



# South Coast Fire Protection District

P.O. Box 334 Gualala, California 95445 (707)884-4700

Minutes from the Board of Directors meeting on September 17, 2020

**Location:** 39215 Church Street, Gualala, California

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Pete Slunaker.

## 2. Roll Call

Present: Chair Pete Slunaker; Directors Kevin Callanan, Chuckie Sorensen and Flavia de Oliveira

Absent: Director Rick O'Neil

## 3. Public Expression – 3-minute limit

None.

## 4. Financial Report

- The district has received its first batch of taxes—a check for \$28,000.
- Mike Celetano is going to start the audit on Monday. He said it should take two or three days.
- The building improvement so far this year is about \$3,600. The lumber purchase was on last year's budget and not included in the total. Gregg and Pete said that the cost this year should be higher than \$3,600 if the labor costs were included. Maureen said she would look into it and revise the numbers.
- Maureen said that Bower is not sending invoices for rent in a timely manner. She said that she received invoices as much as a month late.

## 5. Announcements

None.

## 6. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

**Kevin Callanan motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Flavia de Oliveira seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.**

## 7. New Business—Purchase of new Auto Extrication Tools, \$30,000; Replacement of Cliff Rescue Equipment \$5,000; Purchase of an Extractor \$7,000

Both sets of auto extrication tools are in need of replacement. They are obsolete and have had some reliability problems. Both units were donated to our department second-hand. Gregg said that they have been researching battery operated tools, as well as hydraulic tools. The advantages of battery tools would be faster set up, and portability. They would especially be useful for vehicles that are down an embankment. Gregg estimated the cost would be about \$30,000. He also is investigating the new Holmatro hydraulic systems.

**Chuckie Sorensen motioned to use \$30,000 of district funds to purchase new auto extrication tools, manufacturer to be decided pending further research. Kevin seconded the motion. All approved. The motion passed.**

Roger Dingman, who was the captain of the rope rescue team retired from the department. Jason and Chad Warner, and others, have been taking an interest in the rope rescue team. Jason said that a lot of the equipment was beyond their expiration date and needs replacement. Gregg said that Ron Roysum owner of Rescue Solutions, (a company that provides training in confined space, rope rescue, and swift water rescue) said he would take a look at our equipment and advise us on what needed to be replaced.

**Kevin Callanan motioned to approve \$5,000 to replace rope rescue equipment. Chuckie seconded the motion; all approved. The motion passed.**

Gregg would like to purchase an extractor so that we could wash our turnouts in-house. Washing structure gear in regular washing machines damages the gear. An extractor costs \$7,176.64. There will be additional cost to have someone come up and show us how to use it correctly. It will be installed in the new addition. Plumbing still has to be installed for the equipment. In the past, we have had to send our gear out to be cleaned.

**Flavia motioned to purchase a new extractor for approximately \$7,000. Kevin seconded the motion; all approved, the motion passed.**

#### **8. Old Business—Update on Web Site (Flavia), New Elections Chuckie, Timber Cove water tender on hold.**

Flavia updated the board members on the progress of the website. She said that she had investigated two web design services: Wordpress, and Wix. Wordpress is an open source web design service but is a little more advanced than Wix. Wix is more user friendly and would also host the website. Setting it up would be between \$150 and \$160 a year, and then \$13 a month for a basic service. She also said that most of the fire district websites she looked at just had their agendas, minutes, and budget information posted. Some were a lot more detailed with information about their organization, membership and events. However, Flavia could not find any information on the Fire Marshall's website about what was required to be posted.

Chuckie Sorensen position is up for re-election. She will be submitting her paperwork to the County to continue serving on the board.

Gregg said that he hasn't had a chance to go down and drive the tender, so he would like to table that discussion.

#### **9. Chiefs Report**

- Call volume has been picking up. Currently at 192 calls. Gregg said he has had minimal response lately.
- Structure engine 7581 needs a lot of work. It needs all new tires, a lot of gauges don't work. Some of the taillights were melted at a recent fire. Gregg says that it needs a minimum of \$40,000 worth of work. He said we should look at replacing it in the next year or so. He said a new type 1 structure engine would cost about \$500,000. He suggested the district should sell 7572 to offset the cost as well as our insurance costs.
- Gregg said that the district should be reimbursed about \$48,000 for strike team duty on the lightning fires. He also said that they will get additional funds for the use of 7562 for station coverage. He estimates that the district will get about \$60,000 total for engine use alone this fire season.
- Gregg is still working on getting the \$30,000 that the district overpaid DMV for registration fees for 7562.
- Gregg has purchased some hand-held GPS units for the water rescue team, as well as for some of the fire units. They had proven to be useful in locating fires. Air units have relayed GPS coordinates of smokes to firefighters and they have been able to get access quickly as a result.

- The driveway will not be concreted this year. Gregg's goal is to get the addition finished off, and then continue with the driveway next spring.

**10. Closed Session**

None.

**11. Open Session after Closed Session**

None.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:46pm, next meeting is on November 19, 2020