

Minutes from the February 23rd, 2022, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting, Via Zoom.

Pres. Molesworth called the meeting of the Bolinas Fire Protection District to order at 7:10 P.M. Dir. Torrey, Dir. Pierce, and Dir. Dunne were present. Also present: Chief Krakauer, Asst. Chief Marcotte, Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor. Dir. Martinelli had technical difficulties, but joined the meeting during the Chief's Report.

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to amend the Agenda. Seeing no objections, the Agenda is approved.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

NERA

Chief Krakauer attended a NERA meeting on Wednesday, February 23rd. The group discussed details of the project schedule, and upcoming installations of new Motorola repeater equipment at Stewart Point, Bolinas. The group has been preparing the site and performing defensible space clearing.

Chiefs

Chief Krakauer attended the monthly Chiefs meeting on Thursday, February 17th. The primary discussion subject was coordinating compliance with the new county public health order and the upcoming March 1st vaccination deadline for first responders, and navigating any personnel issues. Chief Krakauer is awaiting detailed guidance from county counsel, and will consult with the Human Resources Advisory Committee on the subject.

Chief Krakauer also met with a group of Fire Chiefs from West Marin and Marin County Fire Capt. Jordan Reeser, to discuss coordination of MWPA core wildfire prevention projects for FY22-23. Last year, the District was awarded core project funds to purchase a replacement loader for the Resource Recovery site, which processes brush and green waste for Bolinas and Stinson Beach.

Prevention

Chief Krakauer shared that the West Marin fire agencies in Bolinas, Stinson Beach, Inverness, Muir Beach and Nicasio plan to collaborate with Marin County Fire on this year's preventative fuel clearing on designated evacuation routes, pending environmental study and permitting.

Roads

Chief Krakauer met with Supervisor Rodoni, members of the BCPUD Downtown Permit Parking Committee, along with representatives from the Bolinas School and National Park Service, on Thursday, January 27th to discuss parking and safety concerns, including the idea of a shuttle service. Chief Krakauer engaged with public safety concerns only.

The District received a packet of plans from the Bolinas Wye Wetlands Resiliency Project, for reference during an initial comment period. The project hopes to complete final designs by Spring 2023 and begin construction in Fall 2024. Pres. Molesworth asked if Chief Krakauer found any aspect that might potentially impact District operations, for which the District might want to submit a comment. Chief Krakauer

responded that his initial review identified no specific issue warranting comment due to a potential impact to public safety or fire protection.

Inspections

Chief Krakauer is working with Marin County Fire Marshal Scott Alber to complete inspections on two solar system installations and an underground propane tank for an emergency generator.

Grants

The District continues to await the decision on a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters micro-grant proposal for new firefighter turnout pants and jackets.

Training

Weekly training has been focused on CPR & EMT recertifications. Asst. Chief Marcotte will also be conducting a driver course open to all West Marin volunteer fire agency personnel in late March, including three Bolinas volunteers. Chief Krakauer thanked Asst. Chief Marcotte for all his recent training efforts.

Volunteers

The Bolinas Volunteer Firefighters Association is continuing its work updating the organization's bylaws.

Apparatus

No update.

Disaster Council

No update.

Resource Recovery

The District completed the purchase of a John Deere front loader for the Resource Recovery site with money awarded through the MWPA core projects fund. The site plans to keep the older Komatsu loader as a backup, and the District has a reserve fund for regular and preventative maintenance.

Buildings and Grounds

No update.

General Operations/Administration

Following a controlled burn at Audubon Canyon Ranch, firefighters responded to a vegetation fire nearby. The incident was resolved successfully, aside from an injury to Chief Krakauer's eye.

The District is working to ensure full compliance with the new Marin County Public Health order requiring all first responders to receive their first dose of COVID-19 vaccine no later than March 1st.

The District is finalizing documents associated with the recently-approved cell tower ground lease agreement with Verizon.

Isaac Taylor has been working toward completion of the amendment to the District's retirement contract with CalPERS.

Personnel

Chief Krakauer announced one new resident firefighter, Emily Easom from Kentfield, who recently completed Fire Academy and is also an EMT. She will begin working a 24-hour volunteer shift on Sundays.

The District also has one new volunteer firefighter, Roberto Garcia-Guzman, who is expected to be voted in next week.

Isaac Taylor and firefighter Aaron Pendergraft are currently on (separate) vacations in Tennessee, and fire captain Pete Smith recently returned from vacation in Baja California.

Chief Krakauer thanked Pres. Molesworth for hosting a wonderful gathering in honor of longtime board member David Kimball.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Approve and Adopt Final RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AMENDMENT TO THE TO CONTRACT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BOLINAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT.

MSC Torrey/Martinelli (unan.) to approve and adopt the Final Resolution (199-2022).

Admin. Mgr. Isaac Taylor explained that approval of this final resolution will complete the amendment process for the District’s retirement contract with CalPERS. The amendment will add a Miscellaneous category to the contract, allowing Isaac to correct his appointment to the system.

Action Item #2 – Approve Midyear Salary & Wage Adjustments for District Employees

MSC Martinelli/Torrey (unan.) to approve salary and wage adjustments as recommended.

Chief Krakauer explained that the Human Resources Advisory Committee initiated an exploration of midyear wage and salary adjustments for all District employees. Isaac Taylor put together a report and projections that he, Chief Krakauer, and the HR Advisory Committee reviewed earlier this month, which included recommendations and personnel budget projections, including wage adjustments and the addition of a new full-time firefighter. The recommended wage adjustment is 5%, which is intended to reflect the current inflationary economic conditions, and is specifically tied to the Bay Area Consumer Price Index for January 2022, which was 4.2% year-over-year.

On behalf of the Human Resources Advisory Committee, Vice Pres. Torrey voiced her support for these adjustments, and for investments in personnel generally. She stated that employees are the District’s biggest resource, and stressed the importance of retention, training, and ensuring adequate staffing to provide security for the Bolinas community. She also voiced support for the eventual addition of a second, full-time firefighter. On behalf of the Finance Advisory Committee, Pres. Molesworth echoed these opinions and commended the District’s past efforts to build reserve funds and put us in financial position to allocate funds to human resources.

Dir. Martinelli agreed with Vice Pres. Torrey, and asked if the District planned to take money from reserve funds to support these efforts. Isaac Taylor responded that the District will not be allocating funds from existing reserves, but rather budgeting funds available from past and projected net operating profits resulting primarily from increasing property tax revenues.

Action Item #3 – Approve Resolution 198-2022, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BOLINAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY PERSISTS, RE-RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA ON MARCH 4, 2020, AND RE-AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF BOLINAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 24TH, 2022 TO MARCH 26TH, 2022, PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS.

MSC Dunne/Martinelli (unan.) to approve Resolution 198-2022.

Pres. Molesworth recommended that this standing item be moved to the Consent Calendar going forward, and Board Secretary Isaac Taylor concurred.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Pres. Molesworth attended the monthly MWPA Board Meeting last Thursday, February 17th. There was a closed session discussion item regarding a legal demand letter in the public record regarding CEQA compliance and defensible space work. Also, the Board discussed a new MWPA style guide, which also includes certain talking points that clearly explain the mission and scope of the MWPA. Pres. Molesworth offered to share the material with board members.

From the MWPA Operations Committee, Chief Krakauer also shared that the MWPA will be hiring a secretary/analyst, and Pres. Molesworth also noted that the MWPA will be hiring a vegetation management specialist soon.

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

Pres. Molesworth and members of the Board wished Isaac Taylor safe travels on his return from Tennessee.

ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

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