Board. Since Chief Leighton’s and President Miller’s meeting with Eldorado County’s District 5 Supervisor Brooke Laine on February 3rd, Chief Leighton had not heard anything for two months from El Dorado County regarding where we are in the process of the negotiations. Chief Leighton called El Dorado County’s Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Sue Hennike and asked to have an emergency meeting to discuss the annexation. He, Chief Armstrong, and Director of Finance Kim Eason went to South Lake Tahoe to meet with Sue Hennike and Tiffany Schmid who is the new Interim CAO. In that meeting, Chief Leighton expressed his concern that he has not heard anything for two months



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and that El Dorado County may be stalling the process. He was assured that they were not stalling the process and they are waiting for the fiscal impact analysis from Goodwin Consulting to be completed, which as of April 6th is 30% completed. Chief Leighton requested that El Dorado County contact Placer County and set up a meeting with himself, Chief Armstrong, Kim, and all the negotiators as soon as possible. The next day Supervisor Hennike sent an email out with several possible meeting dates. Placer County responded back to the email that they are only available to meet on June 1, 2023, so there is a meeting scheduled for that day.

On April 12th, Placer County LAFCO had their general meeting, which Placer County's District 5 Supervisor Cindy Gustafson is part of. Michelle McIntyre presented her 2023/24 budget as well as her work plan to her Board of Directors. In her work plan, there are about 20 different projects that she wants to accomplish next year, and our annexation is the number one project on that list that they want to complete. After that meeting, Chief Leighton got a call from Supervisor Gustafson after seeing him on the meeting. She asked him if everything was going ok because there was a discussion regarding the annexation, and Placer LAFCO made it seem like everything was on the right track. He responded by saying that it is not going ok as both Districts wanted to get this done by July 1st and he has had no contact nor involvement in the process. Supervisor Gustafson assured Chief Leighton that she will try to get the meeting scheduled earlier than June 1, 2023.

On a 100% scale of the LAFCO process for annexation, the District has completed 100% of the 45% that we can do. The 10% negotiation process in the middle of the scale is where we are currently stuck in and we do not have control over this. The last 45% of the process is something the Districts can control with Michelle McIntyre's guidance.

There was a discussion between Board and staff.

This was information only. No Board action was required. There was no public comment.

H. Next Board Meeting Dates

- May 17, 2023 – regular Board meeting
- June 28, 2023 – regular Board meeting

This was information only. No Board action was required. There was no public comment.

7. Chief's Report

Chief Leighton updated the Board on activities since the last meeting. Items of particular interest include:

- This January, February, and March have been the busiest months of all time for calls;
- Chief Leighton is on the Fire Districts Association of California Board of Directors and one of his jobs is to track legislation that could potentially affect the fire district. The number one fire service legislative item going on is called AB 40 Rodriguez. This bill deals with patient offload transfer times and would require hospitals to meet a 20-minute time standard.



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Chief Whisler updated the Board on the District Operations:

- The District ran seven calls for the month of March;
- The OES Engine that is parked out front of the Station is currently covering for the Meeks Bay Engine that is down in Reno for repairs;
- Staffing is going well;
- The Station will be closed and not staffed next week for two days to work on the power. We will be moving the personnel up to Homewood during that time;
- We ran a structure fire in Alpine Meadows.

There was a discussion regarding burn bans for this summer.

8. Information Items

- The reports February and March reports from Sustainable Community Advocates were included in the Board packet. There was no Board or public comment on the report.
- President Miller wanted to thank the District personnel who helped with the process of opening Cult Burger in Tahoma.
- President Miller shared some info regarding road repairs from the new Measure S Oversight Committee. They called an emergency meeting last week because they wanted to put money into Pioneer Trail as there was a deadline to getting the bids that the Committee did not want to miss. President Miller wrote a letter to protest this as he does not believe they should spend all of their money on one road when there are road issues all over. The Measure S Oversight Committee voted to approve the project.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Director Millslagle to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Directors at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Daniels
Clerk of the Board

Staff Attendees:

Fire Chief Steve Leighton
Division Chief Alan Whisler
Division Chief Brent Armstrong
Director of Finance and Administration Kim Eason
Captain Curtis Smith
Firefighter/Paramedic Errick Kerfoot
Clerk of the Board Melissa Daniels

Additional Attendees:

Zach Pehling- Pehling & Pehling