



RANCHO SANTA FE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District - Board/Community Room
16936 El Fuego
Rancho Santa Fe, California

October 24, 2001
1:30 p.m.

1. *Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call*

President Mullins called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Directors Present: Ashcraft, Douglas, Lombard, Mullins, Phillips

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Erwin Willis, Fire Chief; Dallas Neville, Deputy Chief, Donald Butz, Deputy Chief, Karlana Rannals, Board Clerk

2. *Approval of Minutes*

MOTION BY DIRECTOR DOUGLAS, SECOND BY DIRECTOR LOMBARD, CARRIED 5-0, to approve and file:

(a) RSFFPD Board of Directors regular meeting minutes held September 12, 2001.

3. *Security Patrol Month Report – September 2001*

Chief Wellhouser reported on the previous month's statistics. He noted a burglary at the golf course. Monthly report reviewed and filed.

4. *Oral Report – Urban Search and Rescue Team Deployment to New York*

Chief Willis introduced Captain Mark Richards and Firefighter Chris Mertz and reported that they were deployed as a part of the Urban Search and Rescue Team from San Diego County.

Captain Richards made a 15-minute presentation on their activities in New York and of his personal experience. He expressed his appreciation to the Board of Directors for supporting this type training and the necessary funding.

President Mullins on behalf of the Board of Directors expressed their appreciation for their willingness to participate on the Urban Search and Rescue Team, and their extraordinary efforts to assist the rescue workers in New York City.

5. *Public Comment*

No one requested to speak to the board members.

6. *Correspondence*

Chief Willis read several letters of appreciation thanking the department for our assistance.

7. *Finance*

a. *List of Demands – September 2001 (Informational)*

Monthly report reviewed and filed.

b. *Budget Analysis - July 1 – September 30, 2001*
Quarterly report reviewed and filed.

c. *Holiday Party Donation*

Chief Willis informed the Board of Directors that last year the District made a donation to support the employee's annual holiday party. This year's party scheduled for December 1 at the RSF Garden Club. He requested that the Board of Directors once again consider a donation of \$1,000 to offset some of the expenses for the evening.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR ASHCRAFT, SECOND BY DIRECTOR LOMBARD, CARRIED 5-0, to approve the requested expenditure of \$1,000 to support the special event.

8. *Agreement to Reimburse Cost at the Rancho Cielo Fire Station*

Chief Willis summarized the Staff Report included with the agenda. He reported to the Board that the developer is looking for a way to satisfy the District's requirement of funding any property tax shortfall from this development. The developer failed to include this requirement in the disclosure statements to new property owners.

Chief Willis proposed to the developer several options to satisfy the District's requirements and requested direction from the Board of Directors to resolve the issue of future financial obligation. The Board of Directors requested that the Chief consider using current numbers and worse case scenario to insure that the developer meets their financial obligation. The Chief was directed to continue negotiations and discuss this issue again with the Board at a future meeting.

9. *Staff Report*

a. *Fire Prevention Report*

Chief Willis reviewed the monthly report included in the agenda material. He noted that the plan reviews have decreased.

b. *Operations Report*

Chief Neville distributed the monthly activity report. He noted that call volume has decreased from the previous month. He also informed the board members that there had been five early morning fires deliberately set in the area of Mount Israel Road.

c. *Training Report*

Chief Butz reported that District personnel had completed their wildland and fire prevention training. Fire Prevention Week was October 7 through 13th. Station personnel assisted the Staff in Fire Prevention in delivering the public education classes in the schools.

d. *Fire Station(s) – Update*

1. *Rancho Cielo*: Chief Butz reported the site plan is in review by the County.

2. *4S Station*: the developer should have selected a construction firm by October 25. They plan to start construction within 30 days of selection. A groundbreaking ceremony is planned.

e. *Del Dios Volunteer Report*

Chief Butz summarized the Staff Report included with the agenda material. He believes that the program is at a crossroad for service level. After studying the issue, his recommendation is:

1. Create a reserve program;
2. Phase out the Del Dios Volunteer program;
3. Consider a contract with Escondido until the completion of the Rancho Cielo station, which will serve this community.

The Board of Directors requested that Staff provide the following additional information for consideration:

1. Contact Escondido and ask them for a cost to provide services for the interim;
2. Provide response time information in the Del Dios area;
3. Hold community meetings and ask the community what they want to do.

Staff was commended for the efforts to preserve the program.

f. Contaminated Soil Testing – Update

Chief Willis informed the Board that the latest round of testing has been completed and there is soil contamination on the Mature property; but there is no vapor contamination. The County has determined that the contamination is solely to the ground water and may recommend that this case be closed. District's legal counsel continues to work on an agreement and has hired a consultant.

g. Board of Supervisors Ratification of District's Fire Code

Chief Willis reported that after 13 years, the County Board of Supervisors finally ratified the District's Fire Code. He thanked Director Ashcraft for appearing at the Board of Supervisor's meeting to speak in opposition of the last minute change on Appeals, proposed by the Business Industry Association.

h. Grant Funds – RSF Association

Chief Willis informed the Board that the RSF Association were recipients of two matching grants totaling \$100,000 to assist with the removal of Eucalyptus tress. With the removal of the canopy trees, the roadways are looking much better.

i. Pancake Breakfast – September 30, 2001

Chief Willis informed the breakfast held was the largest turnout ever. Over 1,000 breakfasts were served (850 paid for). Good opportunity to educate the public, which was well received.

j. Appreciation Dinner

Chief Willis informed the Board members that annual dinner is scheduled for March 9, 2002.

10. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Karlana Rannals
Secretary

F J Mullins
President