

Minutes from the October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting at the Bolinas Fire Station.

Pres. Molesworth called the meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:01 P.M. Pres. Molesworth, Vice Pres. Torrey, Dir. Pierce, Dir. Dunne and Dir. Martinelli were present. Also present: Chief Krakauer and Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to approve the Agenda, with an amendment to move item 5a to the beginning of the meeting. Seeing no objections, the amended Agenda is approved.

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION**

None.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

**MERA**

Chief Krakauer was unable to attend the October MERA meeting, but received an update. Work on all nine remaining new sites is expected to be complete by the end of November. Motorola will begin microwave installations next week, and MERA are performing checks on the new infrastructure.

**Chiefs**

The October Chiefs meeting was canceled.

**MWPA**

Chief Krakauer discussed an MWPA meeting in item 5d.

**Prevention**

Chief Krakauer discussed District wildfire preparedness and response in item 5c.

**Roads**

Chief Krakauer reported that Marin County Fire and the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority have nearly completed their roadside fuel reduction work in Bolinas, after approximately fifteen work days. Their focus has been on establishing 10 feet of horizontal and 14 feet of vertical clearance along County maintained roads.

**Inspections**

Chief Krakauer reported that the District will be conducting follow-up business inspections next month in the downtown area.

**Planning**

No update.

**Grants**

Chief Krakauer reported that the District has received its full shipment of new SCBAs awarded through the multi-agency regional FEMA AFG grant. The department held its first training with the new SCBAs this week. The new SCBAs bring the department to the same equipment standard of Marin County Fire Department and other local agencies.

**Training**

Training continues on wildland firefighting, as well as on our new SCBA system acquired through a regional FEMA Assistance to Firefighters grant. Firefighters Easom and Kruk have been trained by Stinson Beach Fire Protection District on annual SCBA mask fit testing for Bolinas volunteer firefighters.

Asst. Chief Marcotte has completed his Emergency Medical Responder course for West Marin volunteers. Chief Krakauer thanked Asst. Chief Marcotte, Marin County Fire EMS Specialist Jen Glazier, Firefighters Aaron Pendergraft and Emily Easom, along with the crew of Marin County Fire Medic 97 ambulance for their assistance with the class.

### **Volunteers**

Chief Krakauer reported the annual Fire Safety Day has been postponed to October 29<sup>th</sup> due to weather.

Chief Krakauer reported the annual volunteer raffle letter have gone out, and the volunteers have started to receive many tickets and donations.

### **Apparatus**

Chief Krakauer reported that flatbed Utility 232 is back in service after electrical repairs at Cheda's Garage. Utility 231 is up next for its annual service.

### **Disaster Council**

No update.

### **Resource Recovery**

Chief Krakauer reported that the John Deere front loader had an oil leak repaired with a replaced valve gasket.

Chief Krakauer met with Jennifer Blackman and Belle Wood of the BCPUD regarding a transfer of Resource Recovery duties to Belle Wood, and plans for recurring member agency meetings to discuss the site.

An MWPA-sponsored free green waste drop-off event began yesterday and continued today at the site. There have been approximately 25 drop-offs equaling roughly 50 cubic yards of green waste to be chipped.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

Chief Krakauer reported that the new lift station septic pump has been functioning normally following recent repairs.

A soft-shell enclosure has been erected behind the fire station to house and protect the District's mass casualty incident trailer and other rescue equipment.

A fuel tank pressure test scheduled for today has been postponed to next week by the testing company. This annual test is required by the Bay Area Air Quality District.

### **General Operations/Administration**

Chief Krakauer reported calls have been above average, with 32 emergency calls so far in October. The District has recorded 1.75 inches of rain since August.

Isaac Taylor reported that audit work has completed for fiscal year 2023.

### **Personnel**

The District has continued to receive interest and applications for its Full-time Duty Officer position. The position remains open until noticed, and Chief Krakauer reported that interviews may be scheduled as soon as next month.

Chief Krakauer reported certain firefighter schedule changes. The Chief or Assistant Chief will continue to be on duty Monday through Friday, with Chief Krakauer moving to Sunday through Wednesday.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Action Item #1 – Letter of Support, Bolinas Eucalyptus Project “Zone 5” Proposal**

MSC Martinelli/Pierce (unan.) to approve the revised Letter of Support for Bolinas Eucalyptus Project’s “Zone 5” Proposal.

Chief Krakauer introduced this item as a continuation of a proposed letter of support requested by the Bolinas Eucalyptus Project (BEP), regarding their “Zone 5” proposal to remove a group of eucalyptus trees located primarily on BCPUD property. The letter is addressed to a planner with the Marin County Community Development Agency, in anticipation of their request for feedback as part of the County’s permitting process. The draft letter of support gives the District’s perspective on the project with regard to fire prevention, public safety and emergency access. Following a productive discussion at last month’s meeting, no action was taken and the item was tabled. Since then, certain revisions were proposed by the BEP, and tonight we anticipate a motion to approve a new draft, including revisions from both BEP and the District.

Pres. Molesworth thanked members of the BEP for a good discussion at last month’s meeting, and for their ongoing work. Vice Pres. Torrey reiterated that last month’s discussion was very helpful.

BEP representative Jon Cozzi spoke in favor of the new draft letter of support and provided updates on the project.

### **Action Item #2 – Approve Resolution 215-2023, A Resolution Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund.**

MSC Martinelli/Pierce (unan.) to approve Resolution 215-2023, A Resolution Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund.

AYES: Molesworth, Torrey, Martinelli, Dunne, Pierce.

NOES: None.

Isaac Taylor explained that the District authorized investment of monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) in its recently-adopted investment policy. LAIF further requires a resolution adopted in a regular Board meeting.

### **Discussion Item #1 – Draft Standard for the Mitigation of Surface Fuels on Private Parcels**

Chief Krakauer introduced his draft standard to the Board, which is a set of guidelines he is still developing regarding the mitigation of certain ground fuels, including logs, on private parcels. Chief Krakauer reported that he began developing these guidelines in response to a resident’s complaint of a potential fire hazard near his residence due to

placement of several logs from recent tree work. Chief Krakauer inspected the lot several times and informed the resident he did not deem the logs as an imminent fire hazard, but that he would do additional research and engage in further discussion. Chief Krakauer based these guidelines on existing fire codes, existing defensible space standards, and guidance from several professional colleagues. Chief Krakauer intends these guidelines as a tool for the District to inform and educate the public on mitigation of potential hazards from logs located on developed and undeveloped private parcels. Chief Krakauer clarified that this draft document is not a policy but a set of guidelines still in development.

Resident Matt Lewis gave public comment, and board members held discussion on the item.

### **Discussion Item #2 – District Wildfire Preparedness and Response**

Chief Krakauer reported that Asst. Chief Marcotte led a crew on Engine 265 with Firefighters Pawel Kruk and Alex Carleno to attend a controlled burn organized by Marin County Fire and Marin Municipal Water District. Additional controlled burns have recently been held in Point Reyes National Seashore and at Audubon Canyon Ranch.

The District's five 2023 Chipper Day events have concluded, and the final County and MWPA chipper events of the season conclude this week.

MWPA held another coastal zone meeting today, and the agencies are finalizing polygons identified for potential fire prevention work to be included in MWPA's compliance and permitting work. Chief Krakauer also reported receiving a presentation from Sonoma Technologies, who are conducting a countywide evacuation study. The information from their study will be cross-referenced with each agency's recommended polygon areas. Chief Krakauer also noted that the MWPA has hired two new project managers.

Chief Krakauer reported that PG&E has erected a second weather station in Bolinas, which will provide real-time weather information that can be linked to the District's website.

The District still has approximately thirty NOAA Emergency Alert weather radios which are available for free to the community. Chief Krakauer noted that a safety plan is expected to be part of the County's new ordinance on short-term rentals (STRs), which may include a requirement or recommendation for NOAA radios in STRs.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Dunne/Martinelli (unan.) to approve the Consent Calendar.

Vice Pres. Torrey and Isaac Taylor noted and corrected errors in the meeting minutes and account balances.

### **BOARD MEMBER REPORT**

No updates.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Human Resources Advisory Committee – No update.

Finance Advisory Committee – No update.

Operations Working Group – No update.

**PERSONNEL MATTERS**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.

**GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Dir. Dunne remarked positively on the progress achieved through meetings with the BEP.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor  
Administrative Manager

Note: Minutes of all Board meetings are available for review on the District's website.