



**RANCHO SANTA FE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES – October 11, 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, Malin  
Directors Absent: Hillgren  
Staff Present: Nick Pavone, Fire Chief; Tony Michel, Deputy Chief, Cliff Hunter, Fire Marshal; Jim Sturtevant, Battalion Chief; Gary Snaveley, Battalion Chief; and Karlena Rannals, Board Clerk

*Pledge of Allegiance*

Director Hickerson led the assembly in the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

1. Public Comment

No one requested to speak to the Board of Directors.

2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION BY DIRECTOR DOUGLAS, SECOND BY DIRECTOR HICKERSON, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to approve and file:

- a. Board of Directors regular meeting minutes held September 13, 2006

3. Correspondence

Correspondence reviewed and filed.

4. Finance

- a. List of Demands – September 1 – 30, 2006  
Monthly report reviewed and filed.

5. Old Business

- a. None

6. New Business

- a. Contract: County of San Diego and Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District for Maintenance of Subscriber Radio Equipment

Chief Michel summarized the staff report included with the agenda material. He reported that this contract for maintenance of radio equipment is not a binding contract and the District has the option to cancel at any time.

MOTION BY DIRECTOR DOUGLAS, SECOND BY DIRECTOR MALIN, and CARRIED 4 AYES; 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT; 0 ABSTAIN to approve the contract for *Maintenance of Subscriber Radio Equipment* and authorize the Fire Chief to execute the contract.

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*Director Hillgren joined the meeting at 1:10 pm.*

7. Reports

a. Fire Chief – Chief Pavone

- Cooperative Effort Study (*Del Mar/Elfin Forest/Rancho Santa Fe/Solana Beach*): he reports that he continues to meet weekly with the representatives of the study. The City of Encinitas has a new city manager and the fire department is exploring whether or not they are interested in participating in the cooperative effort study.
- Personnel – Update: Captain Tom Ferguson and Engineer Randy Darland accepted a position with Viejas Fire Department. Because of these vacancies, Engineer Chris Mertz promotes to Captain, and Firefighter/Paramedic Craig McVey promotes to Engineer and he has offered employment to Tim Wood as a lateral Firefighter/Paramedic. A badge ceremony is scheduled for the next Board of Directors meeting. He noted that there might be another employee leaving, date to be determined.
- Space Planning – Update: he met with a space planner and the planner concurred that unless additional square footage is constructed, the District has limited options.
- Community Activity – Update:
  - He reminded the Board that the District has scheduled a community event in conjunction with the District's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary for October 29. A pancake breakfast will be held at RSF1 and a Spaghetti Dinner at RSF2.
  - He attended the Hoedown in 4S Ranch, which also included the participation of the Engine Company and Julie Taber, Public Relations Coordinator, CERT display.
  - He made a presentation at RSF Golf Club on wildland fire protection. This was in partnership with Rancho Santa Fe Insurance & Fireman's Fund

b. Operations – Deputy Chief Michel

- Monthly Report – September 2006 – he summarized the monthly activity including:
  - Two strike team deployments (Oceanside and “Day fire”)
  - Engine pump testing
  - Quarterly shift meetings for all personnel.

c. Training – Battalion Chief Sturtevant

- Monthly Report – September 2006 – Chief Sturtevant summarized the previous month's activity. Activities included:
  - Sprinkler Classes with Fire Prevention personnel
  - State certification for wildland urban interface training
  - Radio classes

d. Fire Marshal – Hunter

- Monthly Report – September 2006 – Fire Marshal Hunter summarized the monthly activity. He noted that plan review activity has decreased; however, because of the shopping center in the 4S Ranch area, inspections have increased.
- District Articles – for information only.

e. Administrative Manager – Rannals

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- No report

f. Board of Directors

i. North County Dispatch JPA – Update (Ashcraft)

- The next scheduled meeting is October 26, 2006. Chief Pavone has been involved in the preliminary interviews for a new Administrator, which has been narrowed to three candidates.

ii. County Service Area – 17 – Update (Hickerson)

- The Chiefs are in the process of preparing and reviewing the components of a new Request for Proposal. The current contract expires June 2007. The CSA continues to negotiate converting the 12-hour ambulance to 24-hour, which will be housed at the 4S Ranch station.

iii. Comments

- Douglas – read the following prepared statement and requested that the minutes reflect such:

“I received a call asking why last month I voted no on approving the resolution adopting the MOU for the District administrative employees. I probably should have put my reasons in the record then, and would like to do so now. I was in favor of the request by admin employees to become and be recognized as a bargaining unit. I was in favor of appropriate wage raises for them. My objection was that the District should explore and hopefully find other mutually satisfactory methods of compensating the employees instead of enhancing any of its defined benefit retirement programs. My position would be the same for the firefighters and chief officers. Private industry and an increasing number of government entities have found that defined benefit retirement programs have led to the financial collapse of companies and government entities. I believe in the long run it is in the best interests of the District and the employees to find secure alternate ways to enhance compensation and retirement security other than by increasing the District's defined benefits obligations.”

He also inquired if the benefits of producing the “FireWire” newsletter offset the work necessary to produce the document.

- Hickerson – the back roads between the 4S Ranch area and Crosby Estates have been paved.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

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Karlana Rannals  
Secretary

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James H Ashcraft  
President