



**RANCHO SANTA FE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES – March 8, 2006**

Rancho Santa Fe FPD – Board/Community Room
Headquarters – 16936 El Fuego
Rancho Santa Fe, California 92067

Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call

Director Ashcraft called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Ashcraft, Douglas, Hickerson, Hillgren, Malin
Directors Absent: None
Staff Present: Nick Pavone, Fire Chief; Cliff Hunter, Fire Marshal; Fred Cox, Battalion Chief;
Karlana Rannals, Board Clerk

Pledge of Allegiance

Vic Reed, Fire Chief, City of Escondido led the assembly in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

1. Special Presentations
a. Regionalization Study

Chief Pavone introduced Fire Chief Vic Reed from the City of Escondido. He informed the Board of Directors that Chief Reed led the regionalization project and expressed his appreciation to Chief Reed for his time and efforts to create an objective review of our agency independently and regionally.

Chief Pavone introduced the representatives from ESCI, Bruce Caldwell, Lead Project Manager, Martin Goffner, and Conrad Christianson, Analyst, who attended to summarize their report and answer questions from the Board of Directors.

Mr. Caldwell expressed his appreciation to Chief Pavone and to the staff from the Fire District for their assistance and contribution to the report. He reviewed the process and discussed the different phases of the project that included:

Phase 1 – Project Initiation

Phase 2 – Emergency Services Evaluation (agency evaluation)

Phase 3 – Opportunities for Cooperative Effort

The purpose for their attendance at this meeting was to review the opportunities identified in phase 3 for the project and respond to questions from the board members.

At the conclusions of the presentation, the Board of Directors expressed their appreciation for the work presented. They also agreed to a further review, study the report, and agreed to discuss with staff the opportunities identified.

President Ashcraft requested that the Board convene in closed session since legal counsel was present for a time certain matter. There were no objections.

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8. Closed Session

Pursuant to Pursuant to Government Code, section 54956.9 the Board of Directors convened in a closed session from the hour of 1:55 to 2.30 pm. The following item was discussed:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--EXISTING LITIGATION

(Subdivision (a) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: Mature v. Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

1. Special Presentations (Cont.)

b. Lessons Learned from Katrina

Chief Pavone introduced Engineer Chris Mertz who participated on the USAR Task Force deployment to New Orleans. Engineer Mertz played a video and a reviewed a PowerPoint presentation that summarized his experience while deployed to New Orleans. Chief Pavone reviewed the lessons learned as a result from communications, working together cooperatively, etc.

President Ashcraft recessed the meeting at 3:45 pm for the board members to review a software demonstration provided by the District's consultant on technology. President Ashcraft reconvened the meeting at 4:20 pm.

2. Public Comment

None

3. Approval of Minutes

MOTION BY DIRECTOR DOUGLAS, SECOND BY DIRECTOR HICKERSON, and CARRIED 5 AYES; 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to approve and file:

- a. Board of Directors regular meeting minutes held February 8, 2006

4. Finance

- a. List of Demands – February 1 – 28, 2006

Staff reviewed the monthly report and responded to questions from the Board. Report reviewed and filed.

5. Correspondence

Correspondence reviewed and filed.

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

- a. Fire Service Cooperative Effort

Chief Pavone informed the Board that Chief Ott accepted the position of City Manager for the City of Solana Beach. In addition, Chief Heiser announced his retirement as Fire Chief from the City of Encinitas. The Chiefs got together recently to discuss the transition and as a result of that conversation, the consensus was to look at a cooperative effort and explore opportunities.

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He reported that there are advantages to the regional approach, which could eliminate duplication of efforts. Chief Pavone requested direction from the Board of Directors about exploring options available to the District, and suggested that Elfin Forest Volunteer Fire Department be included in the discussion of cooperative efforts.

The Board of Directors at the conclusion of the discussion believe that there is a duty to explore the opportunities and requested staff to proceed with the discussion, and prepare a report for discussion at a future meeting.

8. Closed Session (Cont.)

b. The District's representatives for labor negotiations reported that there was no need for a closed session discussion.

9. Announcement of Closed Session

President Ashcraft announced that the Board discussed in closed session existing litigation, and that direction was provided to the District's legal counsel.

10. Reports

a. Fire Chief

- LAFCO Study – he reported that at the recent LAFCO Board of Directors meeting that they agreed to move forward with the Micro Study. The County will spend a minimum of \$400,000 for a consultant. The County still has not identified a continual funding source.
- Attorney General Request for Opinion – he discussed the status with legal counsel and he reports that the original letter was ignored indicating that they (AG) has no responsibility to provide an opinion.
- Annual Appreciation Dinner – he reminded the board members of the dinner scheduled for Friday April 21st and it will be held at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe

b. Operations – Deputy Chief Michel

- Monthly Report – February 2006 – Chief Michel was unable to attend. Chief Pavone summarized the report and responded to questions from the Board.

c. Training – Battalion Chief Sturtevant

- Monthly Report – February 2006 – Chief Sturtevant was unable to attend. Chief Cox reported that the month was productive and training topics included, stroke procedures, tunnel rescue, target safety and tower days on the weekends.

d. Fire Marshal – Hunter

- Monthly Report – February 2006 – Fire Marshal Hunter reported a reduction in the square footage of new construction for the previous month. He is working with Chief Pavone to update the top 10 list.

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- District Articles – the articles included were collected from various publications the previous month. He noted that this was added to ensure that all board members are aware of what is written about the District.
- Forester Intern – CalPoly informed the District of the availability of a summer intern available to the District. The District agreed to meet with the student and subsequently offered the student a temporary position. The intern will primarily concentrate on the District's Shelter in Place communities. He noted that the District annually budgets for temporary labor to work on various projects.

e. Administrative Manager – Rannals

- Conflict of Interest Statement – Form 700 - she received all forms from the board members and she will file them with the Clerk of the Board, Board of Supervisors prior to the deadline.

f. Board of Directors

i. North County Dispatch JPA – Update

- No report

ii. County Service Area – 17 – Update:

- No report

iii. Comments

- None

12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 pm.

Karlana Rannals
Secretary

James H Ashcraft
President