

Minutes from the November 16th, 2022, Bolinas Fire Protection District Board Meeting, Via Zoom.

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

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

PUBLIC EXPRESSION

None.

CHIEF'S REPORT

MERA

Chief Krakauer attended the MERA meeting on Wednesday, November 9th. Work continues on Next Gen sites, including equipment installation and access road maintenance in Bolinas.

Chiefs

Chief Krakauer will remotely attend the hybrid Chiefs meeting on Thursday, November 17th. The primary agenda item is expected to be a discussion on fulfilling the request of the Marin County Sheriff's Office to relocate shared dispatch services from the Sheriff's Office to the fire agencies themselves. The Chiefs plan to discuss two alternative scenarios, a multi-agency Joint Powers Authority agreement, or a contract for services with the Marin County Fire Department.

Pres. Molesworth and Vice Pres. Torrey asked for clarification on the nature of dispatch services provided to the District and the expected changes. Chief Krakauer explained that our District has historically not paid for dispatch services. The District once performed its own dispatch service locally, but in recent years has relied on daytime service provided through the Marin County Fire Department headquarters in Woodacre, and the Marin County Sheriff's Office Communications Center during the overnight hours. In order to focus on law enforcement dispatch, the Marin County Sheriff's Office has informed fire agencies that they plan to discontinue fire agency dispatch services, which they currently provide for Bolinas during overnight hours when Marin County Fire Department dispatchers have a rest window. During these hours, MCFD dispatchers must be awakened when a call comes in and is transferred from the Sheriff's Office Communications Center to Woodacre headquarters. Chief Krakauer reported that he does not expect the District to incur a substantial cost, if any, for dispatch services, due to our relatively small call volume and existing relationship with Marin County Fire dispatch services.

MWPA

Chief Krakauer discussed an MWPA meeting in item 5a.

Prevention

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

Roads

Chief Krakauer reported that work has begun in Inverness on the MWPA core project performing roadside fuel reduction along evacuation routes in West Marin. It is unclear when work will begin in Bolinas, although it is expected sometime this winter.

Inspections

No update.

Planning

No update.

Grants

District staff continue to work with Stinson Beach Fire Protection District on the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters regional grant for new SCBAs.

We continue to await a decision on a second FEMA micro-grant proposal for new firefighter turnouts.

Training

Marin County EMS Specialist Jen Glazier, a former paramedic on the seasonal Medic 97 ambulance, lent Bolinas Fire the LUCAS mechanical CPR device from Marin County Fire's Medic 97 while the ambulance is out-of-service for the winter season. On Tuesday, November 15th Jen conducted a training on the device for Bolinas firefighters. The LUCAS is a newer standard than our current device, known as an AutoPulse. The District may consider purchasing its own LUCAS device in the future.

The previous week, Bolinas firefighters practiced simulated searches for injured firefighters while wearing their SCBA tanks and masks. SCBA training is essential, especially for the newer firefighters.

Emily Easom completed her train-the-trainer CPR instructor class. Chief Krakauer will be away during the first week of December for an officer training class.

Volunteers

The annual Volunteer raffle is ongoing, with the drawing scheduled for December 6th. Chief Krakauer thanked everyone for participating and contributing to this annual fundraiser, including all who donated prizes.

The BVFA has a new treasurer, Suraya Brendel.

For the upcoming Holiday Dinner, returning for the first time since 2019, the District has enlisted catering services from the Coast Café. Chief Krakauer acknowledged Coast Café for their gifts of food and support to the firefighters, especially during major incidents.

The BVFA will be renewing AirMedCare emergency helicopter annual memberships for everyone at Bolinas Fire Department, and Chief Krakauer urged local residents to explore membership for themselves and their families. An household membership is available for approximately \$85 per year.

Apparatus

Nick Weismiller and Asst. Chief Marcotte were able to replace a part, and Engine 283 is now back in service.

Disaster Council

No update.

Resource Recovery

No update.

Buildings and Grounds

No update.

General Operations/Administration

Call volume has been typical for November, with predominantly calls medical aid.

The Bolinas Fire Station has recorded 1.6 inches of rain so far in November. The District was fortunate this season to experience few offshore wind events, early rainfall, and zero Red Flag warnings.

Genasys Inc. has been re-scheduled to demonstrate their LRAD audible alert systems at the Bolinas Fire Station next Tuesday, November 22nd at 10am. Representatives from Stinson Beach FPD and San Rafael Fire Department will attend, and Chief Krakauer has extended invitations to other local fire agencies.

Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor reported that the District has fulfilled all document requests for the FY2021-2022 annual audit, and our accountant will soon be entering journal entries required for new GASB reporting requirements on leases. We expect the audit to be complete by approximately the end of January.

Pres. Molesworth noted the announcement in a recent MWPA board meeting that California's State of Emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to be lifted at the end of February. Isaac Taylor confirmed the same expectation, and will be communicating with Chief Krakauer and Board Members regarding the transition to in-person meetings as of March 2023.

Personnel

Vice Pres. Torrey and Dir. Pierce will be meeting on Monday, November 21st to go over Chief Krakauer's annual performance evaluation. Pres. Molesworth recommended including a Closed Session in the December Board Meeting agenda, so that the full board can discuss Chief Krakauer's evaluation.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Action Item #1 – Merit Hearing and Approval of Ordinance No. 18-2022 “An Ordinance of the Bolinas Fire Protection District Adopting and Modifying the 2022 California Fire Code and Appendix A of the 2021 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code with Amendments Supported by Local Findings, Prescribing Regulations Governing Conditions Hazardous to Life and Property from Fire or Explosion; Providing for the Issuance of Permits for Hazardous Uses or Operations; and Defining the Powers and Duties of the Bolinas Fire Protection District and its Officers.”

MSC Torrey/Pierce (unan.) to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 18-2022.

AYES: Molesworth, Torrey, Pierce, Dunne.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Martinelli.

Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor explained that this is a merit hearing for the triannual California Fire Code ordinance, introduced by reading at the October regular board meeting. He recommended a motion to adopt the ordinance, following any further discussion. No members of the public were in attendance. Chief Krakauer noted that the District has had the ordinance and a complete copy of the 2022 California Fire Code available at the station for inspection since October, and staff have not received any questions or concerns from the public.

Vice Pres. Torrey asked Chief Krakauer about how often he is called on to perform inspections on construction and installations requiring a permit. Chief Krakauer responded that Marin County Fire Department's Fire Prevention officer Scott Alber often handles inspections on construction projects and installations such as solar systems. Isaac Taylor noted that Chief Krakauer often inspects new private water systems, while items like solar power systems and building construction projects are usually handled by Marin County officials. Chief Krakauer shared that he also helps to coordinate requests for variances and will join County Fire inspectors on larger projects.

Pres. Molesworth thanked Chief Krakauer and Isaac Taylor for their work on this year's California Fire Code adoption process, expected again in 2025.

Discussion Item #1 – District Wildfire Preparedness and Response

Pres. Molesworth recommended this discussion item be moved into the Chief's Report for the winter starting in December, and Chief Krakauer agreed.

Chief Krakauer attended a MWPA meeting on Tuesday, November 15th, which included fire agency representatives as well as local land management officials from Marin County Parks, State Parks, and the National Park Service. Officials discussed potential areas of overlap and collaboration between land management and fire agencies. Chief Krakauer discussed potential collaboration with the National Park Service on fuel reduction in the northern part of the District, where it meets the southern portion of Point Reyes National Seashore. Greg Jones of NPS indicated support for the concept, and shared that he was pursuing additional mowing in pastoral areas of the PRNS where grazing has been removed or reduced.

Pres. Molesworth suggested that the District share information with the Bolinas community about the total quantities of material removed by 2022 Chipper Day events. Chief Krakauer agreed, and plans to share this information in local media.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

AYES: Molesworth, Torrey, Dunne, Pierce.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Martinelli.

Pres. Molesworth asked Isaac Taylor about higher-than-anticipated income recorded in October. Isaac responded that Measure W Transient Occupancy Tax income for the most recent six-month period came in higher than budgeted.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT

No update.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Resources Advisory Committee – No update.

Finance Advisory Committee – Pres. Molesworth asked Administrative Manager Isaac Taylor if he anticipated a need for the Finance Advisory Committee to meet in December to review the FY2021-2022 audit. Isaac responded that a meeting would not likely be necessary until the new year.

Operations Working Group – No update.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Vice Pres. Torrey shared that she happened to drive by the fire station today while a medical helicopter was landing, and shared her appreciation for all of the work of staff and volunteers who provide these essential services for the community. Dir. Pierce and Pres. Molesworth echoed the sentiment.

Pres. Molesworth noted that three unopposed Directors were reelected in November, and thanked the Directors for their continued service. Isaac Taylor also thanked the Directors and former Directors for their invaluable service to the District. Chief Krakauer also thanked the Directors. Pres. Molesworth, Vice Pres. Torrey, and Dir. Pierce will be sworn in during the December regular board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Pres. Molesworth asked for unanimous consent to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac Taylor
Administrative Manager

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